EAD Roundtable

Meeting Notes for 2015 August 19

## Introductions and Welcome

## EAD3 (Michael Rush, TS-EAD)

Standard is adopted; tag library is published; release package available on github (<https://github.com/SAA-SDT/EAD3/releases/tag/v1.0.0>); tag library available for purchase (<http://saa.archivists.org/store/encoded-archival-description-tag-library-version-ead3/4701/> [Ruth's note: Including a link to free PDF copy]); EAD3 webinar he did last year is available (<http://saa.peachnewmedia.com/store/seminar/seminar.php?seminar=28538>). EAD3 website will be updated shortly. Migration stylesheet is in process.

The tag library is the product of considerable institutional support and many volunteer hours from TS-EAD, as is the development of the schema.

TS-EAD will combine with related committees (CPF, etc.) into Technical Subcommittee for Encoded Archival Standards; lodged in SAA but with considerable international involvement.

Big thanks to the community for trusting in him and the TS-EAD--and many thanks.

## EAD3 FAQ (Ruth Kitchin Tillman, EAD RT)

The FAQ is designed to be the non-technical place to address questions and examples and have them answered (big and small). It will be made available publicly on the roundtable's microsite. The roundtable is soliciting further questions people have as they begin reading the tag library and implementing EAD3. The roundtable also has a GitHub repository (<https://github.com/saa-ead-roundtable/>) which serves as a place to share tools, crosswalks, and anything else that members of the community develop and would like to share.

## EAD3 and Tools

**ArchiveGrid (Merrilee Profitt, OCLC Research):** ArchiveGrid should not be affected much by EAD3 based on the EAD fields that it works with most. They look forward to receiving their first examples.

**ArchivesSpace (Brad Westbrook, ArchivesSpace):** EAD3 implementation is planned but not yet scheduled; likely by end of this calendar year. Changes in <physdesc> are some of most profound.

**AtoM (Courtney Mumma, AtoM):** Looking for a project sponsor to implement EAD3; will also maintain EAD2002 for several years. EAD exports currently based on RAD. Similar focus on change in <physdesc>.

## EAD3 Study Groups

**Systems and Infrastructure WG (Mark Custer, Yale University)**

Report issued in May and posted on the EAD RT microsite. Received responses from 22 groups.

Other study groups were waiting on the release of EAD3 and will commence work now.

## EAD3 Training (Kris Kiesling for SAA)

SAA continues to offer EAD training, which now includes EAD3. Two-day in-person workshop.

Mike’s EAD3 webinar is available from SAA as a recording.

## EAD RT and work of next year.

No requests.

## EAC-CPF Report (Kathy Wisser, Simmons College; Anila Angjeli Bibliothèque nationale de France)

The group had a good year for dissemination, including an article in the Encyclopedia of Library and Information Science and publication of Journal of Archival Organization (v.12, issue 1-2) with nine implementation case studies. Includes a number of different approaches. EAD-CPF will be included in Putting Descriptive Standards to Work initiative with SAA.

With a focus on finishing EAD3 and its attention by the schema development team, there hasn’t been an emphasis on fixing the small problems present in EAC-CPF.

Also working on an examples project, analyzing the examples, providing different ways of looking at the examples.

Last, working on description of functions. This effort re-started in June, but they decided that in light of EGAD, they should let that work proceed. Their focus and contribution will be gathering examples of functions in the context of archival description. Kathy and Anila will present on this topic at the Description Section tomorrow.

## SNAC update (Jerry Simmons, National Archives)

The next iteration of the Social Networks and Archival Context project has been funded by the Mellon Foundation for a two-year pilot, which started August 1. Co-operated by NARA, University of Virginia, California Digital Library. Goal is to establish the sustainable infrastructure for an international cooperative program. Will include creating a membership structure, editing the user interface, content guidelines, administration and governance structure, and technical back end. SNAC staff will be available in the lobby to talk more about the project and demonstrate the site.

## EGAD update (Aaron Rubinstein, University of Massachusetts Amherst)

ICA Experts Group on Archival Description overview. They also have a full session on Thursday’s program. Four-year effort to develop a conceptual model for archival description (ISAD(G), ISAAR, ISDF, ISDIAH). All of those standards getting to point of needing revision. They are exploring whether it makes sense to integrate, to retain separation, or take another path.

Expected outcomes:

* Statement of principles and glossary of terms
* Conception model for archival description
* Formal ontology expressed in OWL (W3C Web Ontology Language)

One big concept they are working on is expanding from multilevel description to multidimensional description: Stepping back from current linear/hierarchical concept to think more expansively, widen understanding of components.

Expecting to complete this work in draft form by Fall 2015 (conceptual model) January 2016 (ontology). Will be seeking public comment on those drafts.

## Open Finding Aids (Merrilee Profitt, OCLC Research)

Focus of this project is finding aid metadata. Finding aids often have either no clear terms of use, or have overly restrictive terms of use. This is often a legacy data issue, and inhibits aggregation, use and re-use, and is a significant barrier to discovery. Involves conversations around not only finding aids, but often at the institutional level.

This work is parallel with DPLA’s efforts to standardize rights statements and to encourage the free re-use of metadata.

One part of the effort is deciding where to put rights statements; no great place to put them in either EAD2002 or EAD3.

## DPLA and EAD (Gretchen Gueguen)

DPLA was created to increase access to cultural heritage institutions, with an initial focus on item-level metadata records for digital objects. This works well, but doesn’t translate to collection-level description.

Has formed the DPLA Archival Description Working Group to explore solutions to both item-level and aggregate-level approaches to digital object description and access. Will produce a whitepaper in mid-2016 outlining research and recommendations, along with any data models and tools.

A separate group will look at the challenges associated with newspapers.

Working Group members have been identified, but two spots remain for people not yet involved in the DPLA network. Announcement will go out in next month through DPLA’s social media channels.

## Closing

Election Results and leadership transition

New to RT leadership: Junior co-chair Elizabeth Dunham, members Adrian Turner and Laura Starratt

Rotating off: Jodi Allison-Bunnell, Suzanne Maggard

Call for your questions about EAD3 and stylesheets, implementation guides, etc. for the FAQ and GitHub respectively.

## Announcements

Jodi Allison-Bunnell, Orbis Cascade Alliance: Announcing launch of Archives West, the new name of Northwest Digital Archives. <http://archiveswest.orbiscascade.org>

Merrillee Profitt, OCLC Research: Items in latest Research News, including methods for creating Wikipedia articles and the growth and development of ArchiveGrid: now experimenting with use of linked data. Also promoting The Archival Advantage, a publication focusing on the qualities that archivists bring to the broader mission of the library.