

Technical Subcommittee for Encoded Archival Description (TS-EAD) Report, 2013 Society of American Archivists Annual Meeting

The Technical Subcommittee for Encoded Archival Description is pleased to report a busy and successful year of work focused on the process of revising EAD.

After our meeting at last year's SAA Annual Meeting, TS-EAD had the following goals:

1. Share the progress report to the 2012 EAD Roundtable meeting via the SAA Standards Portal
2. Finish discussion of proposed revisions
3. Hold a meeting of the Schema Development Team in October 2012
4. Hold a meeting of the tag library editorial team in February 2013
5. Release the alpha, beta, and final versions of the revised EAD schema

TS-EAD posted the slides for the progress report delivered to the EAD Roundtable to the SAA Standards Portal soon after last year's annual meeting. Later in the year, at the request of the Standards Committee, all documentation relating to the EAD revision was moved from the Standards Portal to the TS-EAD site.

Between October and July, TS-EAD held seven conference calls to discuss the revision. With grant support from the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Nationaal Archief of the Netherlands, two face-to-face meetings were held. The Schema Development Team met at the University of Virginia in October and the tag library editorial team met at the OCLC Research offices in San Mateo, California in February.

During the fall it became clear that the previous revision timeline, which called for an alpha release early in the fall, a beta release over the winter, and a final release by the summer of 2013, was unrealistic given the amount of work to be done. The committee agreed on an updated revision timeline, which remains on schedule:

- February 2013: Alpha release of schema, open alpha comment period
- May 1, 2013: End of alpha comment period
- August 1, 2013: Beta release, open beta comment period
- August 2013: Present the beta at SAA 2013 EAD Roundtable Meeting
- October 1, 2013: End of beta comment period
- December 1, 2013: Deliver final schema and tag library to the SAA Standards Committee
- Winter 2014: Submit new version to SAA Council for adoption, publish after adoption.

The alpha version of the revised EAD schema, a very rough re-working of the existing EAD 2002 schema, was released in February. The alpha comment period garnered extensive and insightful feedback, which resulted in significant changes to the schema for the beta release. The beta, a completely re-written schema, was released on August 2nd. Some unresolved issues remain, but the majority of the open issues relating to the revision to date are addressed by the beta.

One notable decision from the past year, made during the Schema Development Team meeting, was to commit to using GitHub, a web-based service for software development projects, both to track the issues and comments relating to the revision and the revisions to the schema itself. The GitHub repository for the revision is available at <https://github.com/SAA-SDT/EAD-Revision>.

TS-EAD will hold a joint annual meeting with the Technical Subcommittee for Encoded Archival Context and the Schema Development Team on Wednesday, August 14th, 2013, from 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM, in the Windsor room of the Hilton New Orleans Riverside. The agenda for the TS-EAD portion of the meeting is as follows:

TS-EAD meeting agenda:

- Updates and reports
 - Revision: progress and timeline (Rush)

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- Schema Development Team (Catapano)
- Tag Library Editorial Team (Shepherd)
- Library of Congress EAD site report (Rush for Gardner in absentia)
- Discussion
 - What should we call it?
 - Loose ends
 - Relations
 - Geographic elements and attributes
 - Other
 - Post release activities
 - Workshop update
 - “What’s new?” webinar
 - EAD Cookbook
 - Supplemental Schematrons?
- Any other business

Respectfully submitted by Michael Rush and Bill Stockting, TS-EAD co-chairs, August 2013.

TS-EAD Members:

Michael Rush, Co-Chair (Yale University)
Bill Stockting, Co-Chair (British Library)
Michael Fox (Minnesota Historical Society)
Kris Kiesling (University of Minnesota)
Angelika Menne-Haritz (Bundesarchiv)
Kelcy Shepherd (University of Massachusetts Amherst)
Claire Sibille-de Grimouard (Direction générale des patrimoines)
Henny van Schie (Nationaal Archief / Bibliotheek)
Bradley Westbrook (Lyrasis)
Karin Bredenberg, ex officio, Schema Development Team (National Archives of Sweden)
Terry Catapano, ex officio, Schema Development Team (Columbia University)
Florence Clavaud, ex officio, Schema Development Team (Ecole nationale des chartes)
Michele Combs, ex officio, Schema Development Team (Syracuse University)
Mark Matienzo, ex officio, Schema Development Team (Yale University)
Daniel Pitti, ex officio, Schema Development Team (University of Virginia)
Salvatore Vassallo, ex officio, Schema Development Team (University of Pavia)
Merrilee Proffitt, ex officio, OCLC Research (OCLC Research)
Glenn Gardner, ex officio, Library of Congress (Library of Congress)
Hillel Arnold, ex officio, EAD Roundtable (Rockefeller Archive Center)
Mark Custer, ex officio, EAD Roundtable (Yale University)
Lisa Miller, ex officio, Standards Committee (Stanford University)
Cory Nimer, ex officio, Standards Committee (Brigham Young University)
Anila Angjeli, ex officio, TS-EAC (Bibliothèque Nationale de France)
Katherine Wisser, ex officio, TS-EAC (Simmons College)