Metadata Policy, Strategy, Use and Sharing Advisory Group (MUSAG)
January 22, 2016

Present: Tim Cole
Kristina Eden (recorder)
Todd Grappone
Valerie Glenn
Martin Kurth
Patti Martin
Angelina Zaytsev

Absent: Steven Folsom, Shana McDanold

Agenda

1. Environmental Scan Working Group update - Valerie
2. Policy Development Working Group update
3. Late agenda additions (all)

Action Items

Angelina - ask Mike Furlough what he would like to see included in the environment scan report
Todd - schedule a call for the policy development working group
Todd - inform the PSC of the approach MUSAG is taking to investigate the metadata ownership issue
Marty, Patti, and Angelina - write a charge for the metadata ownership working group by Feb. 12

Environmental Scan Working Group update

The environment scan group held a call on January 13. There are still a few environment scan forms to follow up on. All of the HTRC forms have been completed. Everyone in the group will read through the forms by February 5 and then hold another call. They raised a question to the group on how to approach drafting the report. MUSAG discussed the audience and feel that we are the main audience for the report but it should also be written as a useful tool for the Program Steering Committee. The language should be accessible to a broader group so that a person with an interest in HathiTrust could learn from it. The Zephir Advisory Group will more likely want to see deeper information. This is a MUSAG working document; it should be an overview of the environment and give some conclusions but leave the door open for questions from PSC. At a later date we could schedule a call with ZAG to talk about findings.

Note - The larger group is willing to offer help getting the survey finished. Angelina should let us know if anyone needs to be contacted.

Policy Development Working Group update

The policy development group held a call before winter break but they haven’t had time to meet yet in 2016. Todd will schedule a call for them to get together soon.
The policy working group update morphed into a conversation about setting a foundation for broader policy discussions which will go beyond MUSAG such as bibliographic corrections, enhancing metadata, and the need for a HathiTrust record. This question also came up in the ZAG group a few days ago and pressure is coming from a number of sides to address the issue. It is not a question to be answered quickly and will call for many voices, however MUSAG can begin investigating it now before the environment scan is complete.

We discussed whether stakeholders recognize the importance of addressing the issue or if it needs to be better articulated. Getting all stakeholders together will take a long time. Some of them will be outside of the HathiTrust structure. There has been a philosophical shift regarding records from the beginning when institutions were told their records would not be touched. The Digital Assets Submission Inventory document (accessible here - http://bit.ly/YMztGF) says that the partner entrusts HathiTrust with management of content over time. It does not specifically reference bibliographic data. Language about ownership of bibliographic records might also be included in the draft partner agreement (https://www.hathitrust.org/documents/HathiTrust-Agreement-2013.pdf). The partner agreement draft document is available on partner section of website but there may be slight modifications in the document per individual institutions. There is a sentence under 5. Rights Management that reads "As between the Parties, Supporting Institution assumes liability for errors in the bibliographic data it makes available to Michigan."

At the PSC meeting it seemed clear that they understand the importance of this issue and expect MUSAG to address it. MUSAG will craft a charge for a working group to delineate the problem of bibliographic corrections, metadata ownership, and having a HathiTrust record. Todd will inform the PSC of the approach we’re taking. Marty and Patti will work on writing a charge before the 12th and Angelina can help look it over.

Late agenda additions

There were no additions to the agenda.

Report on a prior action item - Angelina reported that Kathryn Stine answered our question about the Zephir record scoring algorithm within her response on the environment scan document.