

LINKED DATA LEARNING BY DOING

at Michigan State University Libraries

Robin Dean / Digital Projects Librarian

Joshua Barton / Head of Cataloging & Metadata Services

LINKED DATA TEAM

- Two quarter-time reports to Head of Cataloging
- Five additional at-will participants

Formed in 2015

Staff from two Divisions:

- Technical Services
- Digital Information & Systems

Initial goals:

- Build expertise
- Engage in “learn-by-doing”

TEAM APPROACH

- An approach that is “skeptical”, experimental, and assessment-oriented
- Striving for right-sized engagement
- No mandate to operationalize
- Instead, proactively assess
- Be informed; be prepared to inform others
- Differentiate between practical potential and hype

Phase 1: Learning

- Monthly meetings to discuss book chapters and exercises
- Good way to learn more about each others' interest and skills

LINKED DATA BOOK CLUB

**Linked Data for Libraries,
Archives, and Museums**

by Seth van Hooland
and Ruben Verborgh

<http://book.freeyourmetadata.org/>

Phase 2: Doing

Project criteria

- Not something we could easily do manually
- Scope was large enough to show potential of linked data
- Scope was small enough to do with current resources
- Allowed us to use a linked-data specific technology
- Relevant to cataloging data

Phase 2: Doing

1. Install triplestore software
2. Load triples into it
3. Query the triples using SPARQL

PROJECT CATNIP

Catalog

Authorities

Triplestore:

New and

Improved

Platform

Project CATNIP

Successes

- Triple store: [Apache Jena](#) on a virtual machine
- Loaded entire [LOC name authority file](#) (MADS and SKOS)
- Able to query triples in [Apache Fuseki](#) (SPARQL server)

Project CATNIP

Lessons Learned

- It's hard to work with huge text files (10GB +)
- It helps to know what you're going to use the data for

Project CATNIP

Next Steps

- Name reconciliation (personal or corporate?)
- Find related URIs and context from other vocabularies
- Convert MARC records with future BIBFRAME 2.0 converter

QUESTIONS?

Robin Dean – rdean@msu.edu

Joshua Barton – bartonjp@msu.edu