

Inclusive & Reparative Metadata Birds-of-a-Feather

Texas Conference on Digital Libraries, 2024

Welcome!

Moderators:

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Community Agreements

- We want this to be a space for all of us to share and learn safely and confidently.
- Please, no recording of any kind (photo, video, audio).
- Feel free to share information or resources you learn in this session, but do not identify specific people (or their affiliations) without permission.
- TDL Community Agreement:
 - Participate in a constructive and active way.
 - Exercise consideration and respect in speech and action.
 - Listen, pause, reflect, and attempt understanding before speaking.
 - Refrain from demeaning, discriminatory, or harassing behavior and speech.
 - Be mindful of your environment and of your fellow participants.

Code of Conduct

How to report violations:

In person: Speak with a member of Texas Digital Library staff or a member of the TCDL Planning Committee. You can identify TDL staff and TCDL committee members by their nametags.

Email: Send an email to info@tdl.org, monitored by Texas Digital Library staff. Or send an email to tcdl-2024-cmte@utlists.utexas.edu, monitored by the TCDL Planning Committee.

TDL Suggestion Box: You can anonymously report a Code of Conduct violation using Texas Digital Library's Suggestion Box. This is a Google Form that is checked by TDL staff <https://forms.gle/nYLoyGduvh41j74w9> Note: This is for non-urgent reports only, as the suggestion box will be checked the week after the conference.

Full text of TCDL Code of Conduct can be found here:

<https://www.tdl.org/tdl-events/tcdl/tcdl-code-of-conduct/>

Some definitions:

inclusive description - “description which recognizes that no archival function is neutral, including description, but that actions can be taken to remediate and avoid bias and harmful language in finding aids, catalog records, and other description” ([SAA Inclusive Description resources page](#))

reparative description - “Reparative archival description aims to remediate or contextualize potentially outdated or harmful language used in archival description and to create archival description that is accurate, inclusive, and community-centered.” ([Yale Reparative Archival Description Working Group](#))

critical cataloging - “a subset of Critical Librarianship [that] focuses on mitigating the ways in which classification and the organization of knowledge codify systems and hierarchies of oppression” ([American University, Antiracist Praxis subject guide](#))

“The work of repairing description and implementing inclusive descriptive terminology **must center on people**. While process efficiency and technology applications are part of the work of replacing harmful terms with more appropriate ones, shifting descriptive practice and infrastructure goes beyond building technical capacity. Appropriate descriptive language is a complex space that centers on human identity and relationships.”

Rachel L. Frick and Merrilee Proffitt, “Reimagine Descriptive Workflows: A Community-informed Agenda for Reparative and Inclusive Descriptive Practice” (OCLC: 2018)

Community Notes & Resources Doc:

<https://tinyurl.com/TCDLMetadataBoaF>



Questions to discuss:

1. What projects are you working on related to metadata inclusivity?
2. What successes have you had?
3. What challenges are holding you back?
4. What resources/guides have you found helpful? What would you still like to find?
5. What has changed in the conversation about inclusive metadata in the last 4 years?
Are we in a different space than we were in 2020?
6. How are we thinking about “reparative metadata” as a separate project vs integrating it into overall metadata practices?
7. How are we talking about inclusive metadata with our non-metadata colleagues?
With our users?
8. How has the current political climate changed how we approach this work?

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Thank you!

