Book Reviews

Steven J. Miller. *Metadata for Digital Collections*. New York: Neal Schuman Publishers, 2011. 343p. alk. paper, $80.00 (ISBN 9781555707460). LC 2011-012594.

The world of cataloging and bibliographic data is entering a period of radical change. RDA (Resource Description and Access) is poised to replace the Anglo-American Cataloging Rules (AACR) as the standard by which bibliographic records are created; spurred by this change, the Library of Congress has begun an initiative to design and implement a replacement for MARC, the scheme that has been used to encode bibliographic data since the beginning of computerized cataloging. Simultaneously, many librarians who have worked only as "traditional catalogers" are being asked to work with new metadata schema and digital collections, particularly in a time of decreased budgets that preclude hiring additional staff.

Steven J. Miller's *Metadata for Digital Collections* addresses these changes in both providing explanation and examples of using non-MARC metadata to describe digital objects, in a practical, well-organized handbook. Miller does not assume that the reader has any previous experience creating metadata; rather, he presents a guide for all to the basics of the description of digital resources, including illustrative examples, links to the book's companion Web site, and substantial lists of references, with a full bibliography and index at the end. The book is organized so that each chapter builds upon the previous, for an overview of the process; additionally, chapters on specific schema can serve as quick reference for metadata practitioners who need specific and immediate guidance on each one. Miller presents three specific metadata schema in the book: Dublin Core, MODS, and VRA.

The first chapter introduces the reader to the basic concept of metadata creation, with an explanation that metadata, whether in traditional cataloging or new schema, is created with the aim of assisting the user in searching, navigating, and locating specific resources (a point that many who do not see the need for any metadata creation would do well to heed). Miller presents many examples of types of metadata, including the traditional catalog record, the data present in iTunes, the metadata present in a Microsoft Word document, and the metadata created specifically for a digital object in a collection. He continues by defining the digital collection, with a brief explanation of how a digital collection is created; from there, he combines the two concepts presented in an overview of creating and documenting metadata for digital collections.

The next three chapters concern the Dublin Core metadata scheme. Chapter 2 begins by discussing the general principles of resource description behind all metadata schema and what is needed to create and maintain quality usable metadata, followed by a general introduction to Dublin Core. Chapters 3 and 4 continue to outline the metadata necessary for adequate representation of an item, including resource identification and responsibility (such as title, creator, publication, and rights and restrictions) in chapter 3 and, in chapter 4, content and relationship (subject analysis) and carrier (the format of the item), in addition to providing examples of how these elements are encoded in a Dublin Core record.

Chapters 5 and 6 provide non–schema-specific information and instruction. Chapter 5 elaborates on the elements needed for quality metadata by discussing the philosophy behind and need for controlled vocabulary, providing examples of established vocabularies and a brief guide to creating a new collection- and user-specific controlled vocabulary. Chapter

6 provides a brief, simple explanation of XML-encoded metadata and the "building blocks" thereof as an introduction to learning to read XML-encoded metadata records in a number of metadata schema.

Chapters 7 and 8 return to overviews on specific metadata schema: chapter 7 focuses on the construction and use of MODS (Metadata Object Description Schema); chapter 8 on VRA (Visual Resources Association) Core. Both chapters, as with the preceding chapter on Dublin Core, provide an explanation of the structure of the scheme, examples of its use, illustrations of how it provides for usable metadata, and how it differs from the other schema described in the book.

Metadata is made more useful when it can be exchanged among different systems with no loss of meaning and function; this exchange is made simpler when the practices of creating good metadata, as outlined in earlier chapters, are used. Chapter 9, dealing with metadata interoperability, shareability, and quality, discusses this in a general sense, with relation to a specific metadata-harvesting protocol, OAI-PMH (Open Archives Initiative Protocol for Metadata Harvesting), and the trials and tribulations of mapping from one scheme to another.

Chapter 10 outlines how to design and document metadata schema, from the adapting of an existing scheme to local practices and needs to the creation of an original metadata scheme. In both cases, the importance of analyzing both the collection and the needs of its users is stressed, as well as the importance of documenting the practices used and developed. Miller gives "real-world" examples of general and collection-specific metadata profiles, as well as how specific schema can be designed in the commonly used CONTENTdm digital-content-management software package.

Chapter 11 discusses one of the most important new directions in which metadata creation and dissemination is headed: linked data and the semantic Web. After a brief overview of the concepts thereof, Miller goes on to illustrate how the metadata models discussed earlier in the book can be adapted to linked data use. The chapter concludes with a section titled, "What does all of this have to do with me?" This section elaborates that, though it is unknown to what extent metadata communities will adapt these practices, they are a possible next step in the creation, maintenance, and interoperability of metadata, similar to the move from card catalogs to MARC-based online catalogs; therefore, all metadata practitioners should develop at least a basic familiarity with linked data.

Metadata for Digital Collections is an extremely useful book for everyone currently or potentially involved in the creation of metadata: those with little to no experience in using non-MARC metadata, who either need to do so now or who would simply like to remain current with developments in the field; those who need a ready-reference work for a particular metadata scheme; and students of cataloging and metadata.—*Deborah DeGeorge, University of Michigan*.

Embedded Librarians: Moving Beyond One-Shot Instruction. Eds. Cassandra Kvenild and Kaijsa Calkins. Chicago: American Library Association, 2011. 235p. alk. paper, $48.00 (ISBN 9780838985878). LC2011-014802.

Embedded Librarianship: Moving Beyond One-Shot Instruction provides a practical guide for embedding library instruction in a variety of disciplines, instructional delivery systems, departments, and academic institutions. Editors Cassandra Kvenild and Kaijsa Calkins, librarians at the University of Wyoming, have assembled sixteen chapters written by librarians embedded in different subject areas at every level of collegiate instruction. In their introduction, Kvenild and Calkins state that "by joining varied groups of patrons and assisting their research over the long haul, embedded librarians commit themselves to service in a very different way than they did in