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Metadata, Libraries and Librarianship



Terry Kuny

XIST Inc. / IFLA UDT Core Programme

Ottawa, Canada

terry.kuny@xist.com

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Thought for the Day

We're not lost. We're locationally challenged.

John M. Ford



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The Problem We Want to Solve...

Finding “stuff” on the Internet is like trying to find a needle in a haystack.

Users want information that is accurate, relevant, timely, and accessible.

The challenge is to reduce the amount of information and raise the quality of information for our user communities: managing “information overload.”



What is Metadata?

- **Metadata is information about information.**
- **Metadata is cataloguing.**
- **Types: Dublin Core, GILS, SOIF, TEI headers, MARC/bibliographic records, geospatial metadata, IAFA templates**



Roles for Libraries and Librarians

- **Selection, Evaluation and Description of Networked Information.**
- **Coding Metadata Records.**
- **Standards Setting.**
- **Training.**
- **Advocacy.**
- **Document Repositories.**
- **Registries (PURLs; metadata; naming).**



Closing Thought

*If you have built castles in the air,
your work need not be lost;
that is where they should be.
Now put the foundations under them.*

Henry David Thoreau

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Metadata Resources

Metadata Page on IFLANET:

<http://www.ifla.org/II/metadata.htm>

Also available on the 1997 IFLANET Unplugged CD-ROM which is available to all conference attendees.



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Contact Information

Terry Kuny

IFLANET Administration: ifla@nlc-bnc.ca

XIST Inc.: terry.kuny@xist.com

IFLANET WWW: <http://www.nlc-bnc.ca/ifla/>

Personal: <http://www.xist.com/kuny/>



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