Metadata - General Information

Background on various types of metadata, including DC, RDF and GILS, as well as reasons for using them.

http://hds.essex.ac.uk/aims.stm
Emphasis on using metadata to facilitate information searching and retrieval in the Social Sciences and Humanities. Could be interesting to check for progress reports and perhaps user studies.

Dated but good basic background on DC; also early history.

Although focused on the private sector, the piece discusses the purpose and value of metadata and gives background on various projects and kinds of metadata in use.

http://www.ifla.org/II/metadata.htm
Links to information about metadata types and projects.

http://dizzy.library.arizona.edu/sitesearch/metadata.html

Value of metadata in Internet searching.

Future of metadata. Commercial potential of ‘containers/packages’ (software that holds “separate pieces of abstracted information and usage rules, rights and…security properties”). Also critique: DC not coming from disparate communities, only libraries.
Online article from ASIS concerning Internet cataloging, including possible costs/benefits and how metadata may be useful.

Article with good background on metadata. Also mention of DC projects, history, developments, and future possibilities.

http://lcweb.loc.gov/marc/dcccross.html
Comparisons between DC and GILS, using mapping via crosswalk. Handy for determining why DC is best for use in Foundations Project.

http://www.ukoln.ac.uk/metadata/cld/comparison
Web site, in crosswalk format, showing how DC and GILS schemas vary.

How metadata is used in searching, why it is valuable, how it functions, how it will help searching, drawbacks (interesting—including too many current projects), and future predictions.

http://www.dlib.org/dlib/january98/01thiele.html
Dated but useful literature review on DC and RDF, for the period March 1995-September 1997. Detailed annotated bibliography on early workshop series. Good background.

Online article from the ASIS concerning the reasons for using metadata to organize electronic resources, including the diversity of organizations and requirements for their held material as well as the need to catalog holdings online and in the library.
Reasons for using metadata, including DC.

Advantages to using metadata in library OPACs, especially in terms of the need for metadata repository library collections.

**Searching and Search Engines**

Dated but interesting piece that’s useful for illustrating examples of poor search techniques, also how to overcome them. Metadata may be one solution.

http://philb.com/compare.htm
Article from personal Web site about how best to use search engines and which ones will search for metadata. Dated.

Brake, David. “Lost in Cyberspace.” *New Scientist* (Online), 1999?
http://www.newscientist.com/keysites/networld/lost.html
Online article about problems and limitations of search engines and how metadata may help resolve this.

Article discusses need for using metadata in Internet searching, including drawbacks of current indexing practices and how metadata would overcome this. Also details of various metadata projects.
Interesting note: DC problem (lack of abstracts field) also discussed.

Piece that discusses search techniques, including how people learn and how they feel about their experiences and learning methods.

Article about the three ways people search for online information. Dated, but bibliography is worth checking into (research studies concerning searching.)
Dated article about current aspects of information searching, as well as predictions for the future.

[http://www.stars.com/Internet/Dead_SearchEngines/](http://www.stars.com/Internet/Dead_SearchEngines/)
Current article about the state of search engines, with a push for Dublin Core toward the end.

Dated but valuable piece contrasting techniques of experienced and inexperienced searchers. Would help in discussion of how metadata could help the latter.

*Online Magazine*. “Head to Head: Searching the Web Versus Traditional Services.”
[http://www.onlineinc.com/onlinemag](http://www.onlineinc.com/onlinemag)
Article about detailed search study, contrasting an Internet search using Hotbot with a Lexis-Nexis search on the same topic. Interesting for details of search steps.

Informative piece concerning searching for metadata-coded sites in the field of chemistry. Discusses encountered problems and gives suggestions for solving them. Extensive bibliography, and also gives ideas ideas about conducting user studies.

[http://www.swem.wm.edu/firehose.html](http://www.swem.wm.edu/firehose.html)
Paper concerning unregulated nature of WWW and need for review of Web sites. Also deals with various projects providing this service. Possibly useful for illustrating how metadata may refine searches, making the above less necessary.

Dated, very technical article (with emphasis on statistics) about user studies. May be useful in design of such a study for DC. The conclusion is good.

Information about Internet searching, including how engines work and tips for searching. A bit dated, but still interesting.

Shaw, Debora. “Nine Sources of Problems for Novice Online Searchers.” *Online Review*, 10,
Article is helpful in showing various search techniques. Metadata may be extrapolated to help such searches. Dated.

Study concerning various costs of online searching. Dated but useful for description of methods and graphing.

Article updating status of search engines as far as searching abilities and problems. Also, how metadata fits in.

Information about search engines, chiefly about how they index the sites found. Of particular interest due to those concerned with metatags, keywords, and descriptions (salient to user-study).

Article about a DC project. Most interesting for description of prototype harvesting.

Description of information searching study, including methods, subjects and results. Dated.

Detailed, complex piece discussing how the embedding of various types of metadata into HTML documents affects searching success.

Dated article that is useful for illustrating how nonprofessionals search for information. Metadata would seem to improve results in these cases.
Dublin Core Metadata

Arts and Humanities Data Service. “Discovering Online Resources. Reports from the Front: Domain-Specific Perspectives on Cross-Domain Discovery.” AHDS. (November 17, 1997).
http://ahds.ac.uk/public/metadata/disc_04.html
Evaluation of how DC performed in a series of projects/workshops in various fields.
Background on DC, also discussing positive aspects of using DC for Internet cataloging.

http://www.cimi.org/documents/meta_bestprac_v031.html
DC Best Practices document, developed for the museum community. Includes examples of each element’s usage.

http://purl.oclc.org/dc/
Background on DC and project implementation.

http://arl.cni.org/newsltr/196/dublin.html
Good, comprehensive piece on DC background. Of particular interest is the discussion of how libraries may best use DC.

http://ahds.ac.uk/public/metadata/disc_09.html
Article with examples of DC in action.

http://ahds.ac.uk/public/metadata/disc_08.html
Conclusions from the projects, cross-domain.

http://ahds.ac.uk/public/metadata/disc_05.html
Integration of findings about the implementation of DC in the above workshops/projects, cross-domain.

Paper from Australian Library Journal describing the Queensland State Library Metadata project and why Dublin Core was used. Includes comprehensive bibliography.

http://ahds.ac.uk/public/metadata/disc_03.html
Good and bad points of DC.

Current state of DC; also includes comparisons and relationships to other metadata efforts. Conclusion is very good for detail on why DC should be the accepted language for Foundations project.

GILS Metadata

http://www.dlib.org/dlib/december96/12christian.html
Dated but informative article giving background on GILS

GILS problems: lack of government agencies providing online records to be indexed.

“Global Information Locator Service.” (September 21, 1997).
Basic GILS information.

Discussion of problems with GILS and why the author considers it not useful.

Article critiquing GILS, discussion of problems and recommendations for improvements.

Early history of GILS; excellent background material.

National Archives and Records Administration. “Guidelines for the Preparation of GILS Core Entries.” DTIC. (1996?)

Dated site that provides basics for GILS usage; also valuable for equating GILS syntax to MARC.


Article discussing GILS workshop that concerned the status of GILS, why is should be used, implementing GILS, problems with this and issues raised, as well as suggestions.


Article describing problems with GILS, due to lack of policy and management tools.

http://gils.gc.ca/gils/backg_e.html

Dated article about status of GILS, with references to GILS implementation in other countries.


Article concerning potential problems with GILS: not enough government agencies are using it or are putting their efforts into Web publishing with it.

**RDF**

http://www.cs.ukc.ac.uk/people/staff/djb1/research/metadata/rdf.shtml

Links to RDF information.

http://www.dlib.org/dlib/may98/miller/05miller.html
Development history and description of RDF, including model for use with DC for describing resources. Includes good bibliography.

Working draft on RDF. Contains background information and provides basic models; also with information on containers, syntax, and grammar. Very detailed.

Article calling RDF a way of standardizing metalanguages.
http://www.w3.org/RDF
Online bibliography, including projects, software, bookmarks and articles for recommended reading.