

In "An Essay on Criticism," Alexander Pope wrote:

A little Learning is a dang'rous Thing;
 Drink deep, or taste not the Pierian Spring;
 There shallow Draughts intoxicate the Brain,
 And drinking largely sobers us again.⁶

This quotation is especially germane to the Calhoun and UC reports. Both reports are useful for stimulating discussions of the future direction of cataloging, but it is hoped that readers who view these documents as blueprints for action will remember Pope's words. One also hopes they will be seen through the lens of debate rather than as set rationales for doing irreparable harm to scholarship, the scholar's ability to access our accumulated store of knowledge effectively and efficiently, and the profession of librarianship itself. Pope's quotation is a caveat to those who prefer cost reductions over their responsibility to future generations of scholars and researchers. While both documents have their place in library science literature, a superficial, indiscriminate, or inexpert review of these documents by those just looking for justification to alter the basic functions of libraries in order to cut costs is indeed "a dang'rous Thing."—*Daniel N. Joudrey (Joudrey@simmons.edu), Simmons College, Boston*

References

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IFLA Cataloguing Principles: Steps towards an International Cataloguing Code, 2: Report from the 2nd IFLA Meeting of Experts on an International

Cataloguing Code, Buenos Aires, Argentina, 2004. IFLA Series on Bibliographic Control, vol. 28. Eds. Barbara B. Tillett and Ana Lupe Cristán. München: K. G. Saur, 2005. 227 p. €78 cloth (ISBN 3-598-24277-8).

This volume consists chiefly of translations into Spanish of some of the presentation papers and background papers that were published in the predecessor volume *IFLA Cataloguing Principles: Steps towards an International Cataloguing Code: Report from the 1st IFLA Meeting of Experts on an International Cataloguing Code, Frankfurt, 2003*, which was reviewed in the July 2005 issue of *LRTS*. Some of the papers seem to have been rearranged or expanded for this volume, but this reviewer's Spanish is not good enough to judge the quality of the translations. Some material is presented in both English and Spanish, such as the introductory material, including the draft of the Statement of International Cataloguing Principles as updated through January 2005 and the recommendations from the meeting's working groups. The recommendations are mostly in the form of notes on discussions held by the various working groups. There were working groups on personal names, corporate names, seriality, multipart structures, and uniform titles and general material designations (GMDs). The groups studied the principles drafted at the Frankfurt meeting and made some recommendations on how they might be amended.

Some of the modifications proposed in the January 2005 draft of the statement were confusing. Section 5.4.1 ("The corporate name should be given in direct order, as commonly found on manifestations" [29]) is an important addition, but it still says nothing about how to handle subordinate bodies, as the Paris Principles did in section 9.6. In section 5.5.1, on uniform titles, the following statement was added: "Always add language and title" (30). Unfortunately, there is little justification or elucidation for this and other changes in the recommendations of the working groups, except to say that it is "convenient" (203). However, the April 2006 draft available online does include a statement about subordinate bodies and omits the addition to uniform titles.¹

The statement of principles makes no mention of main entry or similar concepts, but the section on corporate body access points contains language taken from the 1961 Paris Principles for making main entry under a corporate body. This paragraph seems unnecessary if no access point is being chosen as the primary one. The next paragraph goes on to allow additional access points.

The value of this book lies in the documentation of the process of developing a statement of principles to replace the 1961 Paris Principles and making recommendations for a possible future international cataloguing code. A third meeting was held for Middle East experts in December 2005, and regional meetings are planned in conjunction

with the IFLA conferences in Seoul, South Korea, in 2006, and Durban, South Africa, in 2007. The Frankfurt meeting, which included representatives of all the European as well as the Anglo-American cataloging traditions, laid the foundation for the other meetings by comparing various cataloging codes and drafting the initial statement of principles. This seems only appropriate, as Europe and North America have the longest and most-developed cataloging traditions. It seems likely that the other regional meetings will introduce some refinements to the work done in Frankfurt, but no major breaks with the principles developed there. It is unclear what kind of input the experts from the earlier meetings will have concerning changes recommended by the later meetings.—*John Hostage* (hostage@law.harvard.edu), *Harvard Law School, Cambridge, Mass.*

Reference

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Metadata in Practice. By Diane I. Hillmann and Elaine L. Westbrook. Chicago: ALA, 2004. 285 p. \$50 (\$45 ALA members) paper (ISBN 0-8389-0882-9).

Metadata in Practice is a compilation of essays that describe the real-world applications of metadata to digital projects across a spectrum of cultural heritage and library institutions of various sizes and discuss the future development metadata. The editors, Diane I. Hillmann and Elaine L. Westbrook, both of Cornell University Library, have brought together discussions of the project-planning and implementations stages of nearly a dozen disparate projects to organize and increase the accessibility of digital and digitized materials. *Metadata in Practice* is organized into two main sections: "Part I: Project-Based Implementations," which contains eleven chapters describing eleven separate projects; and "Part II: The Future of Metadata Development and Practice," which contains five chapters describe various theoretical aspects of the future of metadata. These sections are preceded by a thoughtful and well-written introduction by the editors.

In their very thorough introduction, the editors provide both a narrative and a synthesis of the major points, or themes, discussed throughout the upcoming chapters. They state that *Metadata in Practice* is an attempt "to cover a broad range of communities and metadata formats" (xv), which they have accomplished quite nicely. While the stated aim of the book is to aid "wanderers in the [metadata] wilderness" (xv), it is not intended to replace Priscilla Caplan's *Metadata Fundamentals for All Librarians*, which is a survey

of metadata formats, standards and definitions.¹ *Metadata in Practice* complements Caplan's work and provides case studies on successful digital- and digitized-resource projects; addressing metadata decisions made by project planners and implementers.

However, it does not consider the history or development of metadata standards or the technical aspects of data retrieval. A useful guide for those interested in the history and development of several metadata standards is David Haynes's *Metadata for Information Management and Retrieval*.² Haynes's text also has some case-study-like examples from implemented projects, but they are not as comprehensive as those in *Metadata in Practice*. Approximately two-thirds of *Metadata in Practice* discusses specific, project-related applications of metadata standards, schema, and thesauri, as well as (and just as importantly) the decision-making processes leading up to the implementation of those standards for those projects. This aspect of the project description is what I found to be the among the greatest strengths of *Metadata in Practice*.

Another important aspect of *Metadata in Practice* is that the editors succinctly delineate the questions and problems facing all metadata-related project planners, such as:

- Where do I start?
- What is the current standard for [organizing, describing, creating digital versions, recording administrative or preservation metadata]?
- How can I recognize when the terminology changes from document to document?

After discussing the pervasive questions of project planners, the editors identify three major themes from the "lessons learned" portions of each chapter in section I of the book: (1) change happens—constantly, (2) stick to standards as much as possible, and (3) try to anticipate future use of your data (xvi). Although *Metadata in Practice* as a whole may seem to be disjointed because the reader is required to shift a number of times, it can be seen as an important resource for digital resource project planners.

The projects described in part I span those created in a consortial environment to those from single institutions, while the project implementation descriptions discuss such varied schema as Dublin Core (DC), the Visual Resources Association Core Categories, Machine Readable Cataloging, and Resource Description Framework as well as home-grown metadata schema. The chapters not only describe a variety of metadata standards and tools, but the topics of the diverse projects include educational materials, image collections, citation metadata, and geographic information systems. The authors of all of the chapters emphasize the importance of following the established standards and creating documentation. Several of them stress the importance