Shu-Wen Lin

Rebecca Guenther

Metadata Assignment 2

In my second assignment, I choose MARC21, MODS, Dublin Core and PBCore to create my crosswalk. In general, I find MARC is the most granular standard that can accommodate almost any kind of information. However, it has many repetitive elements, and I can't location documentations that can clarify the differences between the similar elements. Even though I tried to only use one element for some fields and check MARC records from libraries and archives as my reference, I realized they have different interpretations and sometimes use different element to serve the same type of information. As opposed to MARC, MODS is not as granular, but it is more user friendly with less repetitive elements. I think MODS is granular enough for most of the field, and is not too complicated for users to locate the most appropriate elements. The only problem is that version 3.5 can't be loaded well, so, most of the time, I don't have stable access to MODS 3.5 Schema. As of Dublin Core, the 15 element set can describe the most universal fields – such as title, creator, creation dates and etc., but it might not be a good option for moving images since it can neither cover the technical data nor the variations information in detail. Finally, like how I learn from class and AMIA, PBCore does describe technical information particularly well, but the website is not very intuitive. On top of that, there is no clear instructions or documentations of each field as well as the definitions of controlled vocabulary. I find myself feel confused with similar terms and am struggling to locate appropriate elements to accommodate information about

acquisition and access restriction. Overall, I can see the reason why MARC is widely adopted in the library and archives. It does not only have the most granular elements, but can link the related/associated information together for various purposes. For example, the rights can be separately represented in copyrights, acquisition resource, and access restrictions.