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<center>EuScreen vs WGBH Open Vault</center>

subject: WWII
person: William Shakespeare
type of material: video
genre: news

1) How easy was it to find what you were looking for? Was there good documentation about how to search?
The WGBH Open Vault seems to return based more on title, where EuScreen returns search

queries based on subject. For example, when searching 'World War II' in both search inputs,

EuScreen returned war time effort clips, or hits to do with Germany, and most on the first few

returns were filmed during World War II. Open Vault returned things such as 'World War II Vet'

titles, History titles about World War II, and even John Paul II. This indicates it is searching

within the title metadata rather than the subject metadata.

2) Were there multiple ways of searching (e.g. simple and advanced)? Was the search interface easy to use? Was both browse and search supported?
Open Vault has no discernible 'advanced search' option. (It does give users the option to browse

programs by title.) After having searched a term, it is possible for a user to filter returns by three

categories, 'Program', 'Media', and 'Series'. The user can also check a box to filter for media

returns only. Open Vault's interface was easy to use, but there is also very little to use about this

search feature is set up.

EuScreen also lacks both an 'advanced' search option , and a 'browse' feature, but it boasts a

larger field of filters when compared next to Open Vault. You can divide search results up by

format: 'Video', 'Image', 'Audio', 'Documents', and 'Series/Collection'. The user also has the

capability to sort by ascending or descending order of 'Title' or 'Year', in addition to being able

to filter for 'Language', 'Decade', 'Topic', 'Provider', 'Genre', 'Country of Production', and finally, 'Publisher'. The interface was easy to read and operate - no critiques necessary.

3) Did you get the results you were expecting? Did you get what you were looking for?
Finding a 'person' to search took several tries. It took searching from Katharine Hepburn to Shakespeare to Theodore Roosevelt, and finally to simply 'Roosevelt' did both engines return any successful searches. Even then, the returns were about FDR and Eleanor Roosevelt, not the originally intended Theodore. The short answer is, then: no, I did not find what I was looking for. Even when both engines returned search queries on the same term, the content wasn't specifically about the term itself that seemed to have a broad relationship to 'World War II' at best.

4)   Could you tell what metadata standard was used and if so which one? Is there documentation about the metadata? Make sure you look around the site to see if there is any documentation. If it doesn't say see if you can determine which.
EuScreen broadcasts their Metadata Facts on their 'About' page. They claim that EuScreen has "1) 45 separate metadata elements, 2) is modelled on EBUCore, 3) is highly interoperable, 4) available for reuse under a CCO License, and finally 5) is published as linked open data" (EuScreen). Upon heavy inspection of the Open Vault website, no discernible metadata schema is articulated as being used. This isn't particularly surprising, given the quality of descriptions - most of them poor - the entries can have. One entry simply contained only the descriptor of 'Radio' - nothing else. More detailed entries do contain some metadata, which can be found at the bottom of the page by clicking a 'show more' link. The metadata then drops down. On a video about Eleanor Roosevelt, the metadata present described the many contributors, and then the type of media that the upload originally existed as. This 'Media' section was particularly helpful

in identifying the schema, which is plainly PBCore - all categories here fit perfectly with the instantiations category of PBCore.

5) How well did you think the metadata supported finding what you were looking for?
   Considering that some entries in Open Vault don't even have metadata entries, it is clear that WGBH searches within titles. Its not clear if these metadata-less entries will be one day filled in, and are just currently in the back log, or if the records are considered complete.

   EuScreen is a different story - while some searches clearly yield returns based on their subjects, some reasons for search returns are entirely unclear. Searching for 'Roosevelt' in EuScreen for the first few titles was by title content, and then a few had 'Roosevelt' in the summary of the listing, but it quickly disintegrated to the search results having nothing to do with the search term whatsoever. The thought is then that there may be some hidden metadata that is invisible to users attached to the file.

6) After doing a search were the search results displayed in a meaningful way? Could you tell how they were ordered and was it easy to sort through them?
   The search returns for both websites ranked the most relevant choices first, but the less related the search returns became, it was obviously hard to tell why things were in the order they came back in. EUScreen suffered from this more so than Open Vault - Open Vault had a longer string of search returns that were consistently more relevant to the search topic, but not necessarily in order from most to least relevant. In fact, the second returned search on 'Roosevelt' only mentions the term once in the summary. There are several search returns that follow that are more immediately relevant (content wise, part of the title, or mentioned heavily in the summary), so determining the reason search results are listed the way they are is difficult.

Sources

"WGBH Media Library & Archives Open Vault." WGBH Open Vault. Web. 04 Mar. 2016.

"EuScreen." EuScreen. Web. 04 Mar. 2016.