Supporting multiple metadata standards within the Digital Repository of Ireland

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What is the Digital Repository of Ireland?

The Digital Repository of Ireland (DRI) is an interactive trusted digital repository for contemporary and historical, social and cultural data held by Irish institutions.

www.dri.ie

The Challenges

Supporting multiple metadata standards presented project-wide challenges including:

• Producing consistent guidelines across different standards, for example the use of recommended content standards or controlled vocabularies
• Creating a unified data model
• Providing standard-agnostic ingest
• Offering a consistent browsing experience through the UI between different standards

Metadata

A mapping between the chosen standards was developed.

• A number of mandatory and recommended fields were identified from this mapping
• Guidelines for these fields are in development for each standard
• These aim to make collections more easily discoverable

Data model

Attributes in the DRI Data Model are based on the mandatory and recommended fields.

• The data model supports both hierarchical as well as flat standards
• It handles one-to-one mappings with the model attributes as well as one-to-many mappings

The Goal

By supporting multiple metadata standards within the repository DRI aims to:

• Support multiple communities of practice, for example GLAMS as well as academic researchers
• Encourage ingest of diverse collections from the humanities and social sciences
• Aid discoverability within the repository