

OLAC Process and OLAC Protocol: A Guided Tour

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Our original schedule

- Dec 2000: Founding of OLAC
- 2001: Develop standards with alpha test sites
- 2002: Launch to wider community while freezing proposed standards for one year
- 2003: Revise standards and adopt them as version 1.0

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Give us your feedback

- The workshop notebooks are loose-leaf for a reason!
- If you see anything in a document
 - That is wrong
 - That doesn't make sense
 - That seems like a bad idea
 - Etc.
- Mark it on the page and give the page to one of the editors of the document.
- We'll circulate updates to some documents.

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OLAC Process

- A "Candidate Standard"
- The document summarizes the governing ideas of OLAC (i.e. the purpose, vision, and core values) and then describes how OLAC is organized and how it operates.

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Mission statement (p. 3)

- OLAC, the Open Language Archives Community, is an international partnership of institutions and individuals who are creating a worldwide virtual library of language resources by:
 - developing consensus on best current practice for the digital archiving of language resources, and
 - developing a network of interoperating repositories and services for housing and accessing such resources.

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Vision statement (p. 3)

- The "seven pillars" of language archiving.
- Any user on the Internet should be able go to a single GATEWAY to find all the language resources available at all participating institutions, whether the resources be DATA, TOOLS, or ADVICE. The community will ensure on-going interoperation and quality by following STANDARDS for the METADATA that describe resources and services and for processes that REVIEW them.

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Core values (pp. 3-4)

- Openness
- Consensus
- Empowering the players
- Peer review

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Organization (pp. 4-5)

- Coordinators
- Advisory board
- Participating archives and services
- Working groups
- Participating individuals

- See last three sheets in notebook for relevant web site pages

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Types of documents (pp. 5-6)

- Standards — Obligatory compliance
- Recommendations — Optional compliance
 - About application of standards
 - About other digital archiving practices
- Notes
 - Experimental
 - Informational
 - Implementation

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Status of documents (pp. 6-7)

- Draft
- Proposed
- Candidate
- Adopted
- Retired
- Withdrawn

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The document process (pp. 7-8)

- Intellectual property rights: OLAC documents are published under OPL.
- Review: this process establishes if a document is ready to advance in status
- Voting: a means of measuring consensus in a distributed community
 - Release, Revise, Resubmit, Reject

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Document life cycle (pp. 8-9)

<i>Phase</i>	<i>Status</i>	<i>Promoted by</i>
Development	Draft	Working group
Proposal	Proposed	Community
Testing	Candidate	Implementers
Adoption	Adopted	Community
Retirement	Retired	

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Working group process (pp. 10-11)

- Anyone can set up a working group. It takes:
 - A purpose germane to mission of OLAC
 - One or more planned documents
 - At least three members representing at least three institutions
 - A designated chairperson
- OLAC provides a web page and an open mailing list

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Proposed changes for 1.0 (p. 1)

- Section 2: OLAC also solicits anonymous peer review on conformance to standards/recs
- Section 3: "Prospective Participants" removed
- Section 4: Two types of recommendations
- Section 5: Only participating institutions vote on recommendations about application of standards, while participating individuals vote on other recommendations.

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Open issues

- We probably need to add a section on the "Registration process"
- We have never performed the community voting process, but must in order to move our 1.0 proposals to Adopted status.
 - Is there existing "community ware"?
 - Can someone develop a web app for us?
- A bootstrapping problem with the Process document. Solution: Get consensus of this workshop and the Advisory Board.

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OLAC Protocol for Metadata Harvesting

- It was a "Proposed Standard"; this new version is a "Draft Standard".
- This document defines the protocol OLAC service providers use to harvest metadata from OLAC data providers. It defines the responses that OLAC data providers must make to the requests of the protocol.
- Based on the Open Archives Initiative protocol for metadata harvesting

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OLAC-specific requirements

- `Identify` response must have:
 - `<oai-identifier>` description (Section 2)
 - `<olac-archive>` description (Section 3)
- `ListMetadataFormats` must include `olac`
- `ListIdentifiers` with `olac` must return at least one record
- `GetRecord` and `ListRecords` with `olac` must return records that conform to OLAC schema

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The main changes

- Based on OAI-PMH, version 2.0
 - Only 4 participants need to upgrade from 1.1
 - The rest get a free ride when Vida upgrades
- OLAC-PMH specifies an OAI minimal repository implementation minus one feature:
 - Supporting `oai_dc` is not required
 - OLACA gives a free ride for `oai_dc` support

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Other changes for OLAC-PMH 1.0

- Add shortLocation to <olac-archive>.
- All repository identifiers must change to be based on a registered Internet domain name.
- Open issue (see To Do). How do we handle repository identifiers where there is no institutional domain name?
 - oai:ore.language-archives.org:repo:id ?
 - oai:repo.language-archives.org:id ?
 - Other?

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Possible change to PMH document

- The original OAI model: a data provider must implement the protocol interface
 - = A dynamic repository
- A newly specified OAI model (inspired by OLAC's Vida): a data provider may generate an XML document of all items
 - = A static repository
- The PMH document could shift to a focus on repository implementation (incl. both)

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