Metadata, Libraries and Librarianship

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We’re not lost. We’re locationally challenged.

John M. Ford
The Problem We Want to Solve...

Finding “stuff” on the Internet is like trying to find a needle in a haystack.

Users want information that is accurate, relevant, timely, and accessible.

The challenge is to reduce the amount of information and raise the quality of information for our user communities: managing “information overload.”
What is Metadata?

- Metadata is information about information.
- Metadata is cataloguing.
- Types: Dublin Core, GILS, SOIF, TEI headers, MARC/bibliographic records, geospatial metadata, IAFA templates
Roles for Libraries and Librarians

- Selection, Evaluation and Description of Networked Information.
- Coding Metadata Records.
- Standards Setting.
- Training.
- Advocacy.
- Document Repositories.
- Registries (PURLs; metadata; naming).
Closing Thought

*If you have built castles in the air, your work need not be lost; that is where they should be. Now put the foundations under them.*

Henry David Thoreau
Metadata Resources

Metadata Page on IFLANET:

http://www.ifla.org/II/metadata.htm

Also available on the 1997 IFLANET Unplugged CD-ROM which is available to all conference attendees.
Contact Information

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