

## RIF-CS Advisory Board (RAB) Meeting Minutes

### Meeting details:

Date: 06 September 2012  
 Venue: Video/teleconference  
 Meeting started: 10:30pm  
 Meeting ended: 12:25pm  
 Meeting Chair: Nigel Ward

### Attendees:

Nigel Ward (UQ), Anne Stevenson (CSIRO), Neil Godfrey (CDU), Conal Tuohy (VerSI), Simon Porter (UNIMELB), Daniela Nastasie (UniSA), Dave Connell (AAD), Michelle Teis (QCIF-TERN), Joan Gray (ANDS), Cel Pilapil (ANDS), Adrian Burton (ANDS), Liz Woods (ANDS)

### Guest Presenter:

Duncan Dickinson (QCIF-TERN)

### Apologies:

Gavan McCarthy (UNIMELB), Peter Walsh (UTas), Steve Androulakis (Monash), Peter Sefton (Consultant)

### Agenda:

1. Welcome - Nigel Ward
2. Review of Action items from the last meeting - Nigel Ward
3. Discussion of RIF-CS change proposals / recommendations (ANDS, RAB members)
4. Other business - Nigel Ward/Adrian Burton
5. Date and time of next meeting

## DISCUSSION :

### Welcome and short introduction:

- With 3 new RAB members, the Chair asked each member present in the meeting to introduce himself/herself briefly and share to the group his/her response to the question 'Why do you like metadata?'
- After the short introduction, Nigel briefly discussed the RAB change process as documented in the Terms of Reference.

### Review of action items from previous meeting:

No	Action	Responsible	Status/Comments
a.	Clarify semantics for collection: Update the proposal and present to RAB when ready.	ANDS	<b>IN PROGRESS.</b>

b.	ANDS to include some advice to address interpretation of open-ended records, making the point that users should not make assumptions based on the absence of an end date.	ANDS	<p><b>COMPLETED.</b></p> <p>This page: <a href="http://ands.org.au/guides/cpguide/cpgexistencedates.html">http://ands.org.au/guides/cpguide/cpgexistencedates.html</a> now contains the following text that addresses this issue,</p> <p><i>An open-ended record (that is, without an end date) does not imply that the person, organisation or research project still exists. It simply means that no-one has recorded an end date</i></p>
c.	Anne Stevenson to post her vocabulary change proposal on the Community Bulletin Board, with a deadline, for decision out of session.	Anne Stevenson	<p><b>COMPLETED.</b> Refer to <a href="http://community.ands.org.au/viewtopic.php?f=151&amp;t=2751&amp;sid=40485d627232ec9e56fb322232939d83">http://community.ands.org.au/viewtopic.php?f=151&amp;t=2751&amp;sid=40485d627232ec9e56fb322232939d83</a></p>
d.	'dates' element: Update the discussion paper with the revised technical options for encoding data ranges	ANDS (Joan Gray)	<p><b>COMPLETED.</b> Refer to <a href="http://community.ands.org.au/viewtopic.php?f=151&amp;t=2191&amp;sid=40485d627232ec9e56fb322232939d83">http://community.ands.org.au/viewtopic.php?f=151&amp;t=2191&amp;sid=40485d627232ec9e56fb322232939d83</a></p>
e.	RAB membership: Send an email to existing members and then announce vacancy to the wider community.	ANDS (Cel/Adrian)	<p><b>COMPLETED.</b> Email sent to ands-dsa, ands-partners and ands-general last June 28. Received nominations from Dave Connell (AAD), Michelle Teis (QCIF/TERN), Daniela Nastasie (UNISA) and Julie McCulloch (ANDS)</p>
f.	relatedInfo type 'metadata': Invite Duncan to the next RAB meeting	ANDS (Cel)	<p><b>COMPLETED.</b> Duncan invited to the next meeting.</p>
g.	New description types: Update proposal with more details and upload on the Bulletin Board for RAB review and approval	ANDS (Cel)	<p><b>COMPLETED.</b> Refer to <a href="http://community.ands.org.au/viewtopic.php?f=151&amp;t=2141&amp;sid=d6d442057119ee85215a9a349a77c34d">http://community.ands.org.au/viewtopic.php?f=151&amp;t=2141&amp;sid=d6d442057119ee85215a9a349a77c34d</a></p>
h.	Next meeting: Schedule another meeting in about 2 months' time	ANDS (Cel)	<p><b>COMPLETED.</b> Next meeting: 6 September 2012</p>

## RIF-CS Schema recommended changes

### 1. Addition of new relatedInfo type 'metadata' (Discussed by Duncan Dickinson)

The purpose of this proposal is to allow RIF-CS to provide a link to more specific metadata that can then be used by software tools either in an automated download fashion or via the user.

The purpose of this new vocabulary is to allow providers, like TERN, the ability to provide richer information that can be domain specific or discipline specific.

### Discussion:

- Duncan discussed the importance of this proposal, citing requirements from TERN's perspective. It also promotes data discovery and re-use
- Michelle supported Duncan's proposal, mentioning that this will be used to provide richer collection information such as scientific technique or scientific metadata.
- Conal suggested that providers should also be able to record the type of metadata (content types). This will be important to aggregators.
- Joan asked if there is any other schema that describes a metadata similar to what Duncan is proposing.
- Duncan mentioned similarity with Dublin Core's 'relation' element while Nigel mentioned that it is also similar to RDF's 'rdfs:seeAlso' property.
- Adrian agreed that this proposal is important and promotes discovery and re-use however, we also need to be clear about how this new type should be used as it could be mistaken as a standard or schema for the collection rather than a metadata file for the collection or observation.
- Other RAB members agreed that the proposal is good especially for those who need it although some may not have an immediate use for this type.

**Decision:** RAB approved the addition of a new 'metadata' relatedInfo vocabulary pending agreement on a method for describing the format of the metadata.

**ACTION:** *Duncan to work with Conal to review and update the proposal and recommend the best way to describe the format of the metadata and present it to RAB in the next meeting.*

## 2. Addition of new 'dates' element (Discussed by Joan)

This [proposal](#) is for a new date element for data collection dates with an externally referenced vocabulary. It discusses the need to introduce a more generic date element for better identification, discovery, access and re-use of research data. It also supports the requirements earlier raised by Monash University regarding collection dates.

### Discussion:

- Joan briefly discussed the changes she has done to the proposal based on the previous meeting's action item. Technical options section of the paper was revised with changes to date range functionality, date format type, clarification on the use of dc date types and XML examples updated to reflect these changes.
- Daniela suggested that it would be important to have clear guidelines and semantics that support this new element.
- Adrian agreed with Daniela and pointed out that there might be some confusion between 'dates' which is the new element and 'date', which is an attribute of the 'dates' element. ANDS documentation will need to be clear to avoid confusion.
- Anne and Simon supported this proposal.
- Neil asked if this new element has interoperability with Dublin Core (DC). Joan clarified the 'dates' element and the 'dates' type vocabulary are semantically aligned with DC but that the vocabulary terms are not dynamically referenced from DC but are stored as a string locally in a vocabulary table.
- Conal suggested that 'dates' types 'dateAccepted' and 'dateSubmitted' should further be defined to provide clearer definition per data collection perspective. He also suggested to simplify these types and use only 'accepted' and 'submitted' to be consistent with the rest of the RIF-CS vocabulary. After some discussions, RAB agreed that if we are going to adopt the DC 'dates'

types and definitions, we can then make an exception and accept the terms as they are to be consistent with DC.

- Dave asked why we only picked some vocabulary from DC and not all of them. Joan clarified that she initially suggested only those types that are applicable to research data and can make changes later on, if necessary.
- Dave and Nigel supported this proposal as well.

**Decision:**

- RAB accepted the proposed 'dates' element and its new 'date' attribute.
- RAB agreed to use the 'dates' types with 'dc.' prefix

**ACTIONS:**

- ANDS to update the discussion paper to include the agreed 'dates' types (prefixed with 'dc.')  
(Note: No need to present the paper to RAB)
- ANDS to update the Content Providers Guide to provide guidance on how the 'dates' types will be used to clearly describe research data.

**3. Addition of new relatedObject type 'isPrincipalInvestigatorOf' (Discussed by Anne)**

This [proposal](#) would enable linking to a chief/principal/primary researcher, from either an Activity record or a Collection record

**Discussion:**

- Neil asked Anne the difference between the 'originator' and the 'principal investigator'. Anne clarified that the principal investigator implies that there are other investigators involved in an activity or the collection and the principal investigator distinguishes the primary/lead researcher from the rest.
- The rest of the RAB members supported this proposal.

**Decision:** RAB endorsed this proposal.

**4. Clarify semantics for 'collection' (Discussed by Adrian)**

From the last RAB meeting, the action on this [proposal](#) was for ANDS to revisit and re-present the revised proposal to RAB.

**Discussion:**

- Adrian updated RAB that at the moment, this proposal is still on hold and ANDS do not have a resource available to look into this proposal in the next few months.

**Decision:** RAB agreed that this proposal is not urgent and can be revisited next year (2012)

**ACTION:** ANDS to allocate resource who will review this proposal next year, as necessary and present to RAB in 2013 when ready.

**Other business:**

**Changes to Citation Metadata**

This [proposal](#) is ready for RAB comment however, since there were only few minutes left and to give more time for the RAB members to review the proposal, it has been decided that this proposal will be discussed by Michelle and Joan in the next meeting.

**ACTION:** RAB to review the proposal prior to the meeting.

**Date and time of next meeting:**

The Board agreed to schedule another meeting on the first week of October. Nigel suggested that the agenda be posted on the Bulletin board.

**ACTIONS:**

- *Cel to schedule another meeting on the first week of October. Doodle poll to be sent to identify best time and day.*
- *Cel to post the agenda for the next meeting on the ANDS Bulletin Board*

**Action items from this meeting:**

No	Action	Responsible	Status/Comments
1	Update the 'metadata' type relatedInfo proposal and recommend the best way to describe the format of the metadata then present it to RAB in the next meeting.	Duncan Dickinson / Conal Tuohy	Note: Updated proposal will be sent to RAB members 1 week before the next meeting
2	Update the discussion paper to include the agreed 'dates' types (prefixed with 'dc.')	ANDS – Joan Gray	
3	update the Content Providers Guide to provide guidance on how the 'dates' types will be used to clearly describe research data	ANDS	Note: To be done as part of implementation
4	Allocate resource who will review this proposal next year, as necessary and present to RAB in 2013 when ready	ANDS	Note: Slated for 2013 RIF-CS change
5	Schedule another meeting on the first week of October. Doodle poll to be sent to identify best time and day.	ANDS – Cel Pilapil	
6	Post the agenda for the next meeting on the ANDS Bulletin Board	ANDS – Cel Pilapil	