Motivation, inspiration and innovation from frustration

Herbert Van de Sompel Research Library Los Alamos National Laboratory, USA





- Exploration of ideas from 'Roadblocks' white paper NSF Post Digital Library Futures Workshop Cape Cod, June 15-17 2003
 - Brainstorm about DL research agenda for the next 10 years
 - Motivated by the Atkins report on Cyberinfrastructure: science and engineering research/education evolving towards global, network-based collaboration across institutions, disciplines, distance, time (cf. Earth science, Space Physics & Aeronomy Research, Ecology, High energy physics, Bio-informatics, ...
 - Similar evolutions in humanities, social sciences, arts, ...

http://www.sis.pitt.edu/~dlwkshop/paper_sompel.html



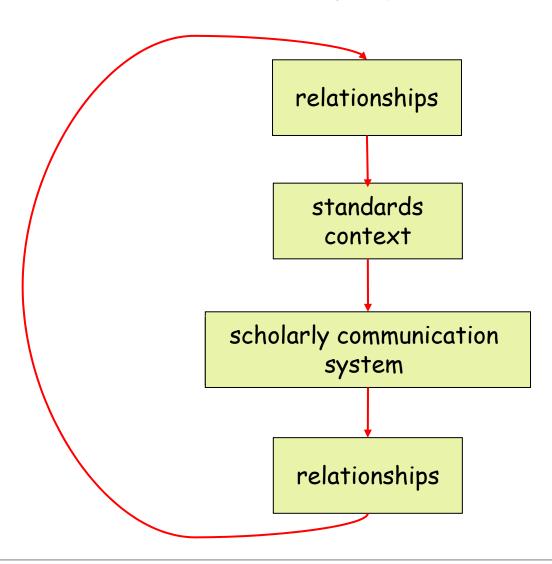


Roadblocks:

- Try and identify 'roadblocks' that preclude realizing the Cyberinfrastructure vision.
- All identified issues:
 - Seriously hinder whichever effort aimed at the creation of an integrated scholarly knowledge environment
 - Pose enormous research and organizational challenges at technical, legal, economical and social level
- Context of this presentation: information technology, networked libraries, publishers, scholarly endeavors including research, communication, education, ...



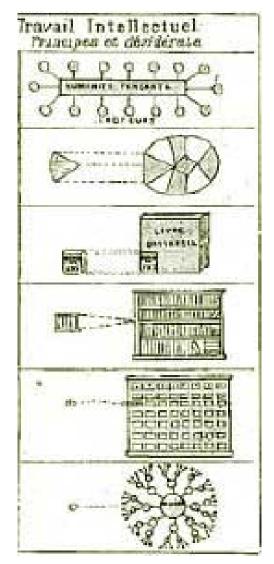




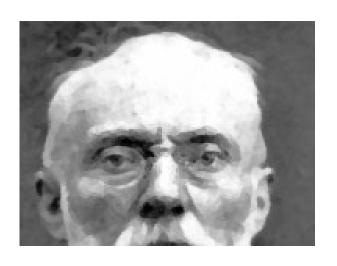
SIDEBARS







Paul Otlet



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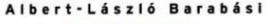
Everything is Linked

How Everything Is Connected to Everything Else and What It Means for Business, Science, and Everyday Life





"Linied could alter the way we think about all of the networks that affect our lives." —The New York Times



With a New Afterword

- But not so in the scholarly communication system: assets that are inherently related are not technically linked
- Scholarly system does not record an unambiguous trace of value chain of a scholarly asset
- Relationships known at the moment an assets goes through a step in a value chain are lost the second thereafter
- The dynamics of scholarship are lost.
 Such information can be crucial for the development of new knowledge.

http://www.amazon.com/exec/obidos/ASIN/0452284392/



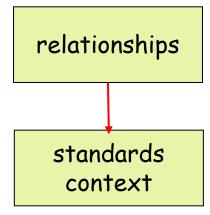


Everything is Linked

- Early steps towards enabling technologies:
 - RDF to express semantic/knowledge relationships
 - DOI/CrossRef to hardwire 'cites' relationships in journal articles
 - OpenURL to dynamically and context-sensitively express metadata-based relationships







scholarly communication system

relationships

SIDEBARS





Standards/Interoperability context

- Standards are the glue that holds the networked information environment together.
- Standards are crucial to facilitate the emergence of improved and integrated services across networked libraries, across nodes in the scholarly communication system.
- As the information environment becomes more complex, and as we move towards new levels of services, we will need more, not less standards.





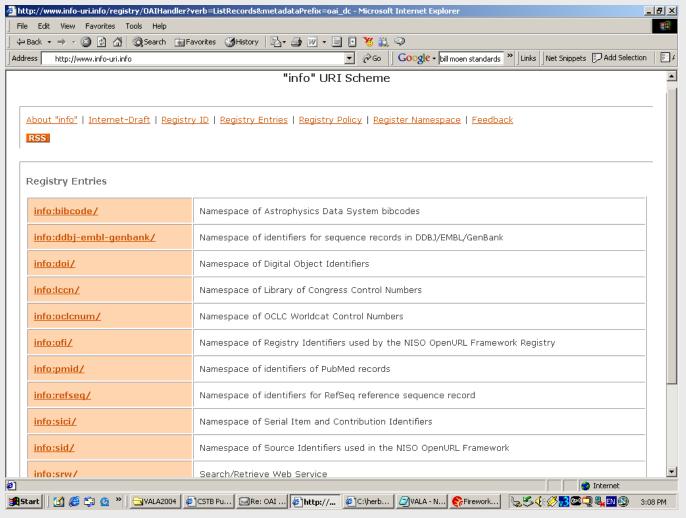
Standards/Interoperability context

- Standardization efforts/bodies in our community are seriously challenged:
 - Many standards defined outside our community.
 - Lack of impact on major standardization bodies of the networked world (W3C, IETF, IANA, ...)





Standards/Interoperability context: info URI scheme



- Bridge between 'legacy' identifiers for information assets and Web infrastructure
- Essential for OpenURL Framework, Web services
- Useful for Semantic Web
- But ...

http://info-uri.info





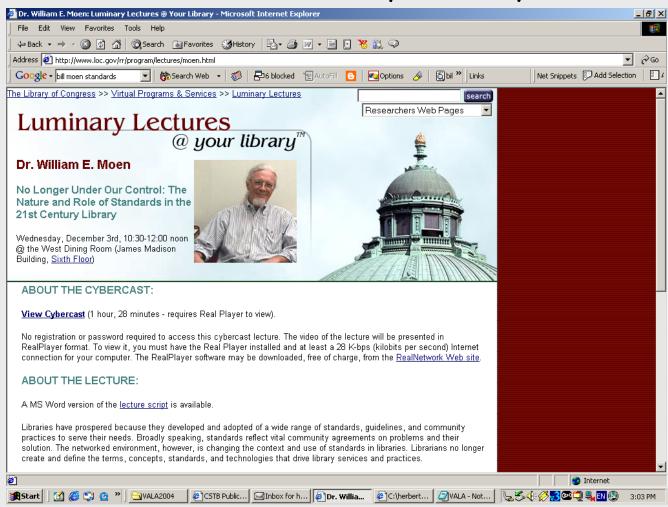
Standards/Interoperability context

- Standardization efforts/bodies in our community are seriously challenged:
 - Many standards defined outside our community.
 - Lack of impact on major standardization bodies of the networked world (W3C, IETF, IANA, ...)
 - Problems to interconnect within and amongst related efforts in our community: digital library, grid computing, e-learning, library automation, ...
 - Operational models/processes not adequately adapted to the realities of the networked world (cf. patent challenges OpenURL, MetaSearch)
 - Funding for standardization efforts and related infrastructure is very hard to find (cf. OAI, CIMI, info URI Registry, OpenURL Registry, ...)





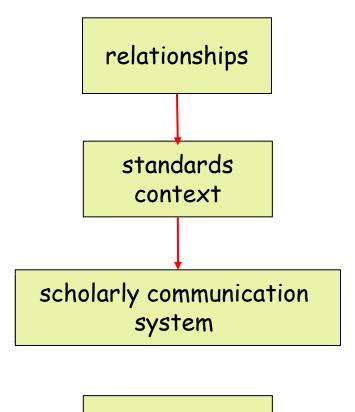
Standards/Interoperability context: Bill Moen



http://www.loc.gov/rr/program/lectures/moen.html







SIDEBARS

relationships





A few bold statements about the scholarly communication system

- The current electronic scholarly communication system is a mere scanned copy of the paper-based system.
- The networked environment begs for another scholarly communication system to emerge.
- We really need to start creating that other system.





Absorbing and distilling a disruptive new technology

- Three stages of technology change
 - Modernization → ejournals
 - Do things we couldn't do before e.g., linking, personalization, on-line peer-review/commentary, annotation, ...
 - Transformation: Real gains in the application of the new technology. Requires:
 - social-organizational change
 - a systems perspective





What is driving the Need for Change?

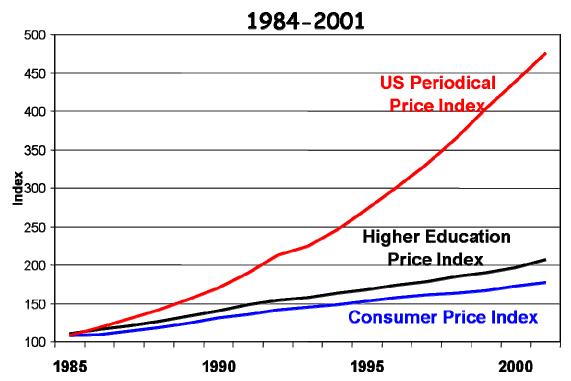
- The Usual:
 - Serials crisis
 - Permission crisis
- The New ~ networked environment
 - Repository model
 - E-science
 - Rights framework





The Usual: serials crisis

Periodical Price Increases in Comparison with Common Inflation Indexes:



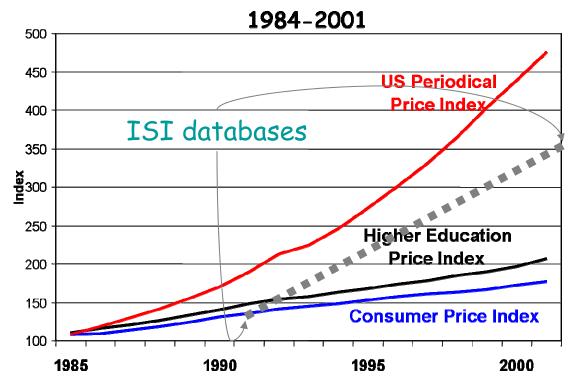
http://www.ala.org/Content/NavigationMenu/Products_and_Publications /Periodicals/American_Libraries/Selected_articles/charta.htm





The Usual: serials crisis

Periodical Price Increases in Comparison with Common Inflation Indexes:



- Competition-less market
- Related to policies in academia re promotion, tenure, funding based on ISI metrics?

Price for ISI databases as paid by LANL 1991-2002



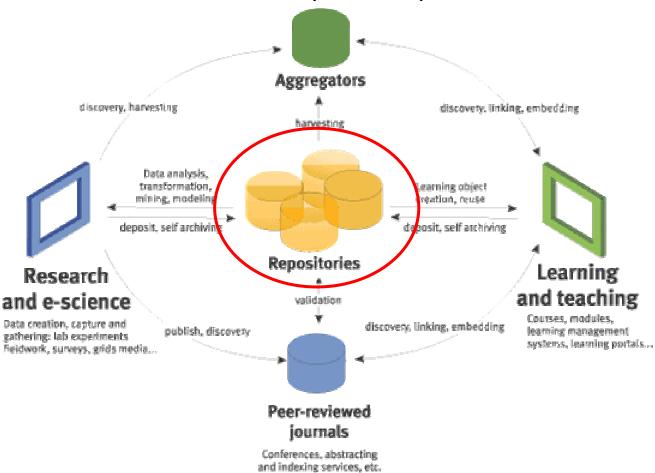


The Usual: permission crisis

- · Technological barriers limiting libraries` use of journals
 - Control of the IT that adds value to content
- Legal barriers copyright & licensing contracts
 - Some rights generously granted by ...: "Authors may distribute or transmit their own paper to not more than 50 colleagues. Authors may post the title, abstract (no other text), tables, and figures from their own papers on their own Web sites."



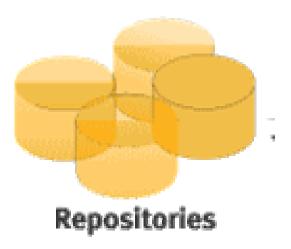




"Pattern Recognition: The 2003 OCLC Environmental Scan" http://www.oclc.org/membership/escan/toc.htm



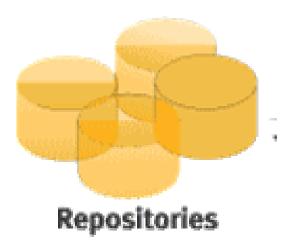




- Different repository types: IR, Grid repositories, digitized materials, ... no interoperable model
- Different media types, document models, ... no interoperable model
- Different services ... no interoperable model



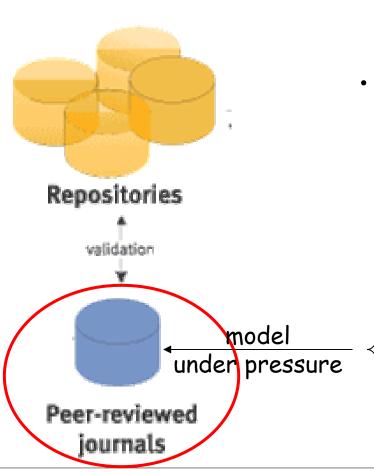




- Different levels of 'vetting': no review, internal review, curatorial decisions, peer-review, ...
- Focus on raw materials:
 - cf. arXiv ~ APS evolved towards integration
 - start of scholarly value chain





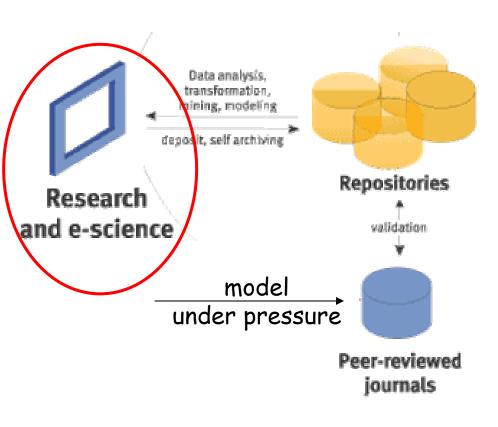


- Journal system is just one possible, vertically integrated value chain
- In a networked world, the functions it performs can/will be handled in a deconstructed/distributed manner:
 - registration in repository
 - validation by different nodes/parties
 - archiving by different nodes/parties
 - awareness by different nodes/parties





The New: e-science



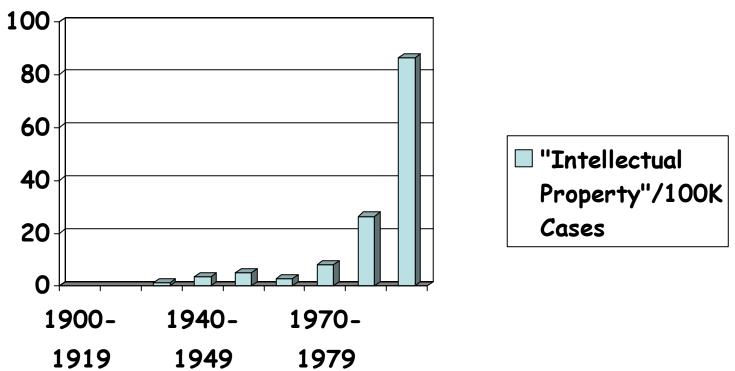
- Results of data analysis, transformation, mining, modeling need to be validated too
- These become 'publications' in their own right, the start of scholarly communication value chains
- Journal system not well placed for this:
 - Lacks review mechanisms
 - Can't handle the nature of 'new' publications
 - Bad fit with nature of e-science: speed, dynamic, collaboration





The New: rights framework

occurrences of the phrase "intellectual property" per 100,000 U.S. Federal Cases



"Professor Hank Greely" Cited in Lessig, L. The future of ideas: the fate of the commons in a connected world. NY, Random House, 2001. P. 294.





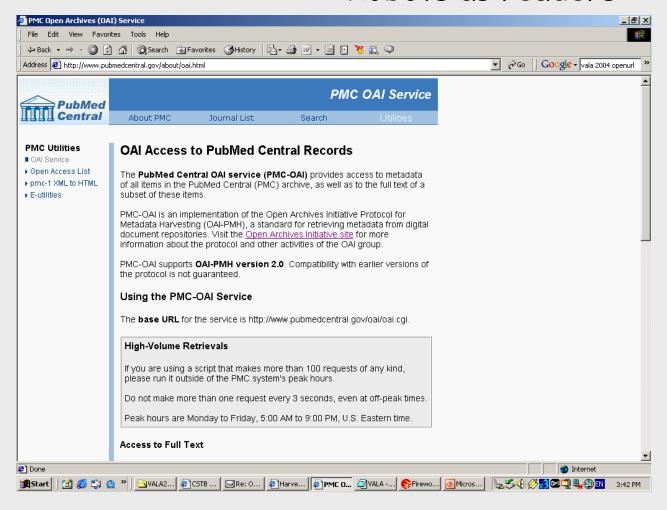
The New: rights framework

- Urgent need for an environment in which scholarly assets behave in a manner that matches the "gift exchange" spirit of scholarship. James Boyle: Think about what we loose by sticking with the current paradigm!
- In this context:
 - complexities built into systems to accommodate existing rights framework
 - enormous constraints on ability to use scholarly assets: process to extract knowledge, attach knowledge, mine, evolve, build upon: robots are the next generation readers





Robots as readers



Full content

OAI-PMH

harvestable from:

- PubMed Central
- BioMed Central
- PLoS (soon)

http://www.pubmedcentral.gov/about/oai.html





Towards an alternative ecology?

- Another rights framework
- Pathways model
- Libraries in a new ecology
- Barter trade model







seems to resonate better with scholarly communication

You're probably familiar with the phrase, "All rights reserved," and the little (c) that goes along with it. Creative Commons wants to help copyright holders send a different message: "Some rights reserved."

For example, if you don't mind people copying and distributing your online image so long as they give you credit, we'll have a license that helps you say so. If you want people to copy your band's MP3 but don't want them to profit off it without your permission, use one of our licenses to express that preference. Our licensing tools will even help you mix and match such preferences from a menu of options:

Attribution. Permit others to copy, distribute, display, and perform the work and derivative works based upon it only if they give you credit.

Noncommercial. Permit others to copy, distribute, display, and perform the work and derivative works based upon it only for noncommercial purposes.

No Derivative Works. Permit others to copy, distribute, display and perform only verbatim copies of the work, not derivative works based upon it.

Ocopyleft. Permit others to distribute derivative works only under a license identical to the license that governs your work.





OAI-rights effort



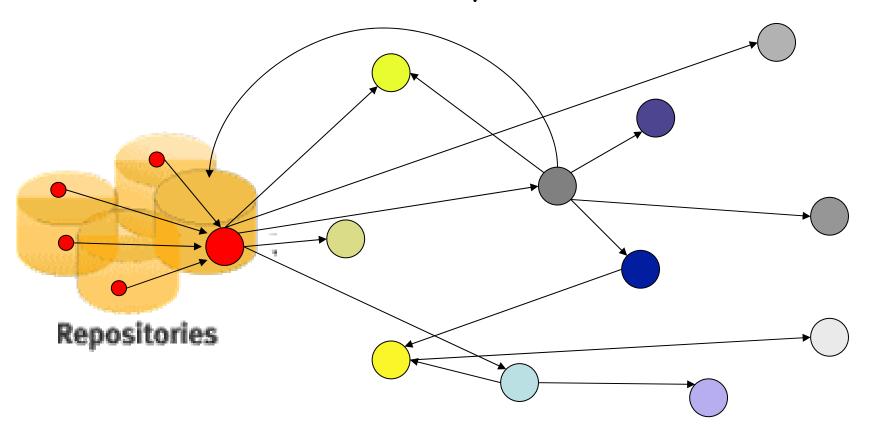
- Convey rights about metadata
- Convey rights about resource
 in the OAI-PMH framework
- Special attention for Creative Commons licenses

http://www.openarchives.org





Pathways model

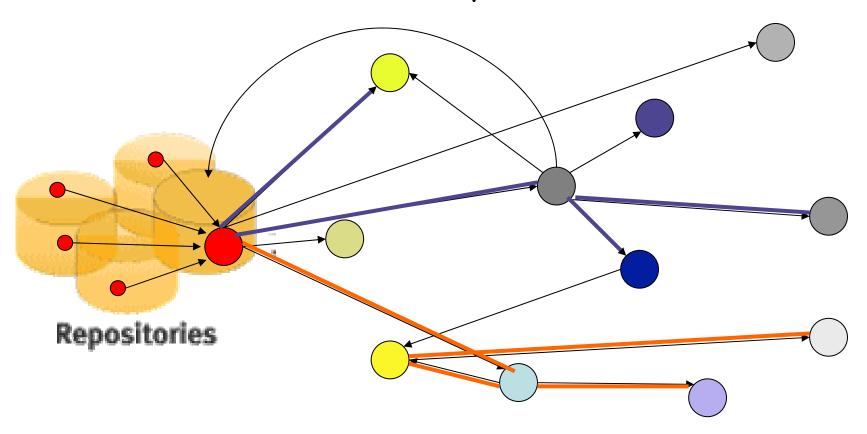


registration awareness validation archiving rewarding





Pathways model



registration awareness validation archiving rewarding





Pathways model

- Many nodes perform functions of scholarly communication:
 - indexing, searching, recommendation, linking, data-mining, visualization, ... nodes
 - annotation, certification, metric-collecting, rewarding, ...
 nodes
 - archiving, normalization/transformation, ... nodes





Libraries in a new ecology?

"They are only there to pay the bills"

- Libraries need to rethink their position. They can push towards establishing an alternative scholarly communication ecology:
 - Content-nodes
 - Service-nodes





Ongoing: Libraries at the start of a new value chain

- Institutional Repository network:
 - Libraries become content-nodes, capturing the intellectual output of their parent institutions and "exposing" it.
 - Vision: A network of federated repositories that makes available the collective intellectual output of faculty and researchers of the world's research institutions



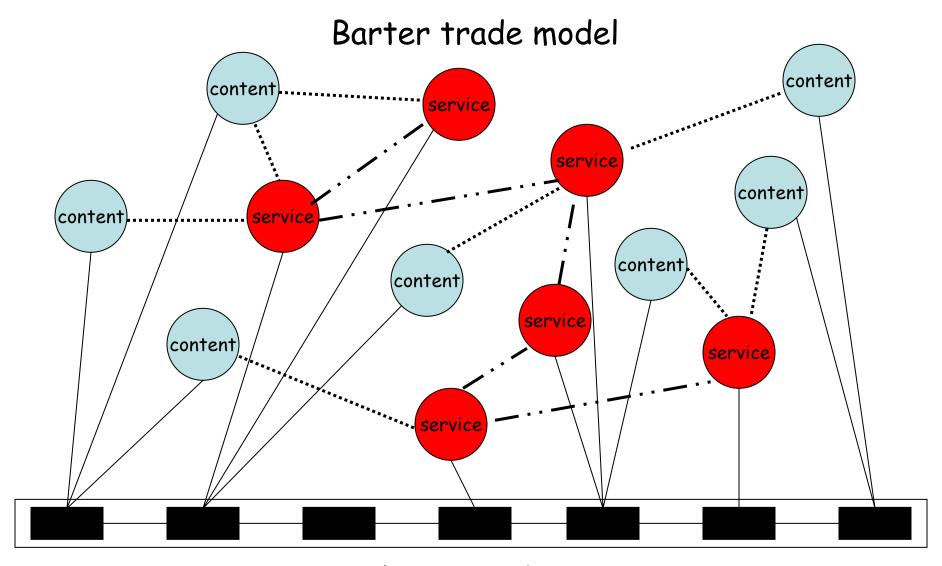


Next: Libraries as service nodes in a new value chain?

- Redundancy in services provided by libraries, following the "paper-based tradition". Seems non-optimal in networked environment.
- Complexity of IT services increases. Many libraries will eventually be forced out of the "service" business (read: out of the "all services" business).
- Trend: Specialization & distributed collaboration: OAI-PMH model, Seti, LoCKSS, QuestionPoint
- Vision: A federation of networked services (web services) in which Libraries take on specific service tasks that turns
 into a new global scholarly value chain



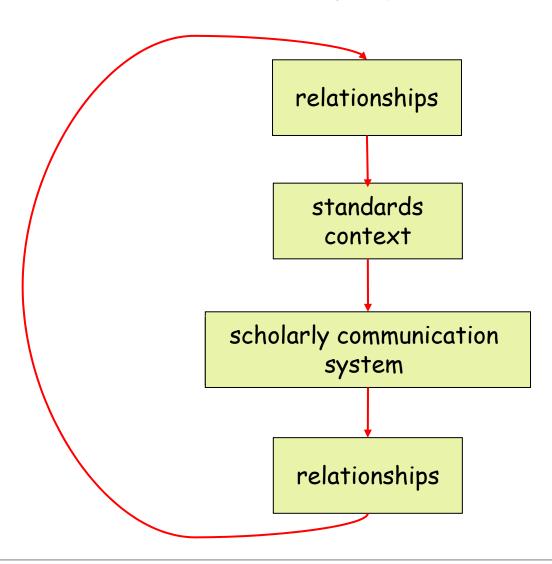




content/service Clearing House







SIDEBARS





Relationships

 Need to record/expose scholarly dynamics, relationships and interactions between assets: many arcs, many types of relationships interconnect assets and actors.





Conclusion

The networked environment might allow us to evolve towards another scholarly communication environment:

- That reflects the gift exchange spirit of scholarship
- That is more flexible because modular
- That allows for nodes to compete
- That is 'really' networked
- That records relationships within the infrastructure





Conclusion

- OpenURL and OAI-PMH are the results of frustration with the state of affairs.
- Be frustrated about the current state of affairs.
- Use the frustration as motivation and contribute to change.
- Become the next keynote speaker.



