

Minutes of the  
Cultural Heritage Content Team  
Content Working Group  
NDSA

Teleconference 28 June 2012, 1:00 PM EDT

Attending: Deborah Rossum, Rachel Howard, Jon Voss, Chris Muller, and Erik Rau

The minutes for the meeting on May 30, 2012, were approved.

Deborah Rossum had developed the outlines of a case study of the [SCOLA](#) Native American oral history project (<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1gnXtY-HkdS4ouGV8MScPOUpRQRQxzc5a3QZwJwelfl/edit>). Members of the team had looked at this before the meeting.

Several other websites had been shared among members before the meeting:

- 1) Google's Endangered Languages Project (<http://www.endangeredlanguages.com/>; reported on CNN at <http://www.cnn.com/2012/06/21/tech/web/google-fights-save-language-mashable/index.html>);
- 2) The Native languages project at the American Philosophical Society;
- 3) Pauleena MacDougall's work on the Penobscot Indian language at the Maine Folklife Center.

It was recognized rather quickly that the salient issues involved in the case study were (and should be) relevant across most digital cultural heritage projects, such as ownership, preservation, and access. These, in turn, contained a number of subthemes (copyright, privacy, licensing and permissions, presentation, formats, redundancy, interfaces, profit-non-profit relationships).

The presence of so much activity in the area in both for-profit and non-profit organizations, raised the issue of how to cooperate despite the differing motivations among the players, and how not to reinvent the wheel. The sheer logistics of knowing who to talk to at Google or Flickr Commons, etc., brings its own problems.

Chris noted that Minnesota has taken steps to encourage data sharing with other countries. Deborah pointed out that other NDSA teams and groups have already broached some of these issues, such as the Outreach Working Group's approach to developing "Digital Preservation in a Box." A scan of the work of other groups may be in order.

Discussion turned to preservation issues and standards—what do preserve, which formats, how much redundancy—and then access—how to manage access, what means of access, restrictions for reasons of privacy and cultural identity, and more.

Jon Voss agreed to start a new Google document to outline the three central issues—Ownership, Preservation, Access—and the rest agreed to add and edit before the next meeting. The link to the document is:

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/13Vz22pOKtv4d1VDF5p8pKewR-K54WZ\\_na66oewj9sXM/edit](https://docs.google.com/document/d/13Vz22pOKtv4d1VDF5p8pKewR-K54WZ_na66oewj9sXM/edit).

Erik agreed to set up a Doodle poll to arrange a meeting in the week of July 15.

The group briefly discussed the upcoming Digital Preservation 2012 meeting in Arlington, VA (July 24-26):

<http://www.digitalpreservation.gov/meetings/ndiipp12.html>.

Chris noted that UNESCO is holding another relevant conference in Vancouver, September 24-26: "[Memory of the World in the Digital Age](#)."

Erik brought up that Michael Brown's 2003 book, *Who Owns Native Culture?* And Rachel noted that it had an online presence worth looking at:

<http://web.williams.edu/go/native/>

Finally, Erik announced that Kris Klein of California State Library had to withdraw from the group due to being overcommitted. We are sad to see her go.

The meeting adjourned at 2:10 PM EDT.