

# metadata @ Leeds

sustainable systems + sustainable collections

KULTUR metadata workshop: 24 May 2011

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## strategic issues for content:

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- Content Capture / Preservation
- Access / Discovery / Usability
- Collection Development / Outreach & Training
- Collaborations / Partnerships

# metadata

- How can such a seemingly innocent word cause such controversy?

# content capture & preservation

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- Interoperable (standards)
- Flexible (evolution of the record + migration)
- Descriptive / Administrative / Technical
- Content Capture (outsource vs. in-house)
- Version control / Preservation / Proprietary formats
- Batch ingest or single instance
- Born digital vs. conversion
- **Life-cycle management of data and content**

# access / copyright / discovery / usability:

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- Open and closed collections
  - Time dependent collections
  - Rights / reproductions
  - Usability: **have you involved the users from the start?**
  - Harvesting (open the collections you can)
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- Other issues affecting metadata choices

# collection development / outreach & training

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- High / Medium / Low levels of curation and contribution
- Museums / Libraries / Archives / Departmental Collections ...
- Build a reputation of service and collections come to you
- Use the language the users are using

- Other things to consider for your system architecture and schema choices

How healthy is your metadata?

# arts and humanities collections

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- Complex relationships
- Multiple objects in various media
- Description based upon context and interpretation
- Time dependence
- Content is continually changing as part of the process
- etc.

# outreach and training @ Leeds

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- Web forms
- Collection templates
- VRA based hierarchy crosswalked to Dublin
- Organic approach to cataloguing (weed or let it go wild?)
- Evolve with your users and learn from them

# sharing and collaboration =

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Access to established, tested, and supported systems  
as opposed to “reinventing the wheel”

Cross collection searching

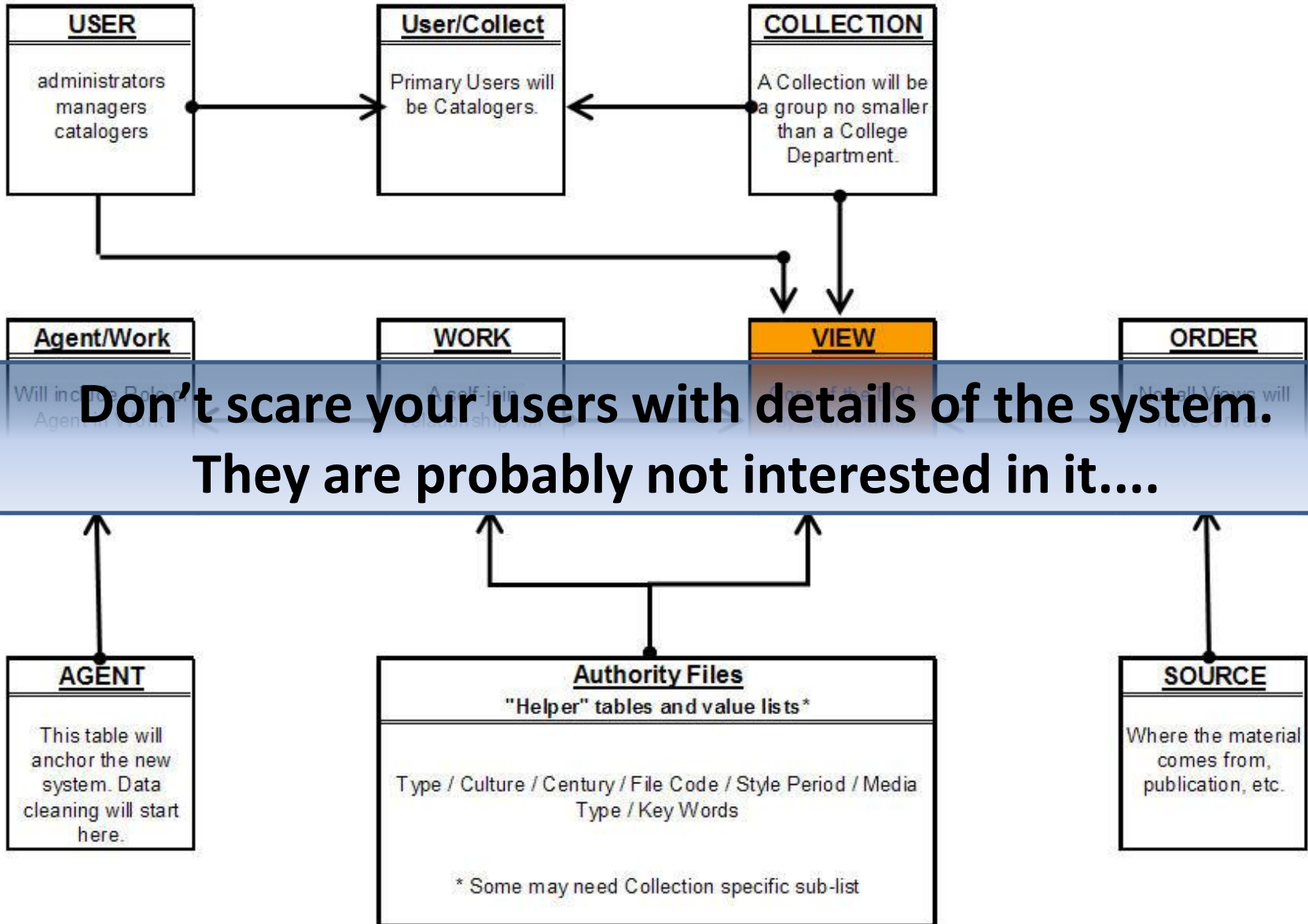
“you never know what you will find” or “one-stop-shopping”

Increased exposure for collection

locally, nationally, and internationally...

Larger local network

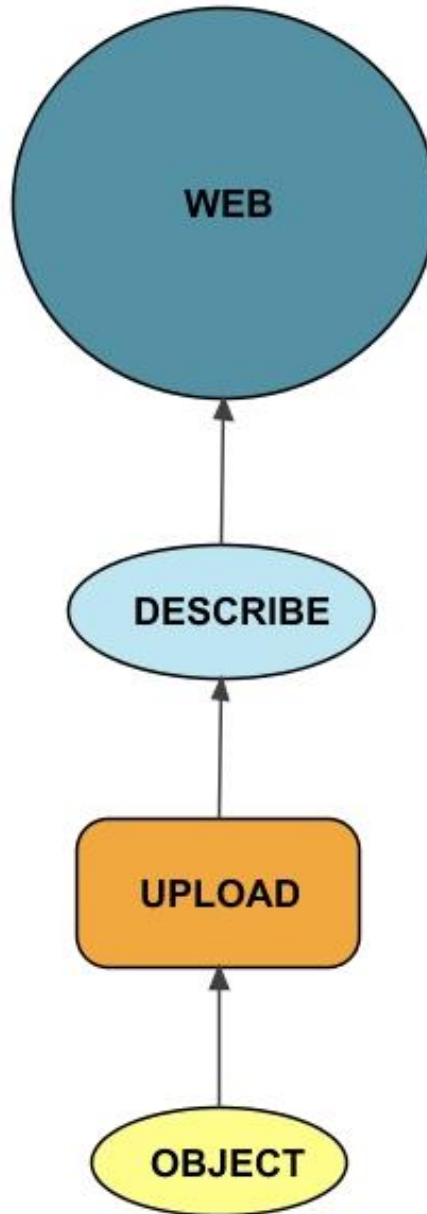
Flattens the organization and creates new opportunities



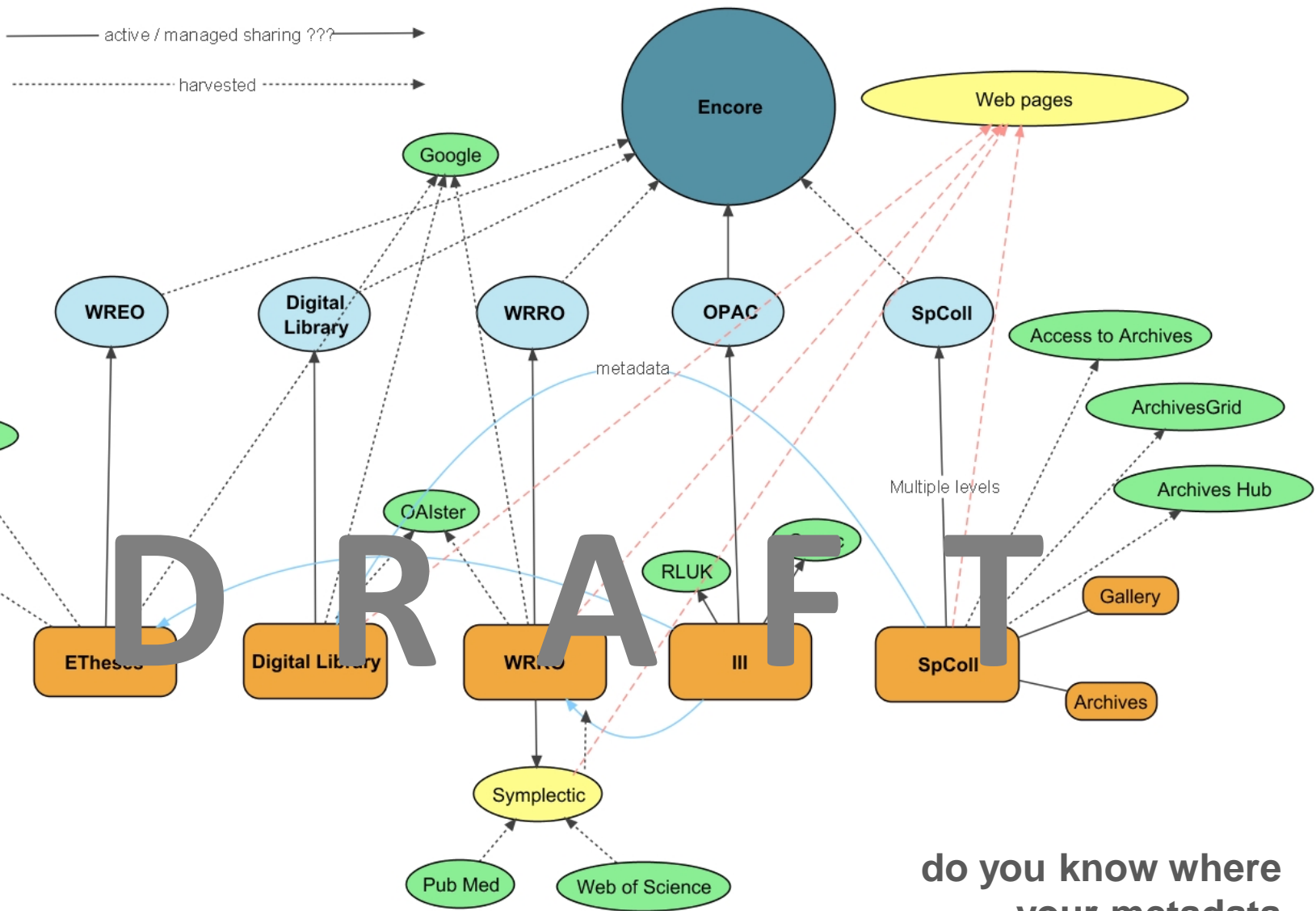
# simple cataloguing guidelines

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- creator (designer, artist, architect....)
  - title
  - date
  - description
  - Etc....
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- It's the start of a long relationship with a collection so don't scare them off



- Ideal workflow for content



do you know where  
your metadata  
comes from or  
goes to?

# current projects @ Leeds

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- Migration of multimedia repository to new platform
- Migration of discrete collections databases into supported systems that are interoperable with existing repositories and catalogue
- Digitisation services
- Cross team working to grow collections and share expertise
- Data management ??? It's coming ... prepare for it

Build a reputation of service and collections come to you... hopefully... if not find them

Use the language the users are using when describing the content and then hide some terms along the way (subversive cataloguing)

thank you

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