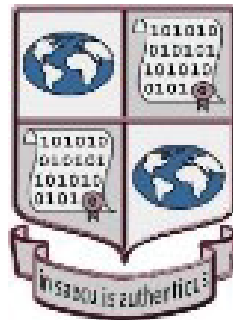


Terminology Cross-Domain Group



InterPARES 2



InterPARES Project

Jonathon Furner

Chair, Terminology Cross-domain

Outline

- goals
- tasks
- challenges
- conclusions



Goals

- to improve the effectiveness of IP-related communication and dissemination
- by helping authors, readers, and intermediaries to select and use terms **consistently**
- thus increasing the likelihood ...
 - that authors will use terms in the manner expected by their readers: effective **authorship**
 - that readers will find documents of the kind they want: effective **retrieval**
 - that readers will interpret documents in the manner intended by their authors: effective **understanding**



Tasks

- vocabulary control
 - definition of terms
 - submission of candidate terms: listed in **Register**
 - compilation of candidate definitions: listed in **Dictionary**
 - selection of IP-approved definitions: listed in **Glossary**
 - identification of relationships among terms
 - represented in **Thesaurus**
 - collocating synonyms and disambiguating homonyms



Identification of term relationships

- identification of basic facets (e.g., Agents, Actions, Objects, Events, Properties)
- assignment of terms to facets
- construction of intra-facet structures
 - equivalence relationships (USE/UF)
 - hierarchical relationships (BT/NT)
 - genus/species
 - whole/part [actually RT]
 - [class/instance]
 - associative relationships (RT)
- selection of IP-preferred terms



Modeling :: Terminology

- Modeling group
 - modeling of **activities**
 - hierarchical decomposition
 - identification of constraints, motivations, requirements, products (i.e., entities playing different roles)
 - modeling of **entities**
 - identification of entity **types** [facets]: e.g., agents, events, objects ...
 - identification of **attributes, relationships**
- Terminology group
 - vocabulary control
 - consistent, rigorous definition of all **terms** used to denote activities, entities, attributes, etc.



Current facets

- **objects** [inc. sets and parts of objects]
 - e.g., “fonds”; “active record”
- **events** [i.e., activities, processes]
 - e.g., “authentication”; “emulation”
- **agents**
 - e.g., “juridical person”; “creator”
- **properties** [i.e., attributes, characteristics, of objects, events, agents]
 - e.g., “authenticity”; “date of receipt”
- **actions [i.e., verbs]**
 - e.g., “authenticate”; “certify”



TCS-8 example

The screenshot shows a web browser window titled "Hierarchy: Properties". The left pane displays a tree structure of properties, with "evidential value" selected. The right pane shows the details for "evidential value (529)".

Properties

- <properties of actions>
- <properties of agents>
- <properties of objects>
- <dates>
- <identifiers>
- accessibility
- accuracy
- affixed
- authenticity
- completeness
- evidential value**
- file structure
- fixity
- format
- genuine
- informational value
- intact

evidential value (529)

Stage	Process
Status	Main Term
Children Order	By Alphabet
SN	The capacity of records of illuminating the nature and work of their creator by providing evidence of the creator's origins, functions and activities. Evidential value is distinct from informational value.
BT Type	BT
BT	<properties of objects>
URL	http://www.interpares.org/rws/ip2_glossary_display_term.cfm?term=615

Website Yahoo

And Broader Term Category

Or UF RT Translation

Language All Languages

'evidential value' created on 02/18/2004 and last modified on 07/23/2004.



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General challenges

- potential **conflict** of purpose: is partly descriptive, partly prescriptive
 - founded on current usage ...
 - ... but specifying preferred future usage
- **specificity** of (often multiple) senses of technical terms
- **domain-specific** variation
- **region-specific** variation
 - e.g., requirements for authenticity are not established by legislation, but by cultural tradition
 - thus, contextualization of project findings in national, multinational, international contexts is essential



General challenges, cont'd

- multiplicity of (sometimes contradictory) vocabulary-construction **standards**
 - *ISO 2788: Guidelines for the establishment and development of monolingual thesauri*, 2nd ed. Geneva: International Organization for Standardization, 1986.
 - *ANSI/NISO Z39.19: Guidelines for the construction, format and management of monolingual thesauri*. Bethesda, MD: National Information Standards Organization, 1993.
- **facet analysis**



Specific challenges

- assignment of terms to facets
 - is the current facet-set useful and/or appropriate?
- categorization of terms within facets
 - within each facet, what set of categories is useful and/or appropriate?
- reconciliation of conflicting recommendations, in the various standards, as to form of terms
- reconciliation of conflicting recommendations, by IP stakeholders, as to definition of terms



Next steps

- **evaluation**
 - how are tools to be evaluated w.r.t.
 - complying with international standards?
 - meeting users' requirements?
- **public access, allowing users**
 - to check standard definitions of terms used in InterPARES documentation
 - to search for occurrences of terms in internal/external documents
 - to identify terms for authors' future use



Conclusion

- the process of deciding what is worth remembering and what is not is **political** (cf. Cook, 1997)
- so is the process of prescribing (“standardizing”) the meanings of terms
 - no lexicographer is neutral or impartial
- tests: consistency, simplicity, utility



Terminology team

- lexicographer: Naomi Cull (Toronto)
- database administrator: Jean-Pascal Morghese (UBC)
- graduate student researcher: Nadav Rouche (UCLA)
- Barbara Craig
- Luciana Duranti
- Phil Eppard
- Jonathan Furner
- Ian Lancashire
- Richard Pearce-Moses
- John Roeder

