ibali
Digital Collections UCT

Setting the stage:
enabling curation spaces for dialogues with Ibali Digital Collections UCT

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- Commencement:
  Ibali: Intro and Aims for Dialogue

- Challenges:
  Case Studies in Dialogues and LOD

- Conclusion:
  The case(s) continue

Commencement:

Ibali Digital Collections UCT & Omeka S: Intro and Aims for Dialogue

2023 figures

- Income: ±R4 million

- Expenditure: ±R4 million

- 30 000 Students

- 5 000 Staff

Ranked in the top African Universities and 77th worldwide

(**Times Higher Education Impact Rankings**)

Source: https://uct.ac.za/explore-uct/fact-sheets

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Digital Library Services (DLS) @ UCT Libraries

We provide **Digital Scholarship** and **Research Data services**:

- **Specialist Digitisation** services for **Digital Preservation** and <mark>**Online Showcasing**</mark>;

- <mark>**Data Curation** services</mark>, supporting best practices in **Research Data Management (RDM)**;

- Expert consulting in **Geographic Information Systems (GIS)**.

We advocate for **Open Science**, to make research, teaching and learning at UCT more ***efficient, collaborative, accessible, findable*** and ***reusable***.

see: 'DLS Website'

✉ dls@uct.ac.za   𝕏 @DigitalUct   🌐 https://lib.uct.ac.za/digitalservices
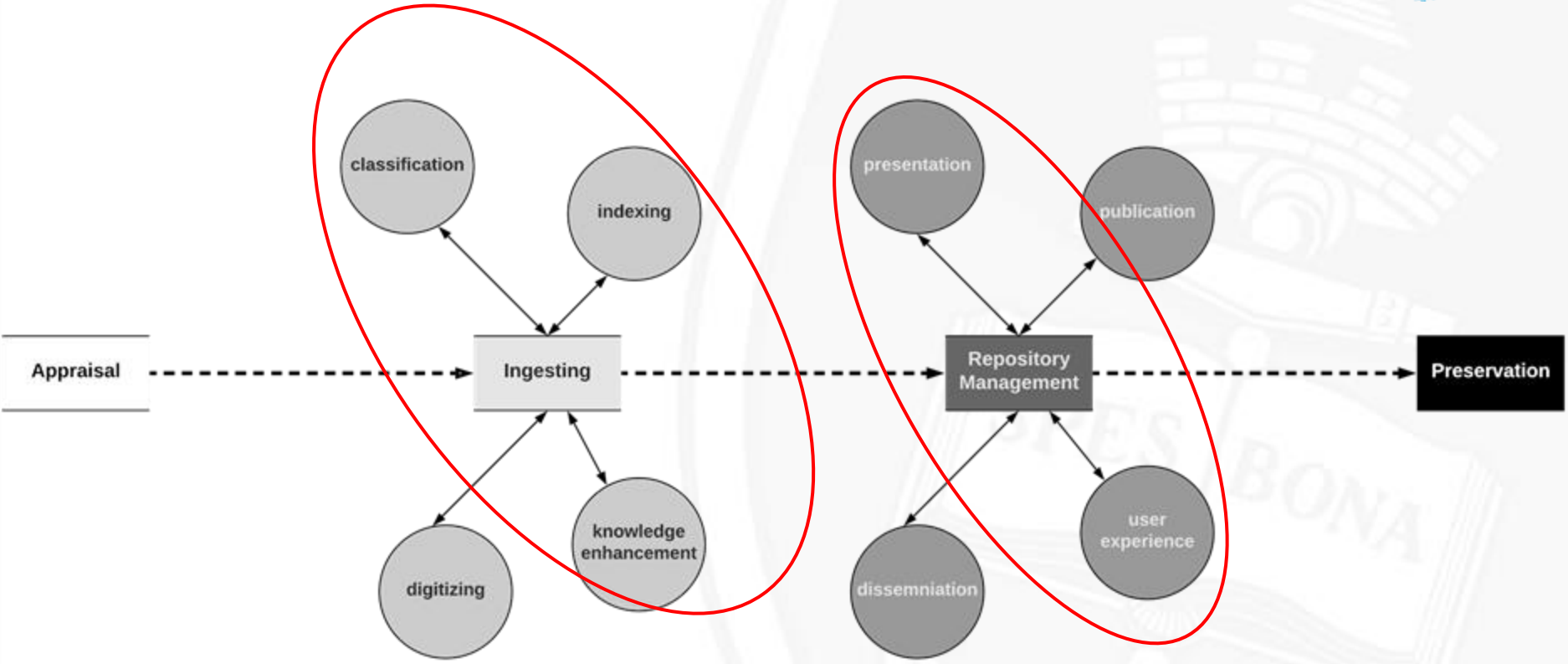
- https://ibali.uct.ac.za/

- Showcase platform running **Omeka S** and **IIIF**

- Launched end 2020 – among the first in South Africa

- Ibali - isiXhosa for story (selected by library staff)

- Visitors "write" their own **stories** through exploring showcases of collections

- 60 sites

- 77 500+ items

- 61 000+ media

ibali
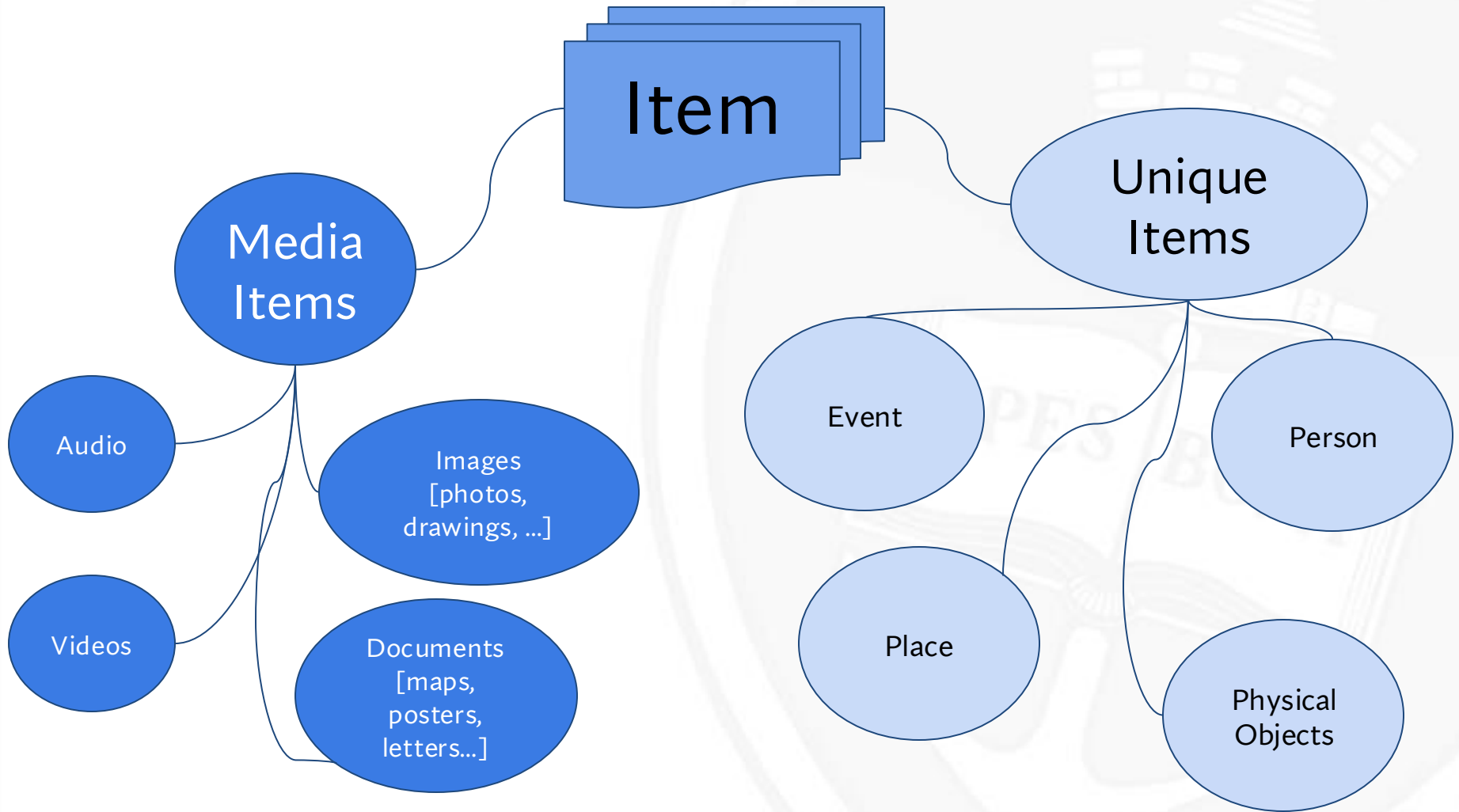**UCT Digital Collections**

Digital Curation Workflow

Adapted from: Constantopoulos, P and Dallas, C. (2006). Aspects of a digital curation agenda for cultural heritage. [online] Available at: http://www.dcu.gr/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/Aspects-of-a-digital-curation-agenda-for-cultural-heritage.pdf

- Positioning within the Global South

- Dealing with history that is contested, multilingual, and needs a plurality voices to come in to replace the "master" narrative

- In working with archives we need to acknowledge all those who did not have agency in their creation

- Embracing the potential of Digital Humanities
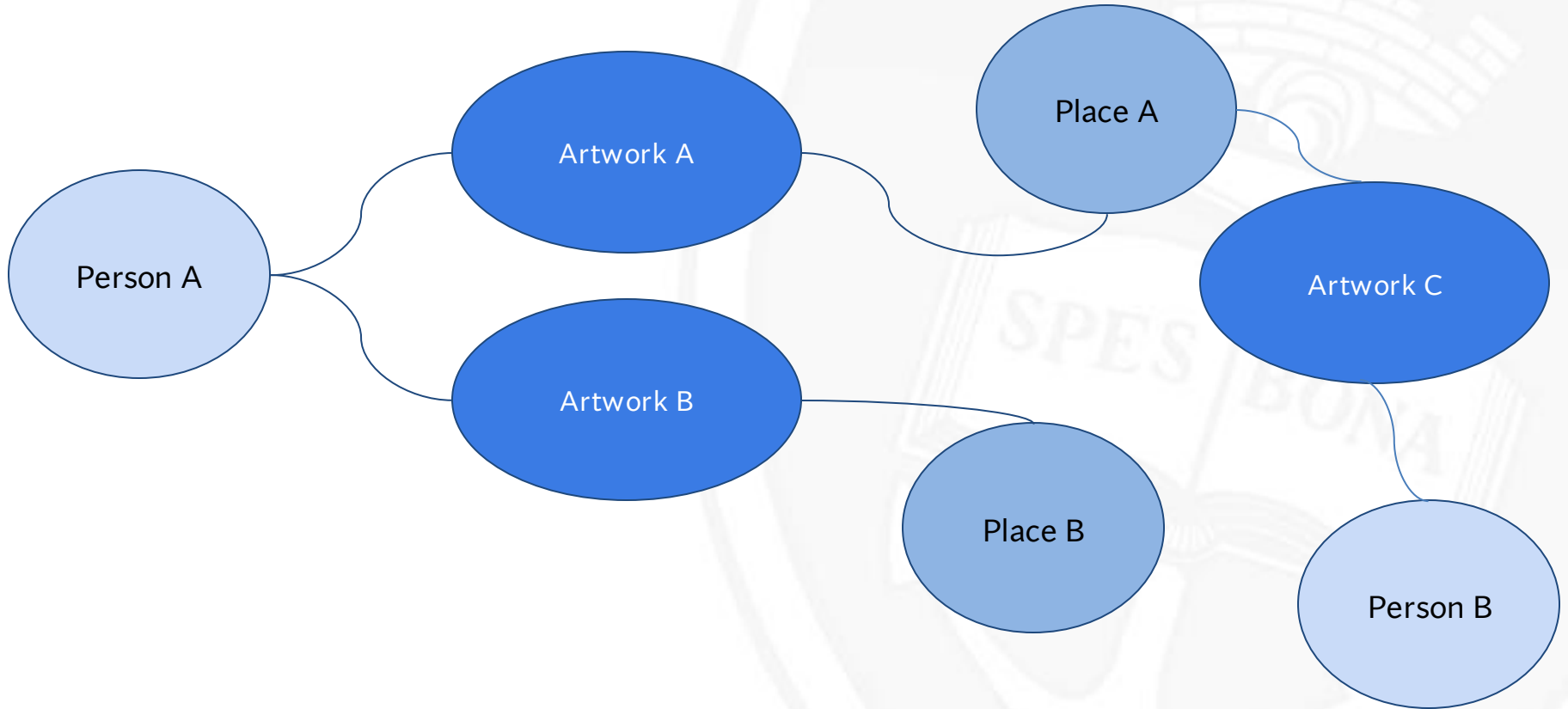
- Limitations – no access to developers

Not only about the content, but how well *the site weaves the content*.

o How many useful **links and connections** within and across collections can be built through metadata?

How do items within a collection connect to each other?

- To **SHOWCASE** digital objects (media and metadata) and item in a structured manner
  – Adhering that all collection items are enhanced with metadata
  – Housing it under the university umbrella
  – Encouraging participation in the semantic web

- Outsource showcasing to the researcher groups who want to build collections by connections

Semantic Web Example

ReTAGS on Ibali

In terms of setting up and administering the showcase platform, how do we balance structure with freedom?

Showcase sites that enable dialogue between:

- past & present

- archive & community which it showcases

- curator & visitor

- languages/communities/cultures

- "our data" & LOD

What technologies and processes can we use towards this?

- Standardise Templates for metadata capture by choosing common fields based on recognized ontologies (Dublin Core, Schema...)

- Define Templates for non-media objects (Person, Place, Event)

- Within Templates select LOD for certain metadata fields (Spatial Coverage, Subject, Type, Format, Birth Place)

- Allow users to derive their own templates by adding extra metadata fields to the standardised templates

- Explore how much Linked Data & Linked Open Data can be established within each collection showcase

Metadata Example

Climate Change and Sustainability Resources

Custom Vocab - Describe your resources using vocabularies you create.

Value Suggest - Describe your resources using auto-suggested values from controlled vocabulary services.

Value Suggest Any - Describe your resources with vocabularies from any json-ld endpoint like the ones provided by OpenTheso or Omeka, via ValueSuggest.

Custom Vocab

Edit Custom Vocab: "BVF-41-Place Names"

Label ▶	✱	BVF-41-Place Names
Language ▶		
Vocab type		○ Terms ● Items ○ URIs
Items ▶		BVF-41_Places

Edit Custom Vocab: "BVF-41_Keywords-Generic"

Label ▶	✱	BVF-41_Keywords-Generic
Language ▶		eng
Vocab type		● Terms ○ Items ○ URIs
Terms ▶		Abuse
		Academic writing
		Accidents
		Afrikaans
		Afrikaners
		Aging
		Agricultural experiment stations
		Agricultural laborers
		Agriculture
		Airplanes
		Airports
		Allotment of land
		Ancestors
		Ancestry
		Animal horns
		Animal migration
		Animal owners
		Animal skin containers
		Animal traps
		Animal welfare

OMEKA S   EXPLORE

Custom Vocab

By **Omeka Team**
Describe your resources using vocabularies you create.

Create custom vocabularies and add them as data types to your resource templates.

Keyword: Place ▾
Local Place mentioned in the item
schema:containsPlace

Twee Rivieren (#90697)

Kalahari Desert (Africa) (#90766)

Select item below

Alexander Bay (#90535)
Alpha (#90160)
Amalang (#90161)
Andriesvale (#90667)
Areachap (#90559)
Ariemagom (#90561)
Aroab (#90685)
Arrie's Pan (#90162)
Askham (#90660)
Augrabies (#90537)

Keyword: Flora-Fauna ▾
This links to a node or nodes indicating
the exact quantity of the products
included in the offer.
schema:includesObject

Keyword: CulturalPractice ▾
Upcoming or past event associated with
this place, organization, or action.
schema:event

Source: https://omeka.org/s/modules/CustomVocab/

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ValueSuggest

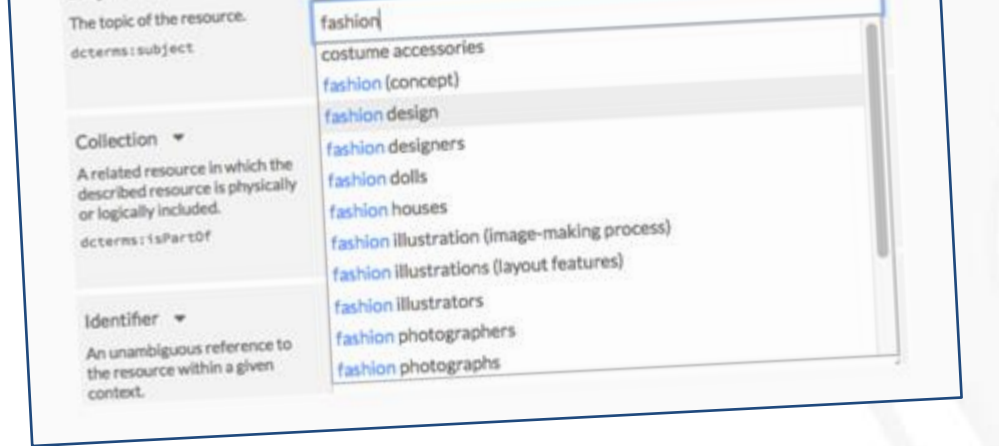## Value Suggest

By **Omeka Team**

Describe your resources using auto-suggested values from controlled vocabulary services.

Adds auto-suggest data types to resource templates using controlled vocabulary services.

See the **Omeka S user manual** for user documentation.

Installation

See general end user documentation for **Installing a module**

Vocabularies

This module includes the following vocabularies:

- Dublin Core
- GeoNames
- The Getty Vocabularies
- Homosaurus
- IdRef
- Library of Congress Linked Data Service
- Nomenclature
- OCLC Metadata Services
- Omeka
- ORCID
- PACTOLS of Frantiq
- PeriodO
- RDA Value Vocabularies
- RightsStatements.org
- Tesauros del patrimonio cultural de España
- UNESCO

Source: https://omeka.org/s/modules/ValueSuggest/

ValueSuggest Any

Omeka S Module Value Suggest Any ⊕

master ∨   Omeka-S-module-ValueSuggestAny

Released version 3.4.5 for Omeka S v3 and v4.
Daniel Berthereau authored 1 year ago

Value Suggest: Any (module for Omeka S)

Consulter le lisezmoi.

Value Suggest: Any is a module for Omeka S that allows to use any endpoint service available in json to index resources via the module Value Suggest.

Currently, the module has been tested with the thesaurii provided by:

- OpenTheso, an open source thesaurus manager used by Huma-Num;
- Omeka itself, through the module Thesaurus, or with any list of items described with the skos vocabulary, or even with a simple title.

Source: https://gitlab.com/Daniel-KM/Omeka-S-module-ValueSuggestAny

Value Suggest: Any

Value Suggest: Any

Json-ld endpoints ▶

```
[hsinstruments]
url = "https://vocabs.acdh.oeaw.ac.at/rest/v1/hsinstruments_thesaurus/search?query=__QUERY__"
id_url = "__ID__"
id_key = "uri"
resources_root = "results"
language = "en"
label = "HSinstruments"
```

Hornbostel & Sachs

(Single) side-blown flute with fingerholes `Item`

https://digitalcollections.lib.uct.ac.za/islandora/object/islandora%3A20476/datastream/OBJ/view/%28Sir

Title

(Single) side-blown flute with fingerholes

Alternative Title

421.121.12 (Single) side-blown flutes with fingerholes See all items with this value

Hornbostel-Sachs Number

HS-421.121.12

Relation

HS-421.121.12 Digital Hornbostel & Sachs Classification of Musical Instruments

IslandoraID

islandora:20476

When you visit our websites, we collect personal information about how y
respond to your requests a
https://vocabs.acdh.oeaw.ac.at/hsinstruments/42112112

Challenges:

Case Studies in Dialogues and LOD

The concordant case of names in different languages

How do we present multilingual properties of items?

Situation:

An item has different names in a different languages or for different contexts (person's alternate names, names in endangered languages)

Fix:

Using a single metadata field with different language codes
Or
Using multiple metadata fields to ensure each language and context is captures

Tool:

Custom Ontology module

Biography ▼

An account of the resource.

`dcterms:description`

🌐 eng

Carine Zaayman is an artist, curator and scholar committed to critical engagement with colonial archives and collections, specifically those holding strands of Khoekhoe pasts. Bringing intangible and neglected histories into

🌐 por

Carine Zaayman é artista, curadora e estudiosa comprometida com o engajamento crítico com arquivos e coleções coloniais, especificamente aqueles que detêm fios do passado deo povo Khoekhoe. Trazer à vista

\+ ⌨ Text | ⚙ Omeka resource | 🔗 URI

Full Name | eng | Carine Zaayman
Given Name | eng | Carine
Family Name | eng | Zaayman
Biography | eng |

Carine Zaayman is an artist, curator and scholar committed to critical engagement with colonial archives and collections, specifically those holding strands of Khoekhoe pasts. Bringing intangible and neglected histories into view is a key motivation for her work. Her research aims to contribute to a radical reconsideration of colonial archives and museum collections, especially by assisting in finding ways to release their hold over our imaginations when we narrate the past, as well as how we might shape futures from it. She obtained a PhD in Fine Art from the University of Cape Town in 2019 and worked as a senior lecturer for its Michaelis School of Fine Art and the Centre for Curating the Archive until then. At present, Zaayman is a postdoctoral fellow at the Vrije Universiteit, Amsterdam, as a team member in the Worlding Public Cultures project.

por

Carine Zaayman é artista, curadora e estudiosa comprometida com o engajamento crítico com arquivos e coleções coloniais, especificamente aqueles que detêm fios do passado deo povo Khoekhoe. Trazer à vista histórias intangíveis e negligenciadas é uma motivação chave para seu trabalho. Sua pesquisa visa contribuir para uma reconsideração radical dos arquivos e coleções dos museus coloniais, especialmente ajudando a encontrar maneiras de liberar seu domínio sobre nossa imaginação quando narramos o passado, bem como podemos moldar o futuro a partir dele. Ela completou seu PhD em Belas Artes pela Universidade da Cidade do Cabo em 2019 e trabalhou como Professora Sênior para a Escola de Belas Artes Michaelis e para o Centro de Curadoria do Arquivo. Atualmente, Zaayman é pós-doutorada na Universidade de Vrije, Amsterdão, como membro da equipe do projeto 'Worlding Public Cultures'.

Vocabularies

Vocabularies are a collection of published RDF metadata Classes and Properties for describing a Resource of a particular type. Linked open vocabularies are created externally to Omeka, and, because they are openly available, can be imported (with some limitations) into Omeka S.
These vocabularies are sometimes referred to as ontologies.

Vocabularies

Import new vocabulary

| 1 | of 1 | 1–12 of 12 | | Label | Ascending | Sort |

Label		Prefix	Classes	Properties
Bibliographic Ontology	🖉 🗑 •••	bibo	58	67
Bleek 1956 Language Groups	🖉 🗑 •••	bleek1956lang	0	29
Curation	🖉 🗑 •••	curation	0	21
Darwin Core	🖉 🗑 •••	dwc	23	266
Dublin Core	•••	dcterms	22	55
Dublin Core Type	•••	dctype	12	0
Extract Text	🖉 🗑 •••	extracttext	0	1
Friend of a Friend	🖉 🗑 •••	foaf	13	62
Languages of Southern Africa	🖉 🗑 •••	lsaibali	0	17
schema	🖉 🗑 •••	schema	842	1356
The RDF Concepts Vocabulary (RDF)	🖉 🗑 •••	rdf	6	7
Web Annotation Ontology	🖉 🗑 •••	oa	21	29

Source: https://omeka.org/s/docs/user-manual/content/vocabularies/

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Customizing Templates

BVF41_Person-Community

RESOURCE TEMPLATES   Export   Edit

Original label	Data types	Alternate label	Alternate comment	Required?	Private?
Title	•••	Keyword Name	The Name Identifier for the Person in the Collection	No	No
honorificPrefix	•••			No	No
givenName	•••	First name		No	No
familyName	•••	First surname			
additionalName	•••	Traditional name			
alternateName	•••	Other name			
Surname	•••	Second Surname			
nickname	•••	Nickname			
name	•••	"House" name			
Description	•••	Biography			
suggestedGender	•••	• Homosaurus: an international LGBTQ linked data vocabulary	Gender		
nationality	•••				
birthDate	•••	• Text • Timestamp	Date of Birth		
birthPlace	•••	• Text • Item • Geonames: The GeoNames geographical database	Place of Birth		

Abraham !'Urube Witbooi [Item]

Keyword Name	Abraham !'Urube Witbooi
First name	Abraham
Traditional name	!Urike
Other name	!Gurice
Second Surname	Witbooi
Nickname	Abraham Boesman ou Abraham
"House" name	!'Urube
Biography	Forefather of Malgas clan. He was a traditional healer
Relation	2001_05-01
Role	Community
gender	M

Linked resources

Filter by property

All ▲▼

list of contributors

	Title	Alternate label
	1997_07-13	Keyword: Person
	Abraham !'Urube Witbooi (1936)	Person
	‡Khomani dancers (1936)	Person
	‡Khomani men shooting bows and arrows	Person

Source:

Vocabularies

If you have special and uncommon item types or classes, you may wish to find and import a linked open vocabulary to standardize the description of those particular items.

"A vocabulary in LOV gathers definitions of a set of classes and properties (together simply called terms of the vocabulary), useful to describe specific types of things, or things in a given domain or industry, or things at large but for a specific usage." (*Source: https://lov.linkeddata.es/dataset/lov/about*)
The most-used Linked Open Vocabulary is Dublin Core Terms (dcterms:).

VOCABULARIES **New vocabulary**

Basic info

Label ▸	*	
Comment ▸		
Namespace URI ▸	*	
Namespace prefix ▸	*	

File

Vocabulary file ▸		Choose file No file chosen
Vocabulary URL ▸		
File format		[Autodetect]

Advanced

Preferred language ▸		
Label property ▸		
Comment property ▸		

Source: https://omeka.org/s/docs/user-manual/content/vocabularies/

Custom Ontologies

OMEKA S   EXPLORE   MODULES   THEMES   DOW

Custom Ontology
By **Daniel Berthereau**
Create specific classes and properties to describe resources when no standard ontologies can be used.

New versions of this module and support for Omeka S version 3.0 and above are available on GitLab, which seems to respect users and privacy better than the previous repository.

Custom Ontology is a module for **Omeka S** that allows to create specific classes and properties to describe resources when no standard ontologies are available, in particular on **LOV**, **schema.org**, **W3C**, and in many other places. It is useful to manage internal properties, or for researchers who are creating new data. The properties and classes are available via the standard api of Omeka S too, like any other ontology.

Source: https://omeka.org/s/modules/CustomOntology/

Custom Ontologies

Custom ontologies

Get turtle | Submit

To create an ontology, classes and/or properties, fill the appropriate following fields. The next three forms are independant, and can be used together (for a new ontology) or separately (to add new elements to an existing ontology).

Once filled, click "Get turtle" to get the Turtle formatted ontology, if wanted. Finally, click "Submit" to import it directly in Omeka S (or import the Notation3 file yourself via the page Import vocabulary). The ontologies that use the proposed namespace uri are available as human and as turtle publicly here.

Warning: After checks, there is no possibility to correct data here, but only to add new elements. Nevertheless, the vocabularies can be managed like any other vocabularies via the turtle files, that are editable via any standard true text editor.

Create a specific ontology

An ontology must have a namespace uri and a unique lowercase prefix. It is recommended to use the default namespace uri with the prefix, so it will be possible to publish the ontology automatically. It is recommended to end it with a "/" or a "#", so classes and properties will have their own uri, for example `https://ibali.uct.ac.za/ns/myprefix/`. The format can be a cool uri or a persistent url. It can contain a date or a version. A label is required too, and a description can be added.

Namespace uri	https://ibali.uct.ac.za/ns/myprefix/
Prefix	myprefix
Label	My label
Comment	A specific ontology for my documents.

Source: https://omeka.org/s/modules/CustomOntology/

Custom Ontologies


```
@prefix dcterms: <http://purl.org/dc/terms/> .
@prefix owl: <http://www.w3.org/2002/07/owl#> .
@prefix rdf: <http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#> .
@prefix rdfs: <http://www.w3.org/2000/01/rdf-schema#> .
@prefix vs: <http://www.w3.org/2003/06/sw-vocab-status/ns#> .
@prefix o: <http://omeka.org/s/vocabs/o#> .
@prefix bleek1956lang: <https://ibali.uct.ac.za/ns/bleek1956lang/> .

<https://ibali.uct.ac.za/ns/bleek1956lang/> a owl:Ontology ;
    dcterms:title "Bleek 1956 Language Groups" .
    dcterms:description "Langu

bleek1956lang:nameC1 a rdf:Pro
    rdfs:label "Name in C1 Hie
    rdfs:comment "Language gro
    rdfs:domain o:Resource ;
    vs:term_status "experimenta

bleek1956lang:nameC1a a rdf:Pro
    rdfs:label "Name in C1a Seh
    rdfs:comment "Language grou
    rdfs:domain o:Resource ;
    vs:term_status "experimenta

bleek1956lang:nameC1b a rdf:Pro
    rdfs:label "Name in C1b Mohi
    rdfs:comment "Language group
    rdfs:domain o:Resource ;
    vs:term_status "experimental

bleek1956lang:nameC2 a rdf:Prope
    rdfs:label "Name in C2 Naron
    rdfs:comment "Language group
border." ;
    rdfs:domain o:Resource ;
    vs:term_status "experimental"
```

Source:
‡oaba ‡ans Digital Archive

Custom Ontology Example

‡oaba ‡ans Digital Archive

Source: ‡oaba ‡ans Digital Archive

The confounding case of the not-quite-duplicate items

How to deal with sites that want to describe the same item but in their own way?

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Situation:
Two different collections reference the same "non-media item" (such as a person, animal, place...) but describe it differently (i.e. have different metadata fields and values)
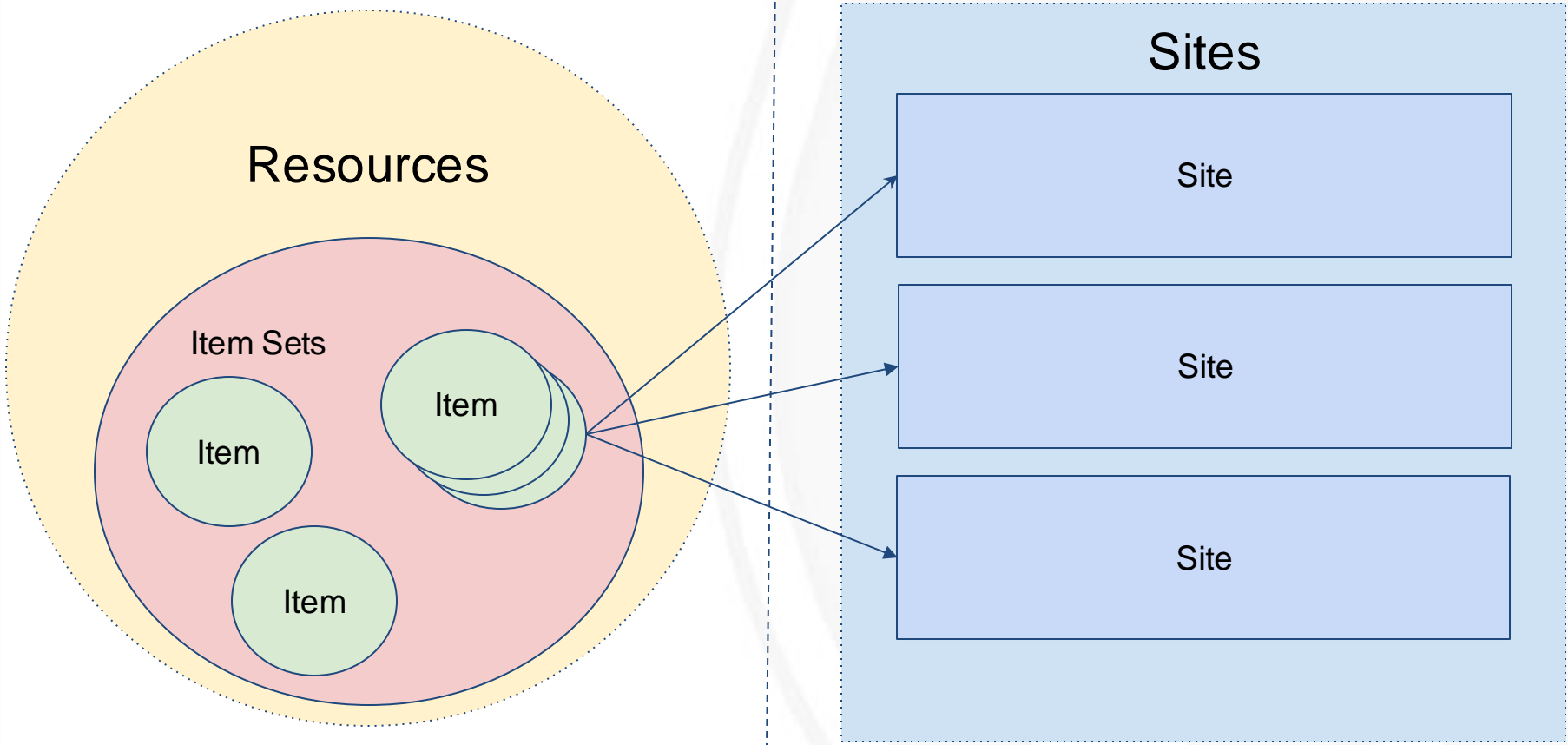
Fix:
Couple of Options

Tool:
A choice how to use LOD

The not-so-unique case of Swartkop

Place mentioned by the community in the
‡Khomani | Hugh Brody Archive

https://ibali.uct.ac.za/admin/item/90543

ITEMS Swartkop

| Metadata | Linked resources | Tags | Groups | Mapping |

Class — Place
Title — Swartkop
Alternative title — Swartkop (Northern Cape, South Africa)
See all items with this value
Longitude — 21.2668935
Latitude — -28.4781468
Location remarks — This is another place called Swartkop near Upington. It is where |Una and Kheis were living i early 1990s. Now called Lesading an informal settlement just before Louisvale on the outski Upington. Not Near Witdraai.
Location according to — Local Community description
Location sourced from — Transcript
Linguistics notes — Also known as, "wag-'n-bietjie", possible loan word from Khoekhoe or from Tu into Khoe.
Other local names — wag-'n-bietjie
Name in Afrikaans — Swartkop
Name in Khoekhoe or Nama — ǁNam aibe
Name in Nǀuu — Nǁam aipe

Place mentioned by a researcher in relation to
Rock Art in **Janette Deacon Collection**

https://ibali.uct.ac.za/admin/item/133570

ITEMS Swartkop

| Metadata | Linked resources | Tags | Groups |

Class — Place
Title — Swartkop
!'kho ke
Zwartkop
Description — There was a small village at Swartkop in 1986.
My Place is the Bitterpits
Insights into the Ixam Universe Before the SKA

Place extracted from digitalised book atlas in
San tsî Khoen Digital Archive ‡oaba ‡ans

ITEMS Swartkop

| Metadata | Linked resources | Tags | Groups |

Class — Place
Identifier — 4780_SKCPN
Title — Swartkop
Alternative Title — Swartkop
See all items with this value
Relation — kyk + TCAIMOEP
Is Part Of — Toponymica Hottentotica: B (A-Z) See all items with this value
page start — 708

Option 1: Create a "neutral" or LCD item

1. Create a neutral or Lowest-Common-Data Item with basic metadata and LOD
2. Create Collection Items and use a property to link back to LCD Item

Source Place

Title	Item Title
BasicProperty_1	value
BasicProperty_2	value
BasicProperty_3	value

Place in Collection 1

Title	Item Title
Col01_property01	value
Col01_property02	value
Col01_property03	value
Is Version of:	

Place in Collection 2

Title	Item Title
Col02_property01	value
Col02_property02	value
Col02_property03	value
Is Version of:	

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Option 2: Reference an external source

Place in Collection 1

Property_1	value
Property_2	value
Property_3	value
Title	Item Title
location	Link to an LOD

Place in Collection 2

Property_1	value
Property_2	value
Property_3	value
Title	Item Title
location	Link to an LOD

1. Use dedicated property that is standardised across the entire site "schema:location" for example
2. Ensure that it points to a linked open data entry such as a place from GeoNames or WikiData and reference with a url

- Creating an Item allows you to have a local central place for people to find items that might be related – allowing the exploration of other collections that reference the same item

- Not creating an item makes less "confusion" around duplicate-ish items or crosspollinating sites

- How does one indicate to users and implement this on a global search?

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The convincing case for "interpretive curation"

How do we create a site/collection that allows for both "thesis" metadata as well as "factual" metadata?

Situation:
A researcher wants to create a "thesis" showcase site of various media and items, and describe them in a structured way but with their own or commenting metadata

Fix:
A "curator's corner"

Tool:
Omeka S and a choice of processes

- Showcase sites do not have to be an "official" representation of a collection

  - They can be angles/arguments/creative explorations on something that exists

  - A user can combine a range of material, original and from other sources to present a creative argument.

  - Their argument is supported by use of semantic methodologies.

1. How/do we separate the metadata from the "curator's corner" sites from the collection showcase sites?

2. How/do we reference/cite items from collection showcases in the sites from the "curator's corner"?

3. How do we deal with ethics around reproducing media from other published sites?
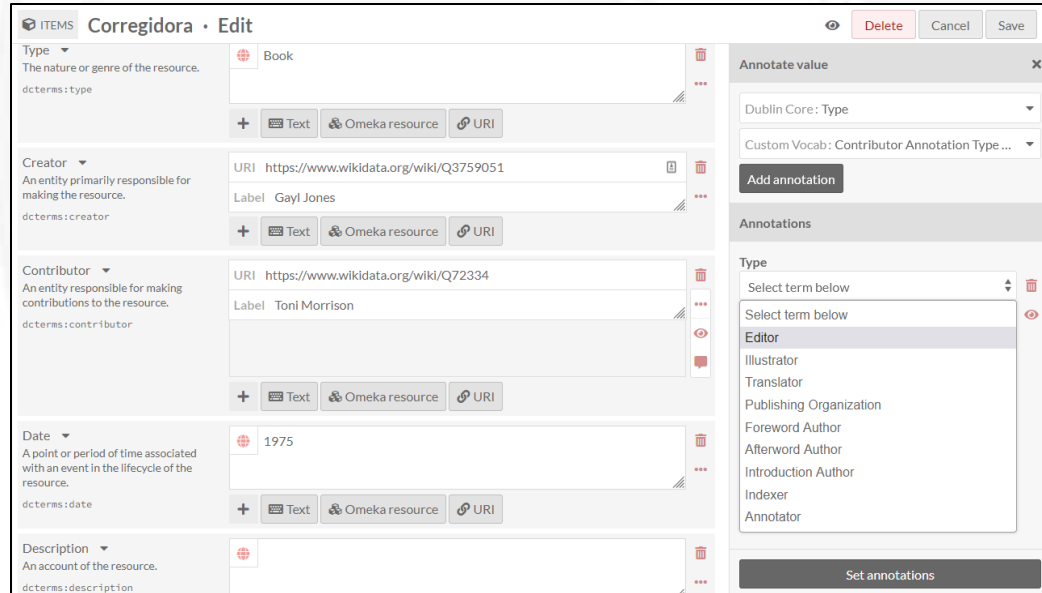
Conclusion

The case(s) continues…

When you input a value for a property associated with a resource, you are making a statement about that resource. … Omeka allows you to make statements about that statement…value annotation…this process is known as reification.

- **Provenance**: Where is this fact from?
- **Time**: When did this fact occur?
- **Location**: What is the location associated with this fact?
- **Certainty**: What is the confidence of this fact?
- **Type**: What type of concept/thing is this fact?

Source: https://omeka.org/s/docs/user-manual/content/item-sets/#value-annotation

- [Annotate](#) - Implement the W3C Web Annotation Ontology to let users annotate, tag, comment, rate, highlight, draw, etc. any resource in a normalized way.

- [Comment](#) - Add public and/or private commenting on item sets, items and media and manage them.

- [Contribute](#) - Allow guest users or visitors to add a resource and to edit and complete metadata of a resource in the public side.

LIBRARIES

How do we keep dialogue open in curation/showcasing?

- embracing software developments

- setting up automation of processes

- establishing dialogues between University & Community

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"Building Connections through Collections"

-Ujala Satgoor,
Executive Director UCT Libraries

https://ibali.uct.ac.za

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