DDI Marketing and Partnership Group Minutes

1/29/2020

Conference call

Attendees: Aofan, Dan, Wendy, Jared, Barry, Ron

Agenda

* Considering a name/brand for the UML model, as suggested by Arofan and advocated by Dan S.
* What is unique about DDI 4?
  + DDI Cross Domain
    - This one was really developed to be useful beyond the social science domain.
      * Interoperable
      * Interdisciplinary
      * Linking
      * Integration
    - **DDI Cross Domain Integration (CDI)**
      * **This is catchy and can be shortened (acronymed) to CDI.**
      * **It describes aspects of the spec that are unique and distinguishes it nicely from Codebook and Lifecycle.**
  + DDI Cross Platform
    - All the specs are cross-platform
  + DDI Integration
  + DDI Integrate
  + DDI Integrations
  + DDI Data Integrations
  + DDI Integration Module
  + DDI Generic
  + DDI Core
    - Not broad agreement but a placeholder
  + DDI Data Description
    - Yea, right.
  + DDI Expressions
    - Most specs are now express-able broadly, and with COGS this characteristic is not so novel.
* The rollout or introduction of this product will be in the context of ALL DDI products.
* Whatever we adopt, Arofan says, “We never mention ‘DDI 4’ again.”

Ron’s ideas:

<<DDI4: Data Management>>

<<DDI4: Unified Model>>

<<DDI4: Universal Model>>

<<DDI4: Agnostic Model>>

<<DDI4: Canonical Model>>

<<DDI4: Conceptual Model>>

<<DDI4: Interoperable Model>>

<<DDI4: Unified Modeling (Language)>>

<<DDI4: Unified/Universal Data and Process Model>>

With some shorter single word brands:

<<DDI4: Unified>>

<<DDI4: Universal>>

<<DDI4: Agnostic>>

<<DDI4: Interoperable >>

<<DDI4: Canonical >>

<<DDI4: Conceptual >>

The DDI 4 Core will include not only the XML and RDF syntax representations, but will also deliver the UML from which they are derived in the form of Canonical XMI, a portable, tool-independent expression of the model. This not only makes DDI available for representation in other syntaxes and systems, but provides a stable basis for the maintenance of the model into the future.

User-oriented subsets of the DDI 4 model are provided by the inclusion of Functional Views, organized to support the application of DDI to specific tasks. This approach was employed in the Prototype, and will be carried forward into DDI 4 Core in a refined form, having both a technical and documentary expression. In addition, high-level documentation aimed at introducing the model to adopters has been added. Together, these should make the DDI 4 Core more adoptable and easier to approach.

Because of the use of DDI 4 Core for cross-domain integration, and for other purposes, some key external standards have been selected as candidates for specific alignment (PROV-O for provenance, GSIM as a higher-level model of core metadata, GSBPM as a framework for process description, and DCAT for data discovery). Documentation of alignment with this small set of selected standards will be part of the deliverable package. The use of existing RDF vocabularies in the RDF syntax representation of the model is anticipated, as a needed feature of alignment with standards/best practice in the Linked Data domain.

The idea that DDI 4 Core be re-branded to reflect its intended use has been discussed: DDI-Codebook and DDI-Lifecycle have brands which reflect their intended use, while DDI 4 Core does not. A re-branding would communicate to users the purpose of the new release, and minimize confusion as to which version of the standard is best suited for their applications - currently, the use of the version number indicates an erroneous relationship between versions 3 and 4 which is causing some confusion among the potential users of the new standard release, as it did when earlier releases were referred to as “DDI 2” and “DDI 3”. (Suggestions have been along the lines of "DDI - Integration," "DDI - Cross-Domain," etc. Identifying a better name for the DDI 4 Core will need further exploration and conversation with the