Dear Colleagues,

The ODI Standing Committee has been quite busy over the fall working to finalize our Recommended Practice Revision Proposal and propose a work plan that outlines how we will proceed with drafting the revisions. Our proposals were both approved by the IDI Topic Committee, and work on revisions is now officially kicking off.

The impetus for making these changes came largely from engaged stakeholders, such as yourselves. The stated scope of the original ODI Recommended Practice “to facilitate progress through exploration of relevant issues and the development of recommended practices for the current generation of library discovery services based on centrally indexed search” remains accurate. However, developments in the library discovery and publishing ecosystem and technology landscape require new focused investigation and potential expansion of the recommended practice. These potential revisions will ensure that the needs of all stakeholder groups (libraries, content providers, and discovery providers) are met.

The proposed scope of the statement of work results from feedback on the recommended practice received since the 2014 Recommended Practice (RP-19-2014) was released as well as information gathering processes executed by the Open Discovery Initiative Standing Committee (ODI SC) in 2017 and 2018. The topics were reviewed and prioritized by the Standing Committee via a voting process. Each topic requires further information gathering, analysis, and review to ensure that recommendations are within the scope of the ODI purview and feasible for adoption by the larger community. The following topics will be reviewed as part of this process:

- Library Responsibilities in ODI
- Handling of Open Access Content Including Hybrid OA Content
- More Meaningful Usage Statistics for Content Providers
- Fair Linking
- Identifying the Source of the Record in the Discovery Interface
- Content Coverage Disclosure (Reporting on Discovery Service Content at a Collection Level)
- Identification of Additional Metadata and Content Elements

Descriptions of these topics can be found in the full work item proposal. Release of the revised recommended practice is expected in early 2020.

ODI in Action


Content Discovery Managers Group. Michael Roberts, Content Discovery Manager at Emerald, and Julie Zhu created a forum for content discovery managers to share information and experiences. The email address is: content-discovery-management@googlegroups.com
NISO Open Teleconference. On January 14, 2019, Co-chair of the NISO Open Discovery Initiative Standing Committee, Laura Morse, joined Nettie Lagace for a discussion about the project and its current activities. The recording of this call is available on the NISO website.

Current Initiatives

ODI Implementation Guide to Content Providers
In November 2018 ODI published a new implementation guide for content providers:

The guide provides specific steps on how content providers, large or small, can make their content more discoverable, linkable, and accessible from library discovery service, link resolver, and authentication tools. Major steps for content providers to undertake include:

1) conduct an initial assessment on ODI conformance and the work needed;
2) form a discovery service working group to tackle the needs;
3) improve internal data quality and workflows;
4) collaborate with library solution vendors on improving content discovery, linking, authentication and access;
5) work with libraries to learn about library systems and improve library configurations;
6) work effectively with the industry.

The guide has also been distributed through opendiscoveryinfo@list.niso.org. ODI welcomes questions, comments and suggestions regarding the guide.

White Paper on the Barriers to A&I Participation in Discovery
Following our survey to A&I providers to understand the reasons they often hesitate to participate in discovery indexes, we surveyed discovery services to see if and how they are addressing these concerns. After having analyzed and compared the results of the surveys, we are now embarking on a white paper with the purpose of making sure that all stakeholders understand the current situation, including when needs are going unaddressed and when needs are being largely met but misconceptions exist in the industry. We hope to release the white paper in the coming months.

Learn more about ODI

Please attend this upcoming presentation by the ODI Standing Committee to learn more about our work:

ALA Midwinter ODI Update. Laure Morse will provide an update on the Open Discovery Initiative activities at the NISO Standards Update. Saturday, January 26, 2019, 2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m., TCC Tahoma 2 (Level 3).

Please follow ODI on Twitter and keep an eye on the ODI Website!

Thank you - The Open Discovery Initiative Standing Committee