National Information Standards Organization (NISO)

Open Discovery Initiative

ODI is a committee of librarians, content providers, and discovery service representatives dedicated to enhancing discovery through greater collaboration across the library community.

ODI engages all parties in the discovery chain to ensure transparency and freedom of choice through rich metadata inclusion, resource interoperability, statistical consistency, and link customization and optimization.

Librarians: ODI supports the ideas of choice in discovery and strives to:

- Ensure greatest metadata inclusion across resources
- Encourage lack of restrictions on customizing linking

Content Providers: ODI understands the unique concerns and goals of each provider as they relate to discovery participation and strives to:

- Encourage open sharing of metadata for providers of full-text content to increase exposure and discoverability
- Ensure optimal linking support and usage statistic capture

Discovery Services Providers: ODI strives to ensure that discovery services providers understand the needs of libraries and content providers by:

- Complying with usage statistic needs
- Dissolving walls among vendors within the library ecosystem (e.g. discovery, content, and ILS providers) to reach more optimal collaboration resulting in greater value to the library community

ODI is working to improve and expand our Initial Recommended Practice document:


If you would like to become involved with ODI and help to boost more open dialogue and support collaboration across our community, please contact any member of the Standing Committee, and join in.

On the web: https://www.niso.org/standards-committees/odi