Medieval Manuscript Description in TEI

TEI Work Group

&

MASTER

A little bit of history
(because it makes me feel young!)

- Two American projects (EAMMS and Digital Scriptorium) begun in 1996
- Studley Priory meeting fall 1996
- TEI Workgroup formed winter 1997/1998
- MASTER project started 1999

TEI Workgroup

- Ambrogio Piazzoni, Vatican Library & Consuelo Dutschke, Columbia University

- Peter Kidd, Oxford/Sothebys

- Eva Nylander, Lund University

- Merrilee Proffitt, UC Berkeley/RLG

TEI-MS WG Mission

- to devise a set of tags suitable for on-line descriptions of western medieval and renaissance manuscripts with responsibility for the formal definition of the standard

- to ensure that the interests of relevant constituents … [EAMMS, DS, MASTER, etc.] … *as well as significant legacy-data issues* are addressed

MASTER Project

- DeMontfort University
- AMI
- IHRT
- Czech National Library
- Royal Library Netherlands
- Oxford University
- Assortment of associate partners

MASTER Project goals

- develop a single on-line catalog of medieval manuscripts in European libraries
- create software for creation of descriptions, mount records in a single networked catalog

We had a few meetings...

TEI Workgroup

- July 1998
- March 1999
- October 1999
- September 2000
- (June 2001)

MASTER

- February 1999
- September 1999
- April 2000
- October 2000

Outcomes

msDescription

msIdentifier

msHeading

msContents

physDesc

history

additional

msPart

msPart

idNo

msHeading

msContents

physDesc

history

additional

Differences

```
<!ELEMENT physDesc
   (p+ | (form?, support?, extent?, collation?,
   layout?, msWriting?, musicNotation?, decoration?,
   bindingDesc?, foliation*, additions?, condition?))
   >
```

versus …

```
<!ELEMENT physDesc
   (p | form | support | dimensions | extent |
   collation | layout | msWriting | writingSystem |
   musicNotation | decoration | bindingDesc |
   foliation | additions | condition | signatures |
   catchwords | palimpsest)+ >
```

Differences

```
<!ELEMENT msItem
        (locus?, (author | respStmt | title | rubric |
summary | incipit | explicit | colophon | textLang | q |
decoNote | bibl | listBibl | note | msItem)*) >
```

```
<!ELEMENT msItem
        (#PCDATA | locus | author | respStmt | title |
rubric | summary | incipit | explicit | colophon |
textLang | writingSystem | q | decoNote | bibl |
listBibl | note | keywords | hi | name | pb | ref |
scriptTerm | msItem)+ >
```

Additional Outcomes

- MASTER
  - Documentation
  - Authoring tool(s)
  - Online catalog(s)
- TEI-MS Workgroup (for the more intrepid!)
  - DTD + XMetaL Rules Files
  - Partial Documentation

Use of DTDs

- MASTER
  - Participant use
  - Numerous workshops throughout Europe, including Australia
- TEI-MS WG
  - Huntington Library catalog (2 volumes)
  - MANUS review and use
  - Workshop for catalogers at Vatican Library

Problems

- "Excuse me, I think you dropped your *metadata* in my *text*!"

- Putting the cart before the horse -- a lack of documented standards

- Project pressures (like internet time?) versus no pressures

URLs

- MASTER:
  - **http://www.cta.dmu.ac.uk/projects/master/**
- TEI-MS WG:
  - **http://www.stg.brown.edu/~tei-mmss/**