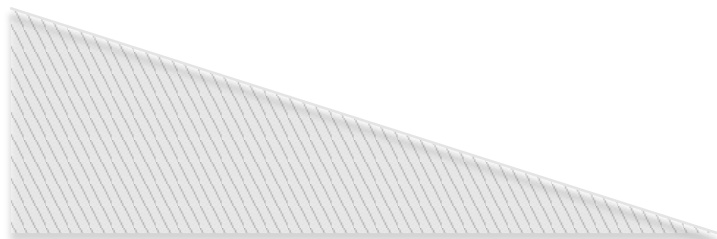# Institutional Identifiers

NISO I² Working Group

American Society for Information Science & Technology

Jody DeRidder and Mark Needleman

October 25, 2010

➢Working Group established by NISO in 2008

➢Composed of members from all sectors of the information supply chain:

- Libraries, Publishers, Distributors, Service Providers…

➢Chaired by

- Grace Agnew (Rutgers) – 2008-present
- Oliver Pesch (EBSCO) 2010-present
- Tina Feick (Harrassowitz) – 2008-2010
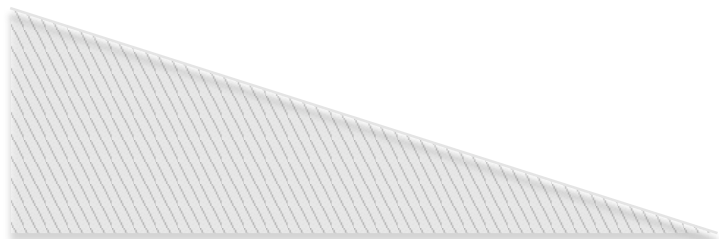
Working Group Mission

➢ Develop a robust, scalable, interoperable standard
- Uniquely identify institutions
- Describe relationships between them

➢ Requirements
- Lightweight to Manage
- Re-usable by business sector registries
- Interoperable with legacy applications
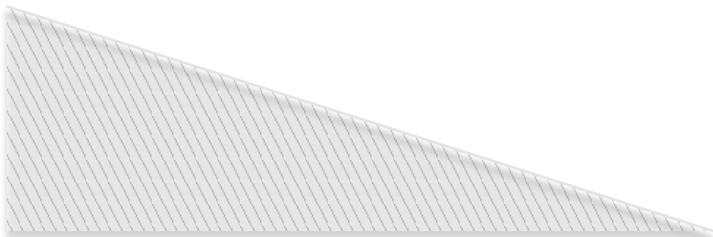
Why I²?

- Institution critical entity in any information model
- Establishing provenance of digital information
- Authority for information through institutional affiliation
- Global, interoperable, unambiguous and unique
- Integrate with existing workflows
- Support smooth and seamless access to information
- Trust information is authentic and authoritative
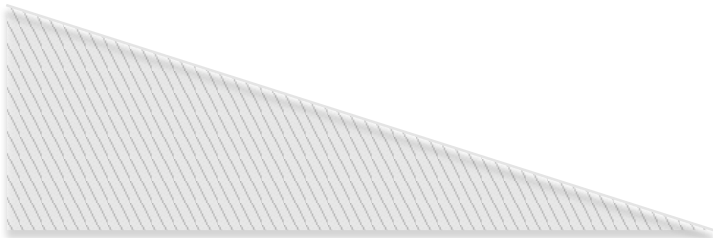
I² Objectives

➢ Develop scenarios for compelling use cases

➢ Develop identifier strategy including interoperable and unique identifier with lightweight maintenance and scalability

➢ Identify existing standards and model against scenarios

➢ Resolve issues of granularity

➢ Identify core metadata structure

➢ Identify an implementation and sustainability model

- Potential maintenance organization
- Organizational structure
- Strategies for integration into legacy uses

Phase I
➤ Where is the Need?
➤ What are the Requirements?

Working Groups
➤ Electronic resources
- Transactional analysis
- Initial metadata design

➤ Institutional Repositories
- Survey

➤ Library Workflow Management
- Survey

Institutional Identifier for Library and Archives Workflows
2. Library Workflows Survey

This survey consists of 11 questions and takes about 15 minutes to complete. Please answer questions from the perspective of your area o
survey to a wide range of library workflow specialists in order to capture the breadth of institutional identifier needs in library and archives w

1. What are your areas of library/archive expertise? (Check all that apply)
- ☐ Acquisitions
- ☐ Serials Management
- ☐ Collection Development
- ☐ Cataloging
- ☐ Metadata
- ☐ Institutional repository management
- ☐ Systems
- ☐ Digital Library Initiative

Phase II

- Develop purpose, environment and structure
- Identify potential existing standards. Select draft standard
- Develop business scenarios
- Finalize metadata
- Develop proposed infrastructure and sustainability model
- Continue to solicit community feedback
- Issue Draft Standard for formal comments
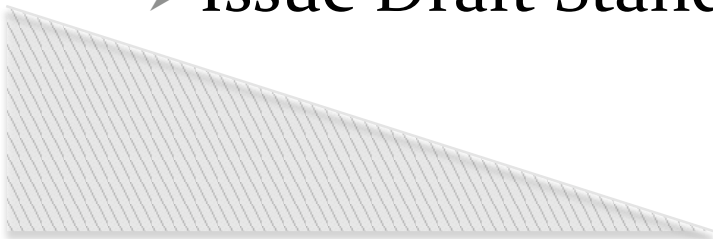
Central Registry

➢ Assign identifiers to new institution records

➢ Store core metadata about those institutions

➢ Provide look-up services to allow participating member registries to see if an institution has already been identified

➢ Provide one or more web-based Application Programming Interfaces (APIs)
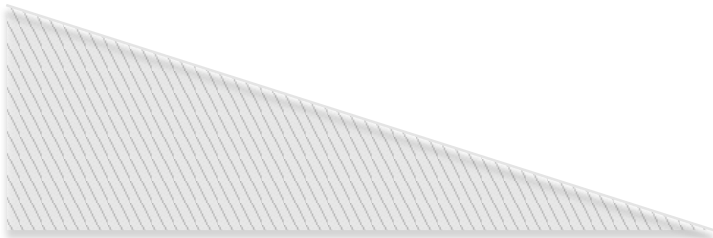
Central Registry Features

➢ Can identify all organizations in the information supply chain

➢ Be opaque

➢ Support the creation a core metadata set that describes an institution

➢ Support registration of institutions in a decentralized manner.

➢ Address community-specific registry needs

➢ Allow URI(s) from 3rd-party registries to be submitted and stored

Draft Metadata
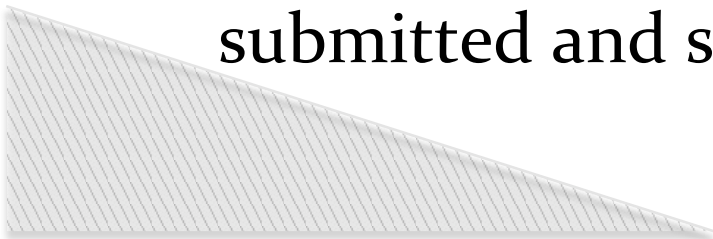
Data Element	Sub-Element or Attribute	Definition	Function
institutionIdentifier	attribute: typeOrSource	String of characters serving to uniquely identify an institution	**Identify**
variantIdentifier	attribute: typeOrSource	Alternative or supplementary identifier that identifies an institution	Find, Identify, Obtain
name	language	Formal or legal name under which an institutional entity or organization operates	Find, Identify, Select
variantName	usageDate: from, language	Other names (legal, common, etc.) by which an institution is known	Find
location	country, state or region, city, language	Group of data elements that give a geographic location or place associated with an institution	Identify, Select
URL		Uniform resource locator to the website of the institution	Identify, Select
domain		Domain(s) registered to the institutional entity	Identify, Select
affiliated Institution	identifier		Find, Identify, Select
contactInformation		Uniform resource locator to contact information for the institution	Find
note		Free text field for addition of information considered necessary for further clarification	Select
type		type of institution	Find, Identify

Identifier Name	Current Status
ISIL (ISO 15511)	International Standard
OCLC symbol	OCLC specific
OCLC WorldCat Registry ID	OCLC specific
MARC organization code	MARC standard
International Standard for Describing Institutions with Archival Holdings Information (ISDIAH)	New standard 2008
ISNI (ISO 27729)	Final Committee draft
SAN Standard address number	NISO standard Z39.43-1993
GLN Global location number	GS1 (formerly EAN international)
DUNS Data Universal Numbering	Dun and Bradstreet
NISO EDItEUR ONIX Serials Online Holdings	Version 1.1 June 2007
ONIX for Licensing Terms Publisher License format	Version 1.0 July 2008

2010 Timeline

- Finalize Metadata elements (Jan-May)
- Develop schema (Jun)
- Stakeholder feedback – community (Jul-Aug)
- Finalize I2 report and metadata from feedback (Aug-Sep)
- Draft Standard Recommendationfor comment (Oct)
- Respond to Feedback (Nov)
- Final recommendation and report (Dec)
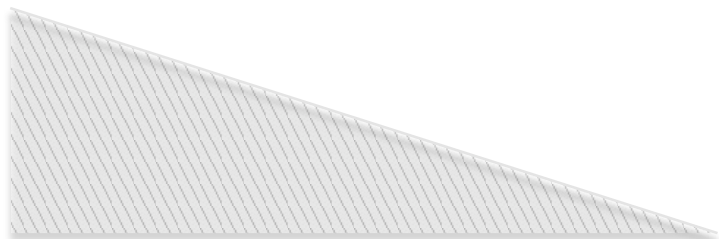
ISNI:
International Standard Name Identifier

Public identification of *any entity* involved in creation, production, management, and content distribution chains.

- Authors, Actors, Performers
- Publishers, Distributors, and more...
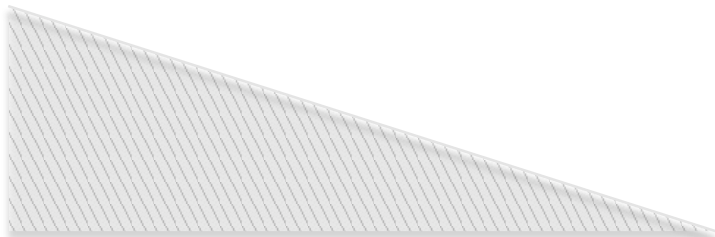
Currently exploring potential collaboration.

|2
INSTITUTIONAL
IDENTIFIERS

ISNI:
International Standard Name Identifier

- A 16 digit identifier consisting of 15 digits and a check character
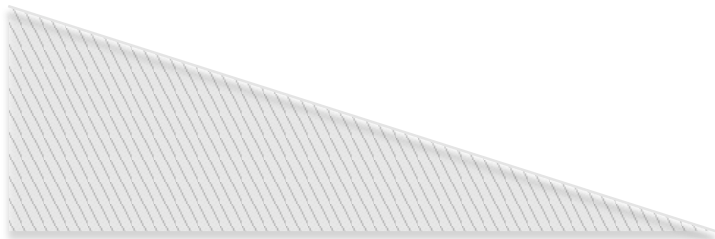
  Example: ISNI 1422 4586 3573 0476

- Authoritative identifier to link occurrences of an identity across databases, and dispel confusion

VIAF: Virtual International Authority File

- Cooperative project initiated by the Library of Congress, the Bibliothèque nationale de France, the Deutsche Nationalbibliothek and OCLC
- Purpose: to facilitate research across languages anywhere in the world by making authorities truly international.
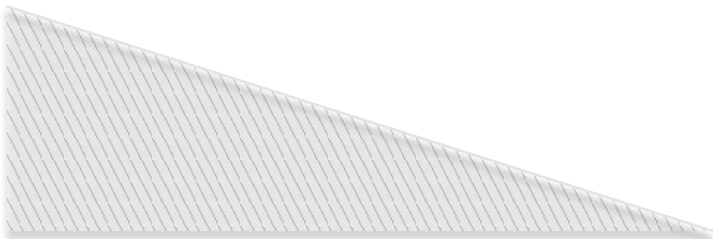- Available as linked data!

Alternatively…

Given a base URL such as http://niso.i2.org

Identifier http://niso.i2.org/myVeryOwnID

redirects to:

➢ http://niso.i2.org/myVeryOwnID.html

➢ http://niso.i2.org/myVeryOwnID.rdf

Based on HTTP "GET" content negotiation request

Possibly "REST-ful" URLs...

"POST" HTTP requests to http:niso.i2.org
 complying with I2 XML schema would return
 matching ID or a new ID

"PUT" HTTP requests to http://niso.i2.org/myVeryOwnID
 complying with I2 XML schema
 would update our metadata

Scenario by Tina Feick and Cindy Hepfer
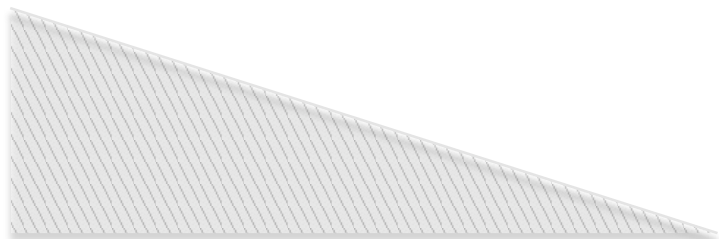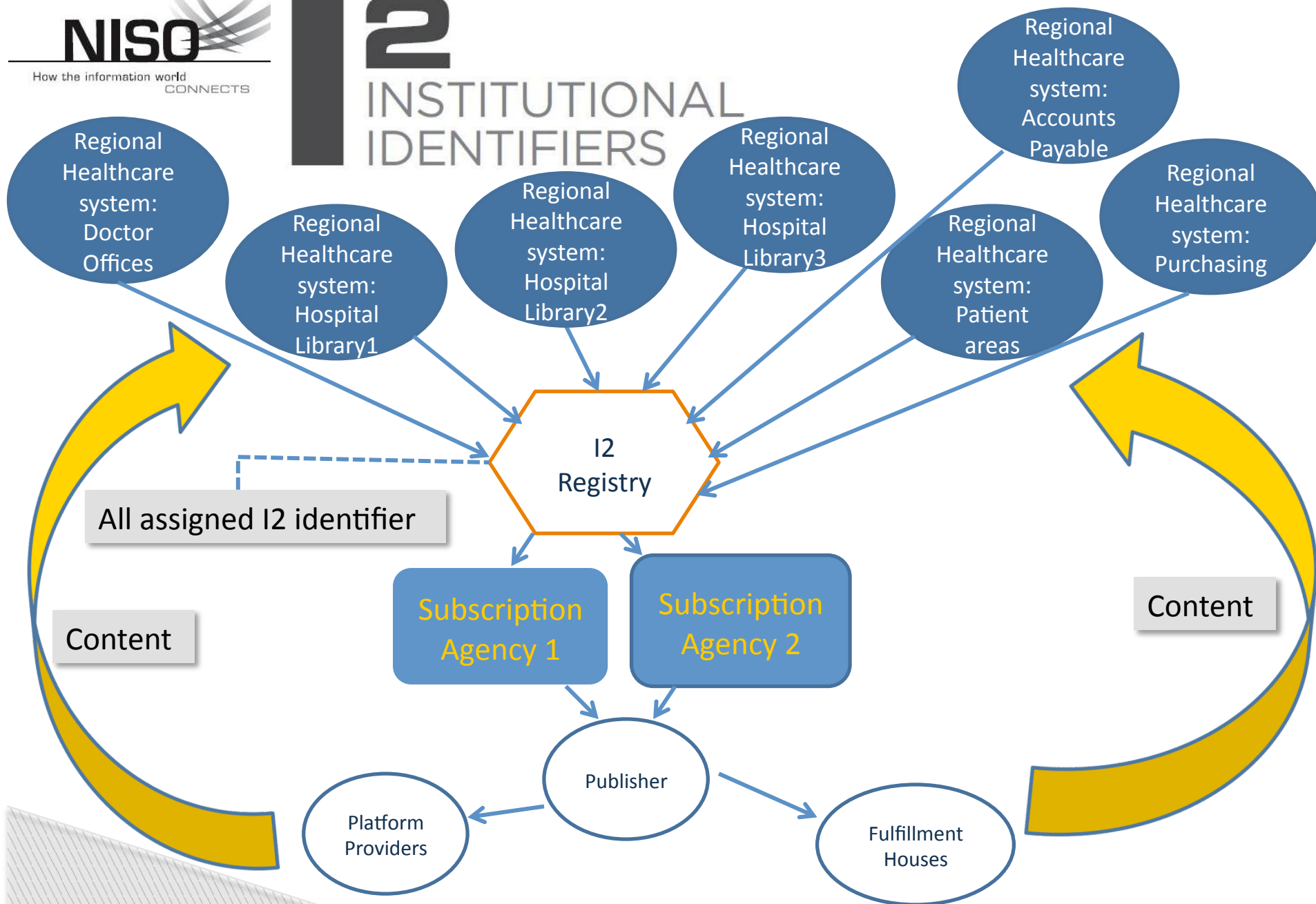
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