Contents

Authors biography ix
Re-thinking library metadata xi

1 Introduction 1

The construction of metadata 5
Metadata categories 6
The continued relevance of metadata 8

2 Existing standards-based metadata approaches and principles 11

The principle of sufficiency and necessity 12
The principle of user convenience 12
The principle of representation 14
The principle of standardisation 15
Integration and interoperability 15
Guiding assumptions for the principle of standardisation 18
Controlled vocabularies 19
A priori metadata 21
Limitations of contemporary standards-based metadata approaches 23
The future of metadata standards 25
Summary 27

3 The Web 2.0 paradigm and the emergence of socially-constructed metadata approaches 29

Web 2.0 concepts 29
Platform for two-way collaboration 31
Users as co-creators 31
The wisdom of crowds 31
Variable participation 32
Openness 32
Post-hoc quality control 33
Web 2.0 technologies and implications for libraries 34
The case of Wikipedia versus encyclopaedia Britannica 38
Limitations of the Web 2.0 paradigm 40
The social construction of metadata 41

4	**The emergence of socially-constructed metadata in a mixed metadata approach**	**43**
	The positioning of *post-hoc* metadata creation	**43**
	The potential benefit of involving users	**45**
	Current platforms proactive metadata co-creation	**49**
	Users as proactive metadata co-creators	**52**
	Metadata diversity	**53**
	Metadata scalability and variable metadata participation	**54**
	Metadata aggregation	**54**
	Network effect and wisdom of crowds	**55**
	Self-healing system	**56**
	Affixing provenance to metadata	**56**
	Collective metadata intelligence	**57**
	Motivation for socially-constructed metadata approaches	**57**
	Challenges to implementing socially-constructed metadata approaches	**61**
	Metadata quality control	**61**
	Towards a mixed metadata approach	**63**
5	**The principle of metadata enriching**	**67**
	Metadata diversity	**67**
	Metadata granularity	**68**
	Platform for metadata enriching	**68**
6	**The principle of metadata linking**	**71**
	Enriching via linking	**71**
	Current status of linking in libraries	**72**
	Resource usage patterns, zeitgeist and emergent metadata	**73**
	Facet-based navigations	**74**
	Metadata enriching with links	**75**
	Challenges to adopt linking technologies in libraries	**75**
	Re-conceptualising library metadata as granular metadata statements	**77**
	Unique metadata identifiers	**79**
	Integrating socially-constructed metadata	**79**
	Facilitate serendipitous discovery of information resources	**80**
	Summary	**81**
7	**The principle of metadata openness**	**83**
	Improving institutional transparency and accountability	**83**
	Metadata sharing and return on investment	**84**
	Improved user experiences	**85**
	Degrees of metadata openness and metadata licensing	**85**
	Summary	**86**

8 The principle of metadata filtering 89

Emerging user preferences and convenience **89**
Searching, manual filtering and triangulation **91**
Contextualised and personalised *post-hoc* metadata filtering **93**
Personalisation and privacy **94**
Recommendation services **95**
Summary **95**

9 The theory of metadata enriching and filtering 97

Integrating the four principles **97**
The theory of metadata enriching and filtering **98**
Separation of metadata content (enriching) and interface (filtering) **100**
Separation of about-ness from medium **100**
Enriching and filtering as a non-deterministic process **101**
From user-centred to user-driven metadata enriching and filtering **101**
Enriching as a continuous process **102**
Metadata diversity better conforming to users' needs **102**
Seamless linking **103**
'Useful' rather than 'perfect' metadata **103**
Post-hoc user-driven filtering **104**
Summary **104**

Glossary 107
Abbreviations 109
References 111
Index 119