



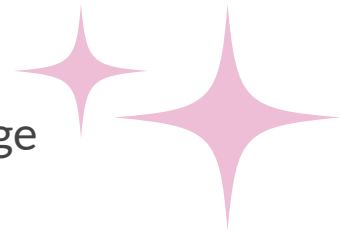
# A Virtual Linked Data Study Group

Our Experiences and  
Perspectives



# Who Are We?

- **Jill Crane**, Coordinator of Cataloging & Metadata, University of Dayton
- **Martha Hood**, Associate Director, Evaluation & Assessment, University of Houston - Clear Lake
- **Jodene Pappas**, Head of Technical Services, University of Texas Permian Basin
- **Laura Ramirez**, Senior Library Specialist, Resource Management & Metadata, University of Houston
- **Susan Vandale**, Technical Services Librarian, Dickinson College





# Why a study group?

## Curiosity!

- We wanted to learn about a new topic
- Most of us had only basic knowledge of the topic

## ...But few resources

- Limited funds to pursue traditional learning opportunities
- An intimidating topic for newcomers

## Solution: Learn together

- A little less overwhelming together!
- Friendly, supportive, learning environment for all members
- Spreading out the work of facilitating discussions made learning easier
- Desire to replicate other university projects as a collaborative group across institutions



# Our group gets together

Contacted others at UH that worked in cataloging

## UH Group works together

Created a poster/presentation and talked to others excited about the same session topics at conferences

## Invited other colleagues

## Reaching out

Call out for collaborative work at our institution

## Networked at conferences

Current members invited a few others to our working circle

# Goals of the Study Group

To understand basic concepts related to main topic

To experiment with tools to implement topic principles

To practice skills on various short-term and long-term projects in a collaborative environment, to learn from each other

To share knowledge and experiences through presentations or published articles



# What we did



## READ & DISCUSS

White papers  
Case Studies  
Books  
Tools



## JOINED OTHER PROGRAMS

Read-along  
Online webinars  
PCC Wikidata  
Pilot



## INVITED SPEAKERS

Project  
coordinator at  
Stanford



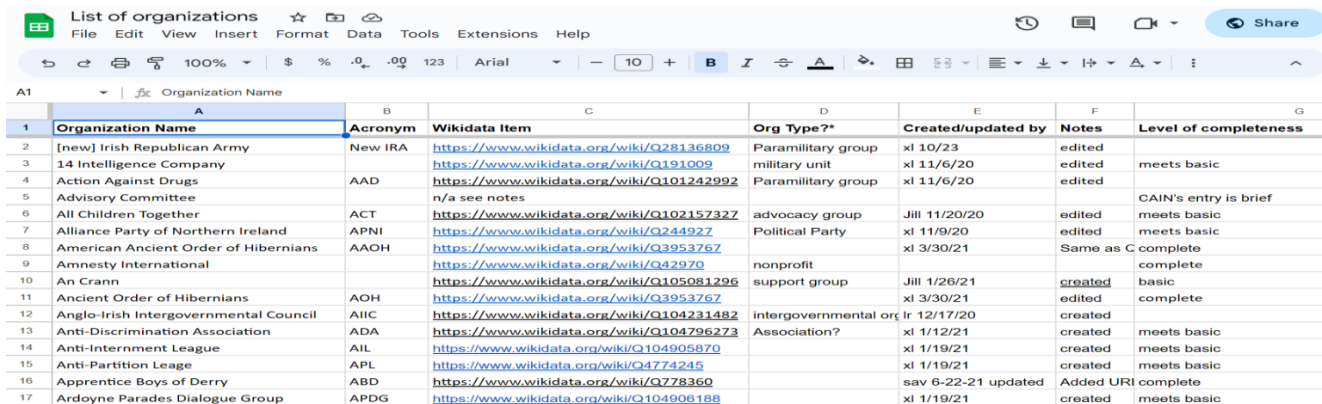
## PREPARED PRESENTATIONS

LD4  
TLA 2023

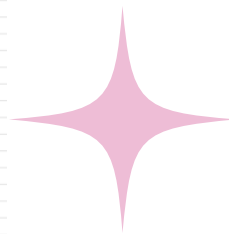


# Wikidata Pilot Project

- Learned of project from listserv and decided to join as a group
- Took trainings and used resources to learn to enter items in Wikidata
- Added optional weekly working hour to work together virtually
- Created and used a shared Google sheet to collaborate and share progress



List of organizations						
File Edit View Insert Format Data Tools Extensions Help						
100% \$ % .0_ .00 123 Arial 10 B I A						
A1 Organization Name						
1	Organization Name	Acronym	Wikidata Item	Org Type?	Created/updated by	Notes
2	[new] Irish Republican Army	New IRA	<a href="https://www.wikidata.org/wiki/Q28136809">https://www.wikidata.org/wiki/Q28136809</a>	Paramilitary group	xl 10/23	edited
3	14 Intelligence Company		<a href="https://www.wikidata.org/wiki/Q191009">https://www.wikidata.org/wiki/Q191009</a>	military unit	xl 11/6/20	edited
4	Action Against Drugs	AAD	<a href="https://www.wikidata.org/wiki/Q101242992">https://www.wikidata.org/wiki/Q101242992</a>	Paramilitary group	xl 11/6/20	edited
5	Advisory Committee		n/a see notes			
6	All Children Together	ACT	<a href="https://www.wikidata.org/wiki/Q102157327">https://www.wikidata.org/wiki/Q102157327</a>	advocacy group	Jill 11/20/20	edited
7	Alliance Party of Northern Ireland	APNI	<a href="https://www.wikidata.org/wiki/Q244927">https://www.wikidata.org/wiki/Q244927</a>	Political Party	xl 11/9/20	edited
8	American Ancient Order of Hibernians	AAOH	<a href="https://www.wikidata.org/wiki/Q3953767">https://www.wikidata.org/wiki/Q3953767</a>		xl 3/30/21	Same as C
9	Amnesty International		<a href="https://www.wikidata.org/wiki/Q42970">https://www.wikidata.org/wiki/Q42970</a>	nonprofit		complete
10	An Crann		<a href="https://www.wikidata.org/wiki/Q105081296">https://www.wikidata.org/wiki/Q105081296</a>	support group	Jill 1/26/21	created
11	Ancient Order of Hibernians	AOH	<a href="https://www.wikidata.org/wiki/Q3953767">https://www.wikidata.org/wiki/Q3953767</a>		xl 3/30/21	edited
12	Anglo-Irish Intergovernmental Council	AIIC	<a href="https://www.wikidata.org/wiki/Q104231482">https://www.wikidata.org/wiki/Q104231482</a>	intergovernmental org	Ir 12/17/20	created
13	Anti-Discrimination Association	ADA	<a href="https://www.wikidata.org/wiki/Q104796273">https://www.wikidata.org/wiki/Q104796273</a>	Association?	xl 1/12/21	created
14	Anti-Internment League	AIL	<a href="https://www.wikidata.org/wiki/Q104905870">https://www.wikidata.org/wiki/Q104905870</a>		xl 1/19/21	created
15	Anti-Partition League	APL	<a href="https://www.wikidata.org/wiki/Q4774245">https://www.wikidata.org/wiki/Q4774245</a>		xl 1/19/21	created
16	Apprentice Boys of Derry	ABD	<a href="https://www.wikidata.org/wiki/Q778360">https://www.wikidata.org/wiki/Q778360</a>		sav 6-22-21 updated	Added URI
17	Ardoyne Parades Dialogue Group	APDG	<a href="https://www.wikidata.org/wiki/Q104908188">https://www.wikidata.org/wiki/Q104908188</a>		xl 1/19/21	created





# Article & Future Discussion

## Article

Published in the  
journal  
*Library Resources &  
Technical Services*

“Collaborative Learning  
on Linked Data through  
a Virtual Study Group”  
LRTS 67, no. 3 (2023)

DOI:  
<https://doi.org/10.5860/lrts.67n3.90>



## Break

We plan to restart in  
Fall 2025





# Benefits of a Study Group

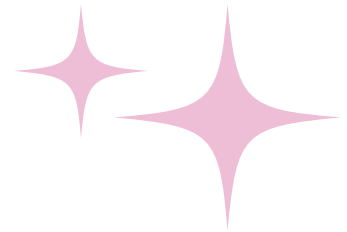
- Peer Teaching & Learning
- Active Engagement
- Diverse Perspectives
- Cross-institutional
- Shared Responsibility & Motivation





# Challenges of Study Group

- Time Zones
- Not part of regular job
- Justifying time spent on learning linked data to supervisors
- Carve out specific time and prioritize
- Balance between work and continuous study
- Moving from theory to practice is difficult
- Starting at different levels of our knowledge
- We were not on the same ILS



# Finding a Study Group



## Find a local group

Send a call out for collaborative work at your institution/those close by



## Network at Conferences

Talk to others excited about the same session topics at conferences or webinars



## Invite other colleagues

Directly invite colleagues from your working circle

# Tips for a Successful Study Group

## Goals

Determine learning goals & desired outcomes

## Plan

Create a year-long study plan & schedule regular meetings

## Communicate

Stay in touch! Use email, shared documents, and messaging

## Participate

Ask questions during meetings, it's OK to be a novice

## Share

If you know it, teach it, help each other understand



# Thank you!

Questions?

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