The Dublin Core Metadata Registry

DC-2004 Registry Working Group Meeting

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Agenda

- Working group overview
- Project goals
- Current status
- Architecture Overview
- Technology stack
- Prior-year accomplishments
- Overview of activity at distributed sites
- Survey results
- Open discussion:
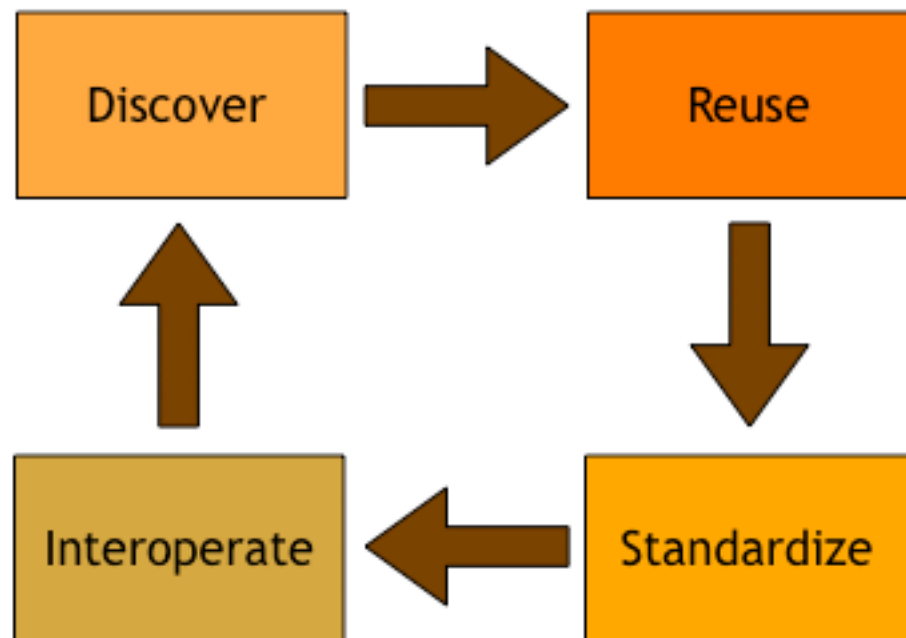   - Functional requirements
    - Issues
    - Comments

Working Group Overview

- Established December 1999
- Chairs:
  - Harry Wagner, OCLC
  - Rachel Heery, UKOLN
- Consensus-driven activity involving the interests of a variety of participants, working groups and related activities.
- Mission:
  - Provide an authoritative, and trusted, source of in-depth information about metadata vocabularies and the relationship between registered terms.
  - Provide this information in a format suitable for both humans and applications.
- Activity managed via mailing lists, working group meetings.
- WG Home page: http://dublincore.org/groups/registry/
- Mailing list: http://www.jiscmail.ac.uk/lists/DC-REGISTRY.html

The Dublin Core Metadata Registry

Project Goals

- Simplify the discovery of terms and illustrate the relationship between terms.
- Promote the reuse of metadata terms
- Provide a trusted source of information about the DCMI element set and related vocabularies.
- Make the registry available to the metadata community as an open-source project, built entirely upon open-standards.
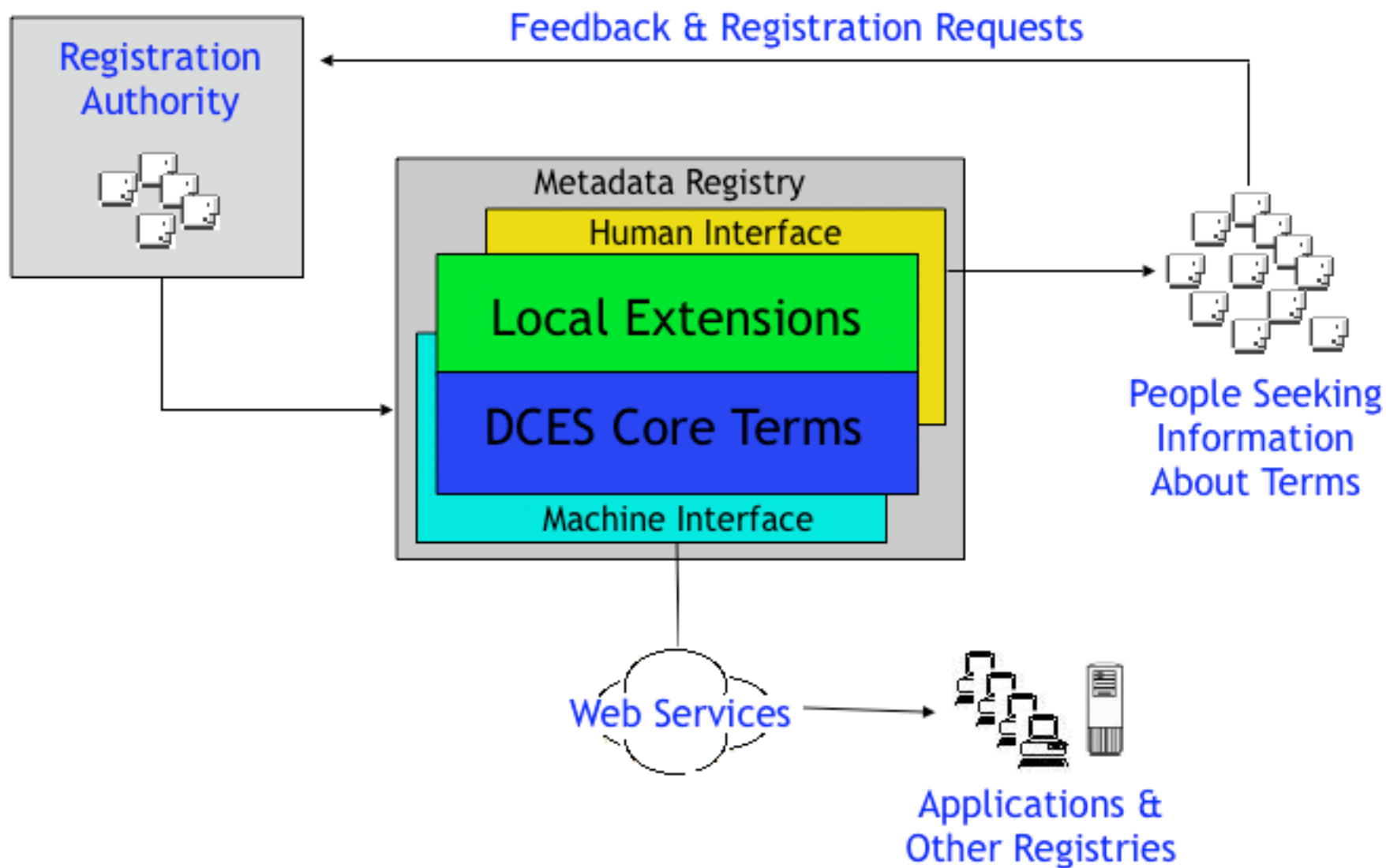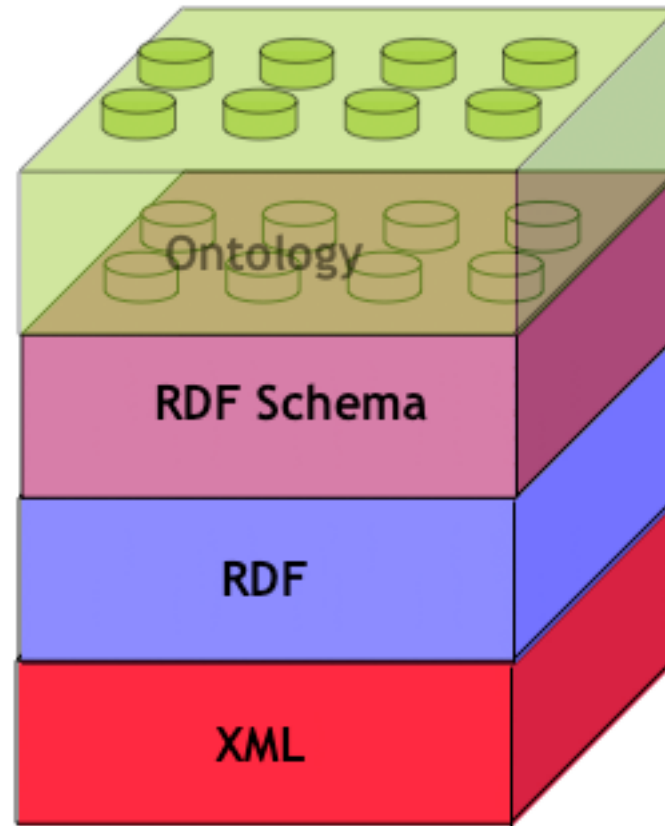
Current Status

- Current version: 3.3.2
- Web and Application interfaces supported
- Search & browse functions provided
- International support for 24 languages
- Support for SOAP and REST style Web services
- Administrative component
  - Inter-registry communication module
  - Collection management
  - Data import utility
  - User-interface property editor
- Full support for local extensions
- Support for viewing registry content in a variety of encodings
- Usage/encoding examples support
- Distributed as open source, built entirely on open source/open standards
- Deployed as a distributed architecture

Architecture Overview

Registry Technology Stack

XML used for serialization & exchange
RDF / RDFS used to describe classes and associated properties
Ontology support for advanced inferencing

Prior-Year Accomplishments

- Published a new working group charter
- Added support for a REST (HTTP) style application interface
- Installed a registry at the Library of the Chinese Academy of Science, in Beijing, China
- Published an installation guide & administration guide (draft)
- Added metadata translations for Czech and Welsh
- Added a Ukrainian translation for the user interface
- An updated user interface
- Encoding examples in XML and RDF/XML
- Added support for RDF/XML, N-TRIPLE and N3 views of results from the detail screen
- Numerous updates to the administrative component to simplify installation & maintenance
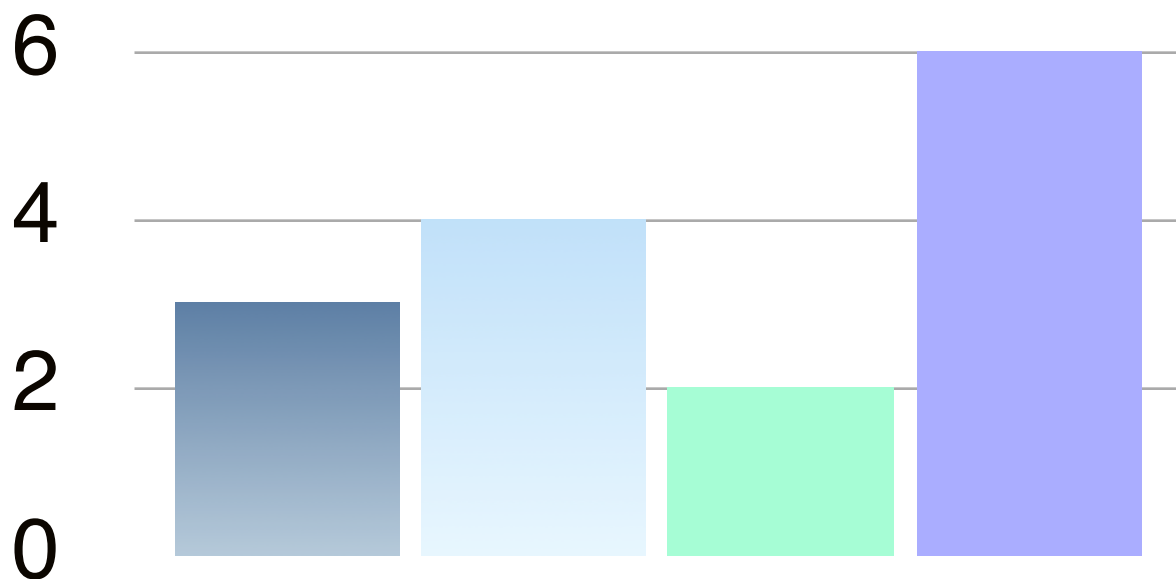- Ontology support for OWL and DAML/OIL (provided by upgrade to Jena 2.0)

Distributed Sites

- OCLC, Dublin Ohio
  - Version 3.3.2, all supported languages
  - Generic reference tool for core terms
- University of Tsukuba, Japan
  - Version 2.0.2 and version 3.0, CJK & E
  - Research activity
- The University of Goettingen, Germany
  - Version 2.0.2, German and English
  - Special subjects gateway (SSGFI) extension
  - Research / reference activity?
- The Library of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, China
  - Version 3.3.0, Chinese and English
  - No (current) local extensions
  - Part of a larger project to link Chinese digital libraries

Survey Results (1)

■ Which of the following metadata activities does your organization actively participate in?

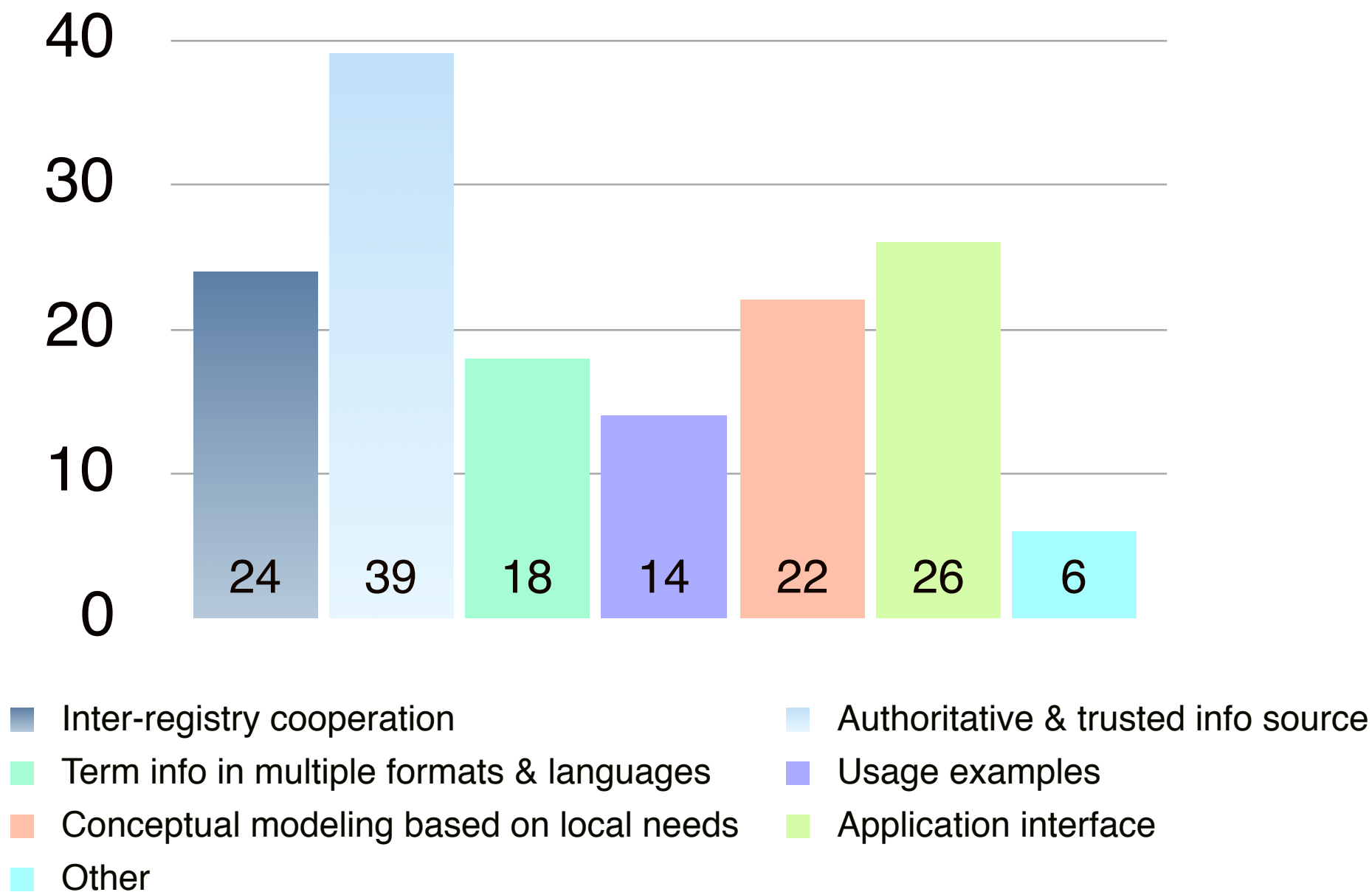|		
■	Maintenance of large / multilingual vocabularies	3
■	Project management / knowledge organization	4
■	Ontology design	2
■	Metadata creation (instance data)	6

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Survey Results (2)

■ How would you rank the following metadata registry features, with regards to their importance to your organization? (1=most important, 2=second most important, etc.)

Respondent #	1	2	3	4	5	6
Inter-registry cooperation	2	4	6	3		1
Authoritative & trusted info source	1	1	1	2	2	2
Term info in multiple formats & languages		2	2	6		4
Usage examples		5	3	4		6
Conceptual modeling based on local needs		6	4	1	4	3
Application interface	3	3	5	5	1	5
Other*				7	3	

* Support for creation of application profiles (7)
Mapping & relationship among terms (3)
Extraction of customized standards, or portions of standards
Features already provided (WS interoperability, statistics, etc.)
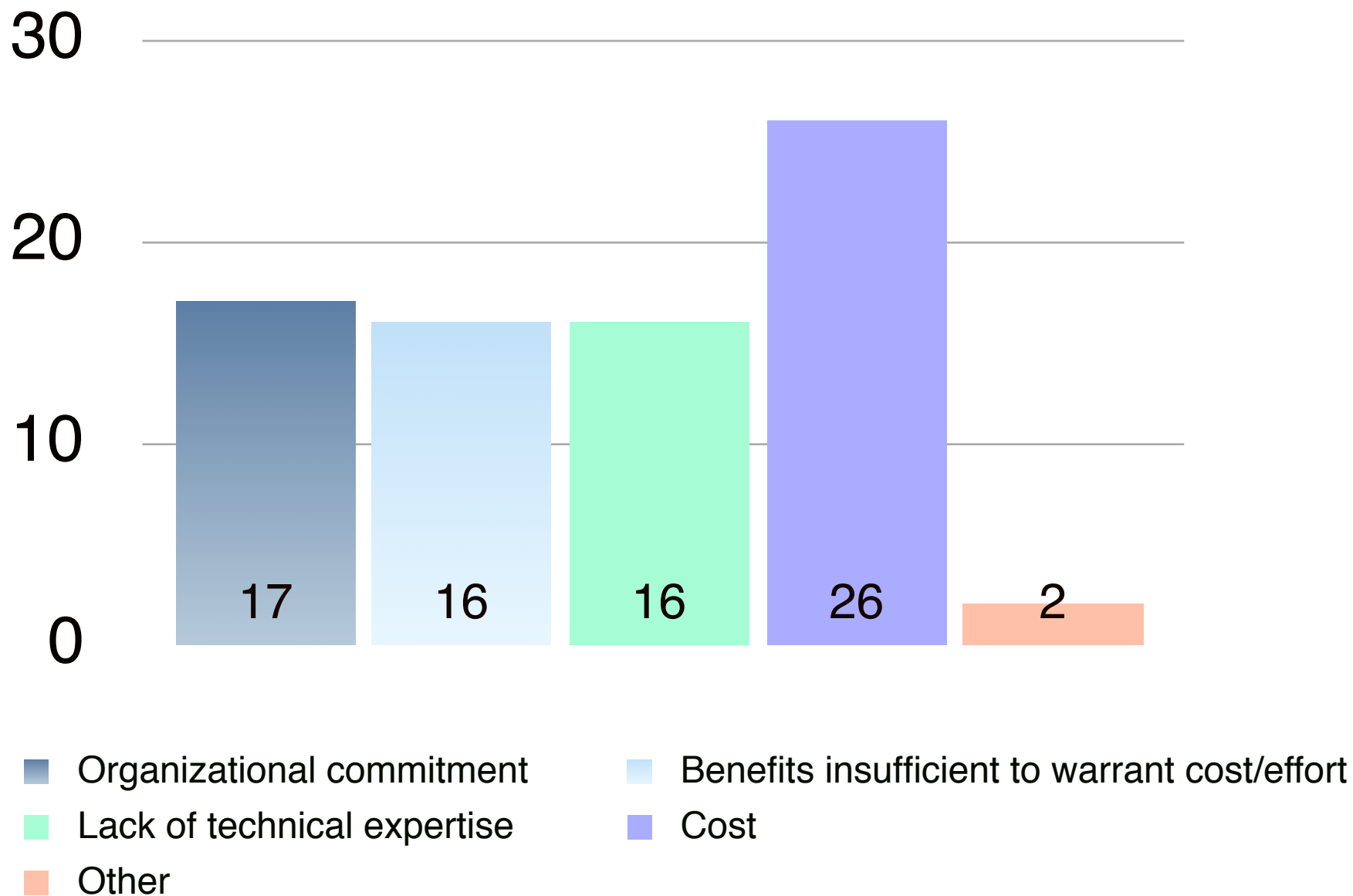
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Survey Results (3)

■ How would you rank the following barriers to installation & adoption of a metadata registry with regards to your organization?   (1=most significant barrier, 2=second most significant, etc.)

Respondent #	1	2	3	4	5	6
Organizational commitment		4	1	3	1	4
Benefits insufficient to warrant cost/effort	2	3	3	2		4
Lack of technical expertise		2	4	4	3	1
Cost	1	1	2	1	2	3
Other*					4	

*   Uncertainty regarding who should manage activity (4)
     Installation procedure too complex
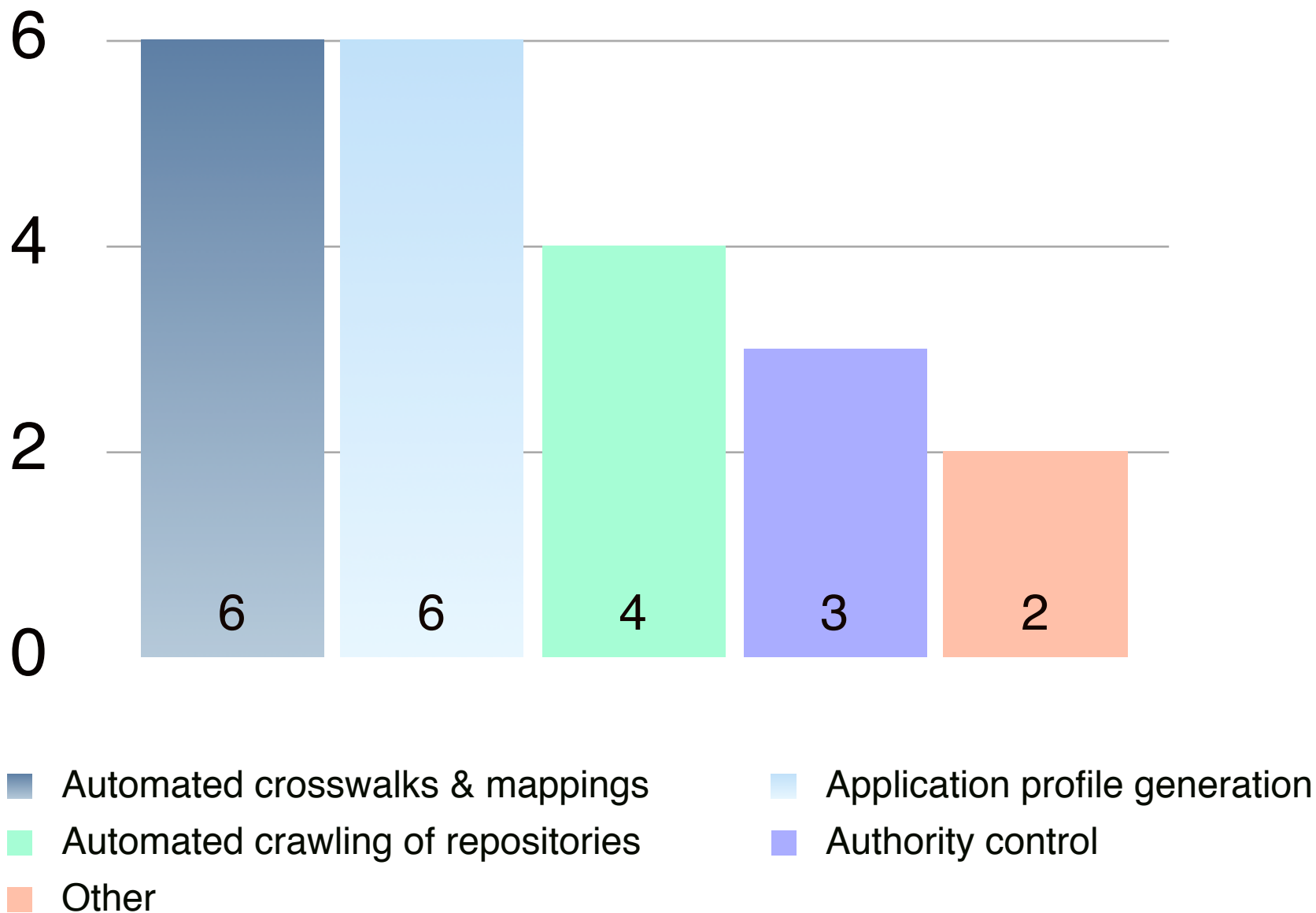
Survey Results (4)

■ Which of the following do you consider to be an indispensable feature for a metadata registry? (mark all that apply)

Respondent #	1	2	3	4	5	6
Automated crosswalks & mappings	X	X	X	X	X	X
Application profile generation	X	X	X	X	X	X
Automated crawling of repositories	X		X	X		X
Authority control			X	X		X
Other*					X	X

*   Features already provided (Creation of new properties, WS interface)
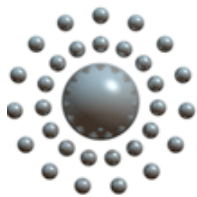Non-proprietary DB
Versioning

Indispensable Features

Legend:
- Automated crosswalks & mappings
- Automated crawling of repositories
- Other
- Application profile generation
- Authority control

Bar values: 6, 6, 4, 3, 2

Survey Results (5-7)

Question	Yes	No
Have you considered deploying a registry in the past year?	4	1
Have you already deployed one, or plan to in the coming year?	5	1
Will you have representation at this meeting?	3	2

Open Discussion

■ Contact information:
- □ DCMI Metadata registry: http://dublincore.org/dcregistry/
- □ WG home page: http://dublincore.org/groups/registry/
- □ Mailing list: http://www.jiscmail.ac.uk/lists/DC-REGISTRY.html

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