

Entrance Hall Working Group

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Opening Remarks

- We really like the School
- Our criticisms are only possible because the School already does so many things well

Major Topics

- Content of Entrance Hall documents
- Routine maintenance of the School
- Renovations and additions to the School

Entrance Hall Content

- **Best Practice in a Nutshell**
 - The document is a worthwhile one
 - It doesn't seem appropriate as the first Entrance Hall document
 - Too many acronyms and too jargony
 - e.g. "migrate data to new formats"

Entrance Hall Content

- **Best Practice in a Nutshell**
 - Better title: “Best Practice Quick Reference”
 - Bullet points should be reordered to reflect how the linguist will need to make decisions

Entrance Hall Content



- What is best practice
 - Add pointers from each of the seven dimensions to relevant part of the school
 - This implies there is a relevant part of the school (which would help ensure 7 dimensions organization)

Entrance Hall Content

- What is best practice
 - Links for each dimension should be subdivided into
 - Internal
 - External
 - Reading room references

Entrance Hall Content

Why Best Practice




-  Document could be made more detailed
-  See also later discussion of an “What Best Practice is for” document

Entrance Hall Content

- **Navigate this site**
 - Add documentation for
 - Right side boxes
 - Various other new features suggested below




Entrance Hall Content

Glossary

-  First time any glossary term used in a page, link to glossary
-  Clicking glossary link opens small new window
-  Mouseover mini-definitions of terms and/or acronym expansion



Entrance Hall Content

Glossary

-  Enhance glossary to include, after definition, relevant internal links, external links, etc.
-  Deprecate glossary terms in School documents from linking to things other than glossary
 -  For example, don't link "OLAC" to the OLAC site; take care of that in the glossary definition


Entrance Hall Content

Glossary

-  More linking of technical terms in glossary definitions to other terms in glossary
-  School maintainers need to be more vigilant in looking for technical vocabulary, e.g., “migrate”, “format”

Entrance Hall Content

Credits

 Credited participants should be reordered to reflect level of contributions

 Web designers

 Data providers

 Working group participants

Reading Room

- Aim for an annotated bibliography
- To decrease workload
 - Allow users to add annotations
 - Ask for annotations when users suggest adding a reference
- Related to just above: Make it clear how users can “suggest a reference” to add

Reading Room

- References should be stored in a database for searchability, maintainability, updatability, and metadatatability
- Consider how to deal with “massive” reading room
 - Each topic should begin with a paragraph modeled after the “Further reading” section of a textbook chapter

Routine Maintenance

- On entry page, browser warning is in too prominent a position
- Maybe do what LinguistList does for the browser issue (or maybe not worry about it)

Routine Maintenance

- Page header
 - Consistently
 - “School of Best Practice: Creating Language Resources that Last” in smallish print, linked to Entrance Hall main page
 - Name of room in biggish print
 - Should help users sent to a room

Routine Maintenance

- Left side-bar
 - At least half of the group was confused by it
 - When can you click on a non-leaf node? When is a non-leaf link repeated as a leaf? How deep should it go?
 - Requires too precise motor control (see accessibility)

Routine Maintenance

- Righthand boxes
 - Need a consistent definition for subtopics, related links, page index
 - **Page index:** Document subheadings
 - **Subtopics:** Pages expanding on information in present page

Routine Maintenance

- Righthand boxes

- Related links

- Should distinguish between internal and external links

- Perhaps: “Related areas of School” and “Outside resources”

- Links to glossary terms should not be in this box

Routine Maintenance

- Righthand boxes
 - Boxes should appear in consistent order
 - Subtopics box shouldn't "lose" present subtopic
 - Basically: Decrease "jumpiness" to the extent possible

Routine Maintenance

- Accessibility: Is the site accessible by W3C standards?

Routine Maintenance

- Search
 - Good keyword searching would be good, e.g., “rights” should get documents about rights
 - This would require good document metadata
 - Great test case for metadata for advice documents

Routine Maintenance

- Document accessibility
 - Check colors on more platforms
 - Support better printing of documents
 - Link to citation information for every page
 - School of BP lite for download, reference (especially good for people in the field)

Routine Maintenance

- Link management
 - Clear difference between internal and external links
 - Different “look” (color?)
 - External links always open new browser window (?)

Additions and Renovations

- Welcome Box
 - Link to “Navigate this site”
 - Link to **new document**: “What Best Practice is good for”
 - Snazzy, motivational
 - Stories
 - How BP worked for me!
 - The “Digital Dark Age”

Additions and Renovations

- Content creation
 - How will the site remain up-to-date in the long term?
 - Wiki model for content generation?
 - Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy model (commissioned, editable articles)
 - Working group on site longevity?

Additions and Renovations

- Site commenting
 - Feedback
 - Forums
 - Tool reviews, bibliographical annotation

Additions and Renovations

- Site commenting: Feedback
 - Not for public posting
 - Link errors, site enhancement, etc.

Additions and Renovations

- Site commenting: Forums
 - **Question:** How many of you visit some site every day?
 - Forums link would fill “Ask-an-Expert” slot
 - Build on “Ask-a-Linguist” infrastructure

Additions and Renovations

- Site commenting: Forums
 - Slashdot-style
 - “News”/Question posting
 - Comments on post
 - School rooms point to relevant forums
 - If monitored by E-MELD could help revise the School and Best Practice recommendations

Additions and Renovations

- Site commenting: Forums
 - Topics
 - Best Practice
 - Threads: 7 dimensions
 - Funding
 - Threads: grants, job
 - Doesn't replace Linguist, enhances School

Additions and Renovations

- Site commenting: Forums
 - Topics (continued)
 - Community
 - Threads: community to linguists, linguist to communities)
 - Technology
 - Threads: hardware, software, other (e.g., markup)

Additions and Renovations

- Site commenting: Forums
 - Topics (continued)
 - Also: Page for suggesting a new forum

Additions and Renovations

- Site commenting: Reviews
 - For tool review and reference annotation
 - Tool reviews Amazon style (tool description, followed by reviews; distinction made between user reviews and “official” reviews)
 - Reference annotation: After reference, notes posted

Additions and Renovations

- Move from emeld.org to School
 - Find linguists
 - Find documentation

Call to action!

- E-MELD advisors
 - Submit feedback
 - Submit reviews
 - Contribute to forums
 - Add personal information to LinguistList database—and update regularly