Web Accessibility Issues, or the "Correct Needle in the Correct Haystack"

Jutta Treviranus RCAT, ATRC University of Toronto

Issue?

- Reduced choices
- Reduced flexibility

• Convenience vs. a "must have"

Like....

Smorgasbord for-

• Someone with no dietary restrictions - but preferences

Vs.

Someone with a severe peanut allergy

Information Technology and Assistive Technology

Constraints:

- Reduced flexibility due to a mismatch between the available resources and the tasks to be accomplished
- Task: Translation of many languages, some secret, with source material in many locations and sometimes hidden.
- Communication and the location of information must be consistent and open.

Accessible Content

Transformation

• Can this transform in the way I need it to transform?

Alternatives or Equivalents

• Is there an alternative but equivalent presentation of this inaccessible information?

IMS Accessibility Working Group

- Learner Information to support accessibility or "ACCLIP"
- Metadata to support accessibility or "ACCMD"
- Soon to address:
 - Learning Design and Content Packaging

ACCLIP

Accessibility for LIP (Learner information Package) or ACCLIP

- How do I want/need things to be <u>displayed?</u>
- How do I want/need things to be <u>controlled?</u>
- What <u>content</u> alternatives, equivalents or helpful tools do I want/need?
- In what context?

Accessibility Metadata (ACCMD)

• Open collaboration with other Metadata specifications groups

- Extensions to existing specifications
- Application Profile for accessibility
 - Including restricted vocabularies

ACCMD

Information about:

- 1. Conformance to accessibility standards
- 2. Can it transform? (with specific information about how well)
- 3. Information that corresponds to ACCLIP
 - What type of content is it?
 - Can it transform in the necessary way?
 - Is there an equivalent for it? Or is it an equivalent?
 - Is it an enabling tool? What kind?

ACCMD

• Specify <u>semantics</u>, <u>syntax</u> and <u>behaviour</u> relative to accessibility metadata to make the work of assistive technologies possible

Authoring of Accessibility Metadata

TILE Project

- Integrated, unconscious authoring
- Automatic authoring
 - Aprompt
 - Generate necessary EARL statement

Http://www.barrierfree.ca/tile

With the correct tool used in the correct way, it is possible to find almost anything...

If it exists.

Http://www.imsglobal.org
Http://atrc.utoronto.ca
Http://barrierfree.ca/tile
Http://www.w3.org/WAI