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WHY EDI?

Equity, diversity, and inclusion (EDI) have rightfully become buzz phrases in academic libraries. Info professionals, academic libraries, and their users are not immune to issues of bias, racism, discrimination, oppression, and privilege.

Professional values

The importance of EDI initiatives to combat these issues is reflected in the Society of American Archivists' Statement on Diversity and Inclusion and Core Values of Archivists and the fourth strategic direction of the American Library Association. As the patrons that libraries and archives serve become more diverse, there is a greater demand to fulfill communities' needs through equitable and inclusive practices.

SIGNIFICANCE

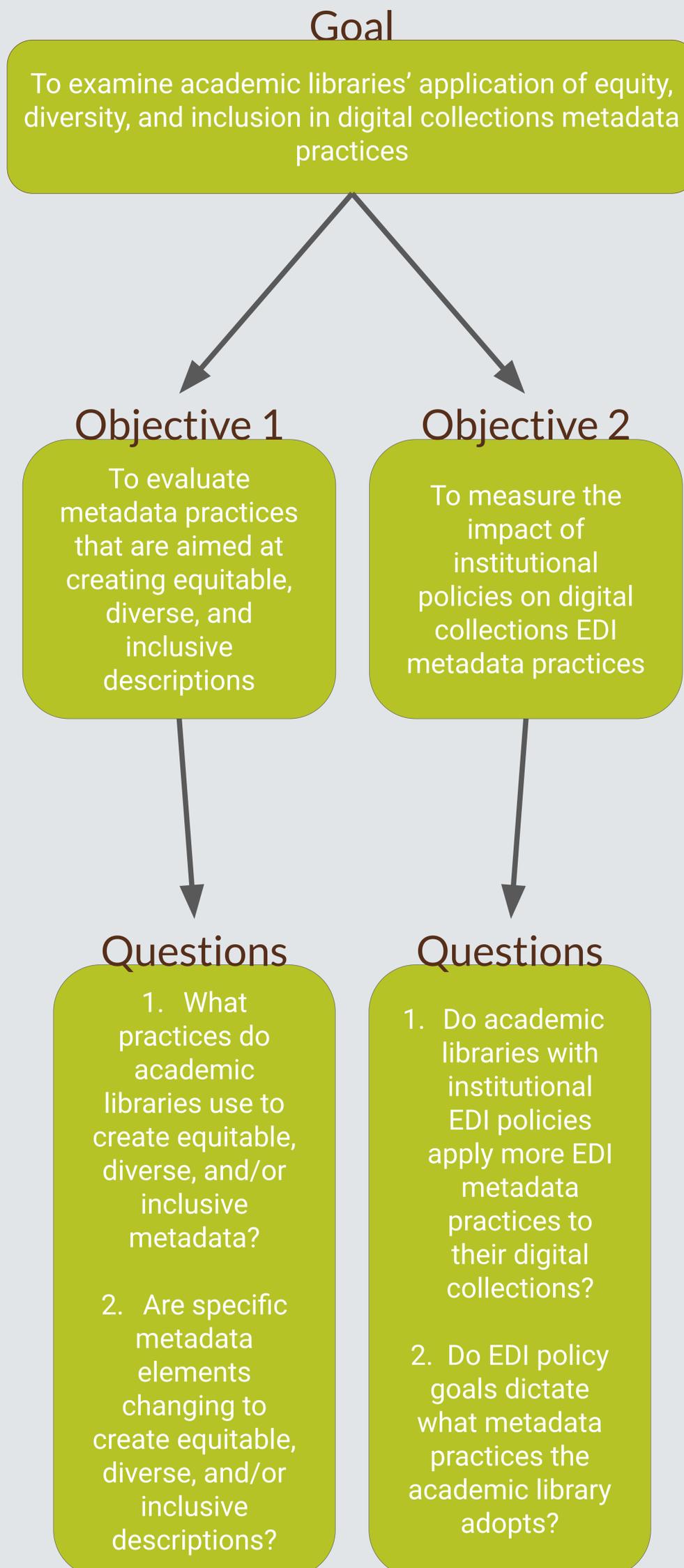
Literature

This research will fill a gap in the literature in which EDI metadata practices are not quantified and fully understood. It will clarify the relationship between institutional EDI policies and metadata practices for digital collections.

Practice

The results will outline practical metadata solutions to complex and community-specific EDI needs. It will help align metadata practices with EDI policies. It will support data-informed metadata decisions to enhance access and discovery, allowing for equitable and inclusive digital collections for all.

RESEARCH QUESTIONS



METHOD

This study will conduct a survey of academic libraries to gauge variation of digital collections EDI metadata practices and the influence of institutional policies.

Research design

Observational design to study the current situation as it is.

Research method

Quantitative method to generate quantifiable data about variation in EDI metadata practices for digital collections.

Unit of observation

Academic libraries in the United States with digital collections of archival materials.

Sampling

Non-probability purposive sampling because key informants are necessary to provide the data needed to answer the research questions.

Recruitment

Participants to be recruited via email from a compiled list of academic libraries identified as having digital collections.

Data collection

Online survey questionnaire via Qualtrics

Data analysis

SPSS statistical software

Timeline

Research to be completed by summer 2020.