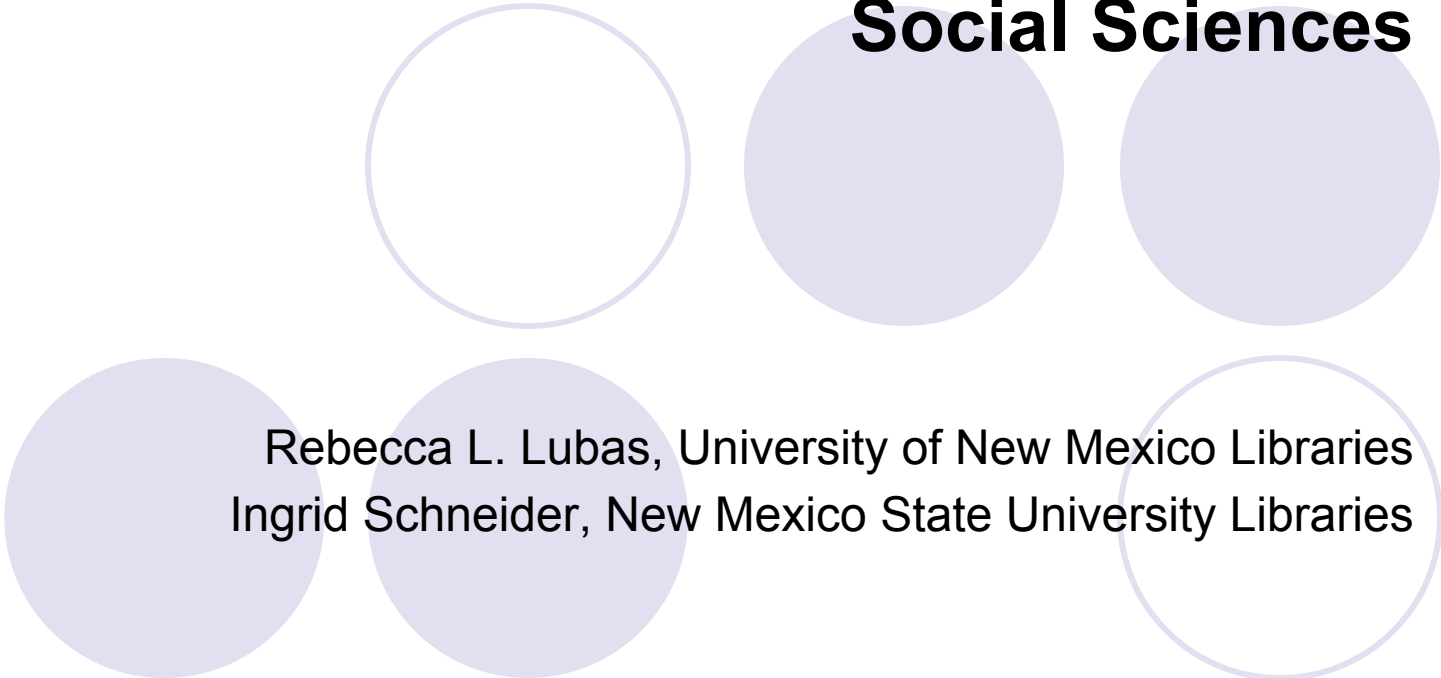# When a Picture Needs a Thousand Metadata Words: Metadata for the Humanities and Social Sciences

Rebecca L. Lubas, University of New Mexico Libraries
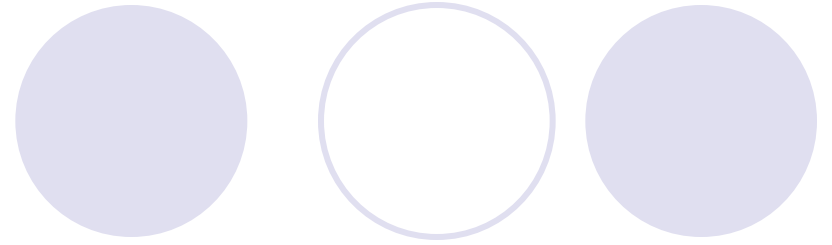Ingrid Schneider, New Mexico State University Libraries

Introductions

- Rebecca Lubas, Director of Cataloging & Discovery Services, University of New Mexico

- Ingrid Schneider, Metadata & Authority Control Librarian, New Mexico State University
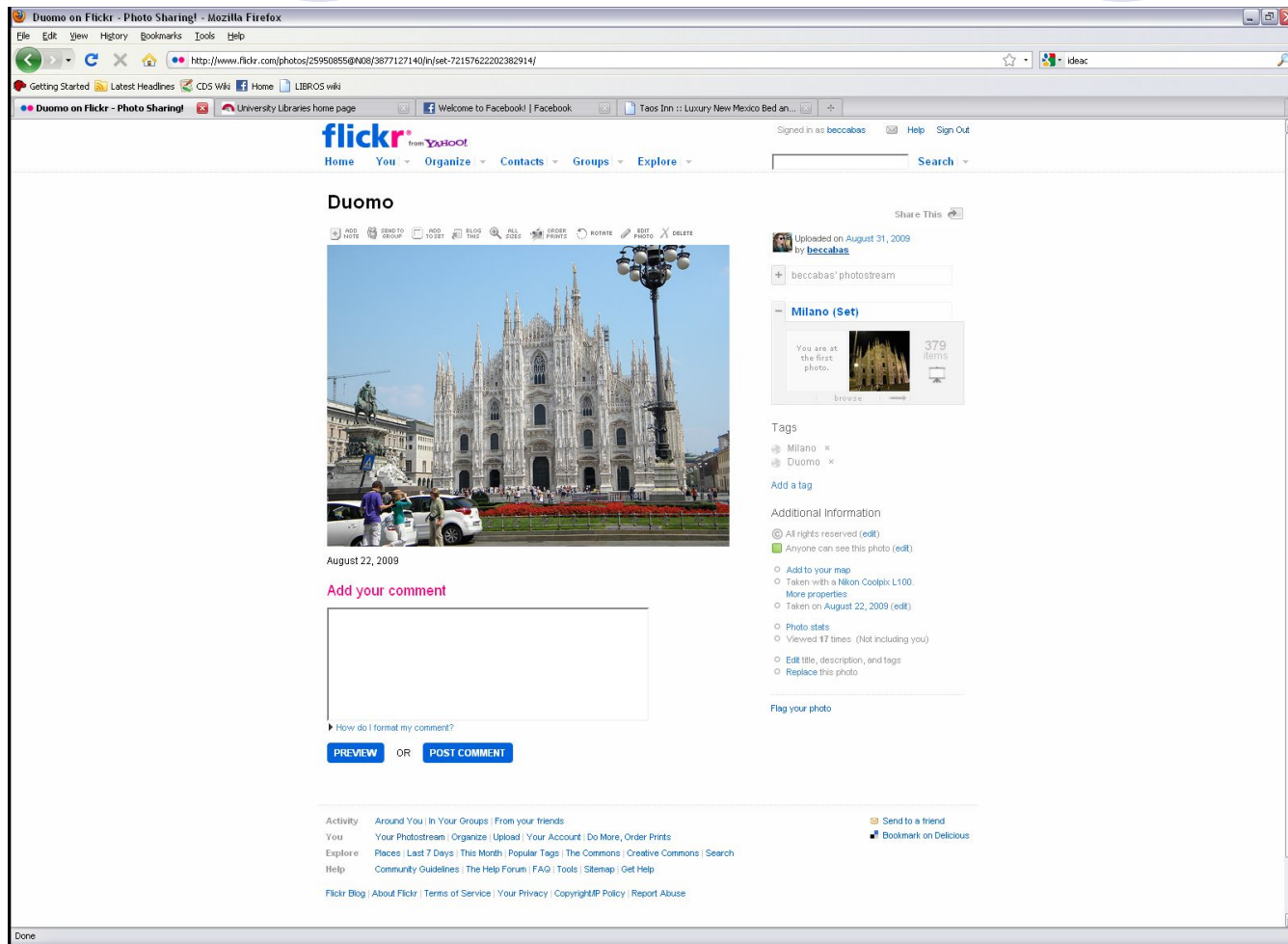
Introductions

- What's your Metadata Experience?

You may have created metadata and not realized it…

Humanities and Social Science Data Need Management, too

- These disciplines rely on data, just as the sciences…
  - Images
  - Audio files
  - Interview transcripts
  - Statistics

Data Curation:

- Retains the interest and usefulness of any data that has a serious purpose to fulfill

Data must:

- Be processable by machines

- Be interoperable across systems and collections

- Retain provenance and complex layers of meaning

Data curation intersects with:

- Description
- Annotation
- Collection/aggregation
- Storage
- Migration

Humanities Data:
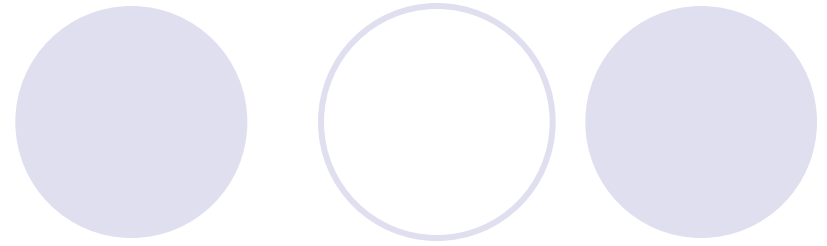
- Could contain (potentially) any data type

  …Boolean, Characters, Enumerations

  Arrays, Records, Containers,

  Lists, Sets, Integers, Queues

  Stacks, Strings, Trees, Graphs…

Special aggregations of humanities data:

- Scholarly editions
- Text corpora
- Text with markup
- Thematic research collections
- Data with analysis or annotation
- Finding aids

Image Metadata

- The Humanities and Social Sciences make use of images to document everything from art to events

- Images require much metadata to maximize research utility

Digital Thematic Research Collections

- Bring resources together for research
- Value-added elements
  - Organization
  - Encoding
  - Annotations

Surveys & Census Data

- Data for the Social Sciences takes the form of survey data, census data, interview transcripts…

- Don't forget the accompanying codebooks!

- Context is key

- Good data curation practices can extend the research utility of the data

Dublin Core

- When in doubt, Dublin Core is flexible, easy to use, and highly harvestable
- Base metadata standard for OAI-PMH (Open Archives Initiative Protocol for Metadata Harvesting)

Metadata schemes

- Text Encoding Initiative (TEI)
- Visual Resources Association (VRA) Core
- Categories for the Description of Works of Art (CDWA)

Metadata Standards in Humanities & Social Sciences

- Encoded Archival Description (EAD)

  EAD was developed to be a nonproprietary encoding standard for machine-readable finding aids such as inventories, registers, indexes, and other documents created by archives, libraries, museums, and manuscript repositories to support the use of their holdings

Metadata Standards in Humanities & Social Sciences

- Data Documentation Initiative (DDI)
  - Focuses on needs of social and behavioral science community
  - Intentionally manage data across its life cycle (concept, collection, process, distribution, discovery, analysis, archiving, repurposing)
  - A mature standard, first developed in 1996

Social Science & Humanities Metadata Projects

Celebrating New Mexico Statehood

Acequia Scene in LAS CRUCES, New Mexico.

PUBL. BY
LAS CRUCES DRUG CO.

Hand. Colored.
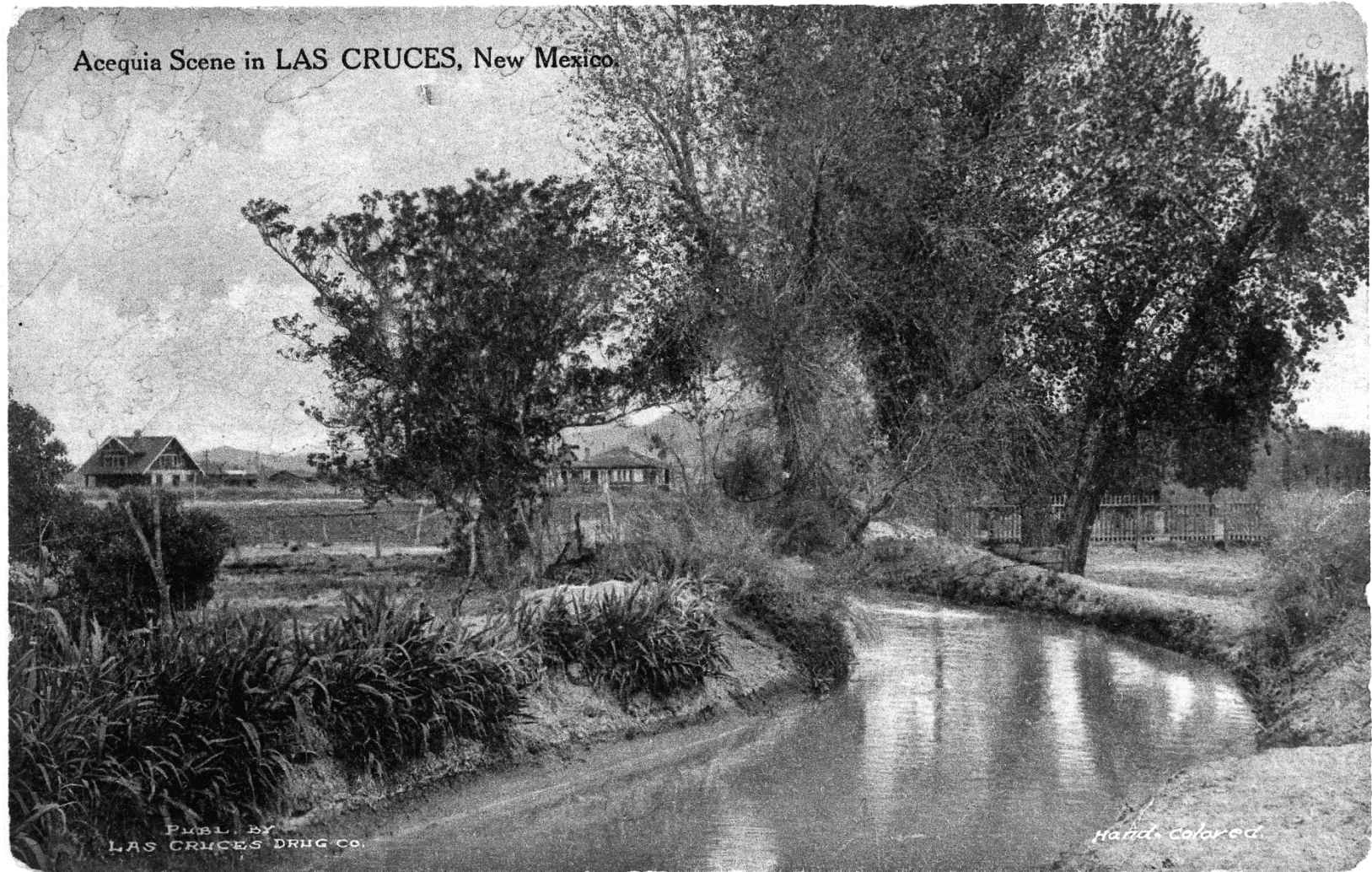
Social Science & Humanities Metadata Projects

Tape #356
NAVAJO
Joe Miller
Interviewer-TERRY LEE CARROLL
December, 1968
Side Two

STORY OF WOMAN AND
MANY BUFFALO, NEE
JAUNT AND SKULL WITH
MICE.

Q. O.K. We got the tape going now, Joe... Do you...

A. Good tape?

Q. Yes, it's a good tape...don't put your... Let me put

Title	Interview with Miller, Joe
Contributors	Carroll, Terry Lee
Subject	Navajo Indians
Description	Subjects: Story of woman and Many Buffalo Nee - Jaunt and skull with mice
Publisher	Center for Southwest Research, University Libraries, University of New Mexico http://elibrary.unm.edu/cswr/index.php
Date Original	1968-12
Language	English
Date Digital	2009-03
Type	Text
Format	text/pdf
Source	MSS 314 BC Tape 356
Relation	Part of American Indian Oral History Collection, 1967-1972. Guide to the collection available at http://rmoa.unm.edu/docviewer.php?docId=nmu1mss314bc.xml
Rights	Rights to the digital resource are held by the University of New Mexico http://www.unm.edu/disclaimer.html
Digitization Specifications	Digitized by Portable Micrographics, Inc. 300ppi TIFFs, converted to PDFs
Identifier	Tape 356B
Transcript	Tape #356 NAVAJO Joe Hiller I:nterviewer-'!'ERRY LEE CARROLL December, 1968 Side Two '., STORY OF WOMAN AND MANY BUFFl\LO, NEE .JAUNT AND SKULL NITH HICE. Q~ O.K. We got the tape going now, Joe ••• Do .you .•• .- : _,.- A. Good tape? Q. Yes, it's a good tape .•• don 't put your .•• Let me put the top on so that you won't get your fingers caught in here .•• Okay, yo~ ready to talk about anything else? Joe, as we're going along and you don't have to tell me ••• you don't have to say just what your father said, if you happen to remember as we're going along, if one story remind you of another you can stop and interrupt me and I'll write a note down about it and then after we're finished with this story we'll go back and talk about any other story you may have remembered, is that okay? How' 's: your wine? A. Good ..• Q. Now, do you remember any stories, do you know any more stories than that, I mean how many stories did you father tell you since the last time I saw you? A. Several. Q. Several stories, I hope they don't ••• this is pretty good place to ,talk, as long as what's his name ••• the guy \.,ho O\Ams this, the ••• guy. ',' A. Saavedra •.• • 2 Q. As l0!1g as he doesn't play the' jukebox, the music box .•. then when I' play this back we won't be able to hear you very well and we think it's very important that we hear you because if we can't hear you then your valuable information will, you know, won't be available for us to hear and we can hear jukeboxes anyday. It's not everyday that ,....e talk to somebody that's knows as much about Indian stories and legends as you do ... A. Yeah •••waitress ••• Spanish, Mexican ••• Q. Spanish, yeah ••• Mexican, you have to Spanish or Mexican here in town. A. Not too good. Q. Do they like you? A. I don't know ..• Q. Do you like Zuni girls? A. No, if they're pretty I do. Q That Zuni girl you were talking to earlier today over in the cafe, did you like her? A. She was too fat ••• too old.~. Q. Too fat? . A. Too old ..• Q. Too old? A. She drinks too much. Q. It's expensive to buy her a drinks. Sometimes it's a .) 3 problem, buyi~g drinks for people. What about those Apache girls? A. Oh, Smith .•. Smitty. Q. Smitty? A. Navajo girl ••• she's Apache come in ••• Q. Wait a minute, when we were over at Smitty's bar you were talking about what those Navajos girls said, Navajo girls said when those Apache old women came in. A. No, Navajos call the Apaches pig. Q. She found Apache pigs, but Navajos generally like Apaches because don't they consider themselves· s related to the Apache but they don't like Zuni? A. No, Navajo men like Zupi women .•.• Q. Meni!ke Zuni women. What does that Nayajo woman, do you know that girl, did you know her, the one that said that about the Apache women that came in, you knew her? A. Yeah, she ••• Q. Don't ••• they don't every Indian I've seen come in this bar look like they drink too much. A. She ••. call Apache pig ••.A1buquerque, 4th Street. Q. 1st Street? A. 4th. Q. Oh, they hang around 1st Street in Albuquerque .•• Does Gallup

Social Science & Humanities Metadata Projects

Title	Interview with Miller, Joe
Contributors	Carroll, Terry Lee
Subject	Navajo Indians
Description	Subjects: Story of woman and Many Buffalo Nee - Jaunt and skull with mice
Publisher	Center for Southwest Research, University Libraries, University of New Mexico http://elibrary.unm.edu/cswr/index.php
Date Original	1968-12
Language	English
Date Digital	2009-03
Type	Text
Format	text/pdf
Source	MSS 314 BC Tape 356
Relation	Part of American Indian Oral History Collection, 1967-1972. Guide to the collection available at http://rmoa.unm.edu/docviewer.php?docId=nmu1mss314bc.xml
Rights	Rights to the digital resource are held by the University of New Mexico http://www.unm.edu/disclaimer.html
Digitization Specifications	Digitized by Portable Micrographics, Inc. 300ppi TIFFs, converted to PDFs
Identifier	Tape 356B
Transcript	Tape #356 NAVAJO Joe Hiller I:nterviewer-'!'ERRY LEE CARROLL December, 1968 Side Two '., STORY OF WOMAN AND MANY BUFFI\LO, NEE .JAUNT AND SKULL NITH HICE. Q~ O.K. We got the tape going now, Joe ••• Do .you .•• .- : _..- A. Good tape? Q. Yes, it's a good tape .•• don 't put your .•• Let me put the top on so that you won't get your fingers caught in here .•• Okay, yo~ ready to talk about anything else? Joe, as we're going along and you don't have to tell me ••• you don't have to say just what your father said, if you happen to remember as we're going along, if one story remind you of another you can stop and interrupt me and I'll write a note down about it and then after we're finished with this story we'll go back and talk about any other story you may have remembered, is that okay? How' 's: your wine? A. Good ..• Q. Now, do you remember any stories, do you know any more stories than that, I mean how many stories did you father tell you since the last time I saw you? A. Several. Q. Several stories, I hope they don't ••• this is pretty good place to ,talk, as long as what's his name ••• the guy \.,ho O\Ams this, the ••• guy. ',' A. Saavedra .• • 2 Q. As l0!1g as he doesn't play the' jukebox, the music box .•. then when I' play this back we won't be able to hear you very well and we think it's very important that we hear you because if we can't hear you then your valuable information will, you know, won't be available for us to hear and we can hear jukeboxes anyday. It's not everyday that ,...e talk to somebody that's knows as much about Indian stories and legends as you do ... A. Yeah •••waitress ••• Spanish, Mexican ••• Q. Spanish, yeah ••• Mexican, you have to Spanish or Mexican here in town. A. Not too good. Q. Do they like you? A. I don't know ..• Q. Do you like Zuni girls? A. No, if they're pretty I do. Q That Zuni girl you were talking to earlier today over in the cafe, did you like her? A. She was too fat ••• too old.~. Q. Too fat? . A. Too old .•• Q. Too old? A. She drinks too much. Q. It's expensive to buy her a drinks. Sometimes it's a .) 3 problem, buyi~g drinks for people. What about those Apache girls? A. Oh, Smith • Smitty. Q. Smitty? A. Navajo girl ••• she's Apache come in ••• Q. Wait a minute, when we were over at Smitty's bar you were talking ...

Relation: Part of American Indian Oral History Collection, 1967-1972. Guide to the collection available at http://rmoa.unm.edu/docviewer.php?docId+nmu1mss314bc.xml

Examples of Social Science & Humanities Metadata Projects

- Rocky Mountain Online Archive
  - Archival collections in Colorado, New Mexico and Wyoming. Specialized guides, called finding aids, give detailed descriptions of primary source materials located at twenty-seven different repositories. Search the finding aids to discover what historical materials are available for study and where those collections are located.

Inventory of the Edmundo Delgado Collection, 1932-1995

A Seat at the Meta Table

- Transcend the idea that data means born-digital
- Approach by thinking of how you work
- Partner with colleagues who work with data (example: librarians!)

Questions & Discussion

- Contact us!
  - rlubas@unm.edu
  - ingschne@nmsu.edu

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