Renate Behrens

Authority data as a link between cultural institutions

Community-driven standardization in cultural institutions
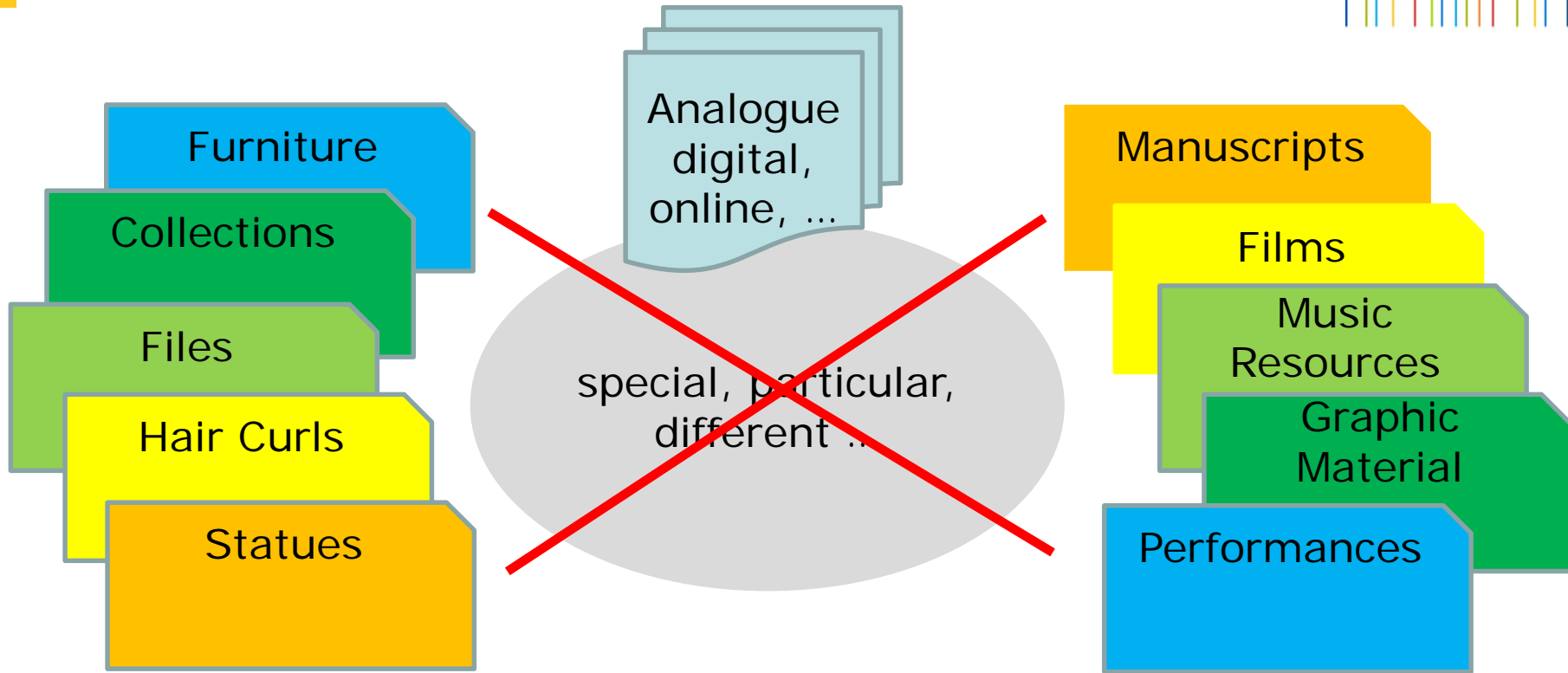
Interdisciplinary Work
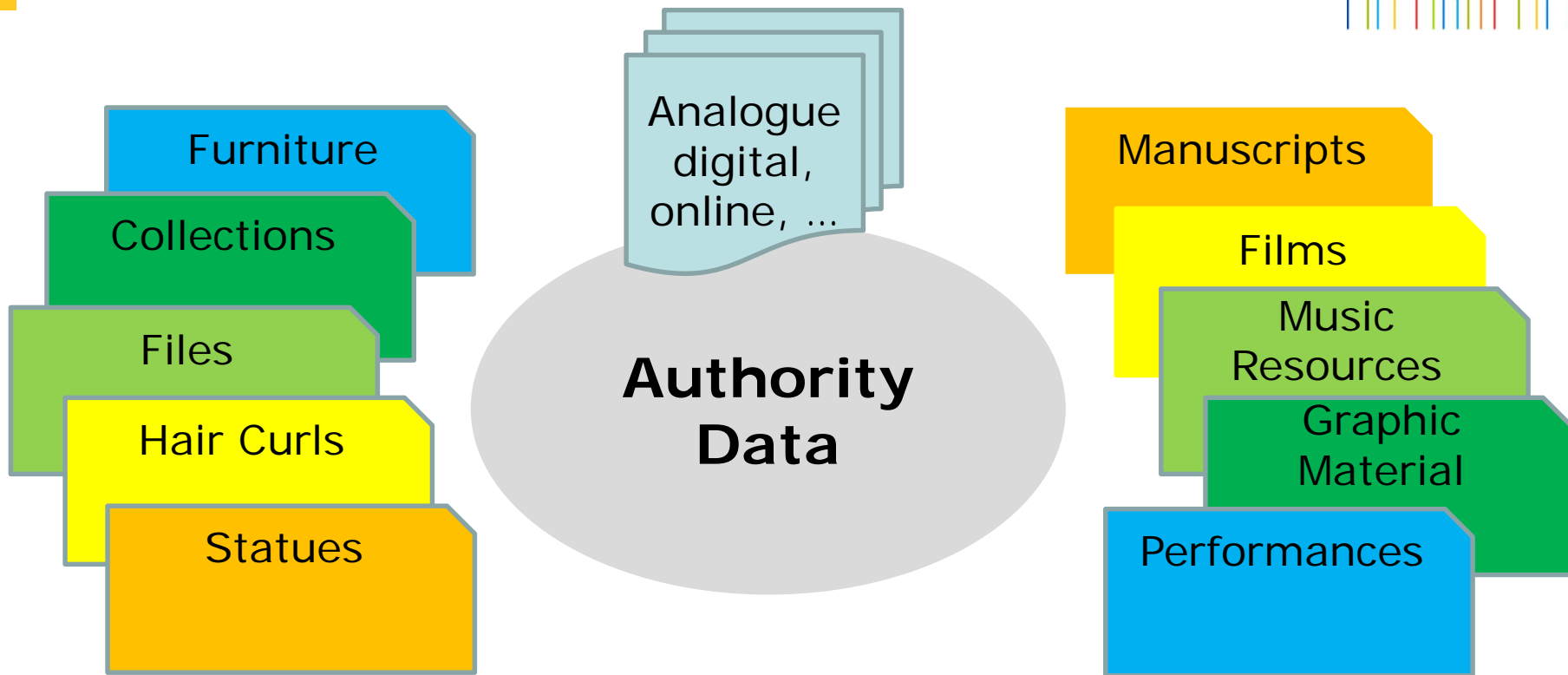
What does interdisciplinary work mean?
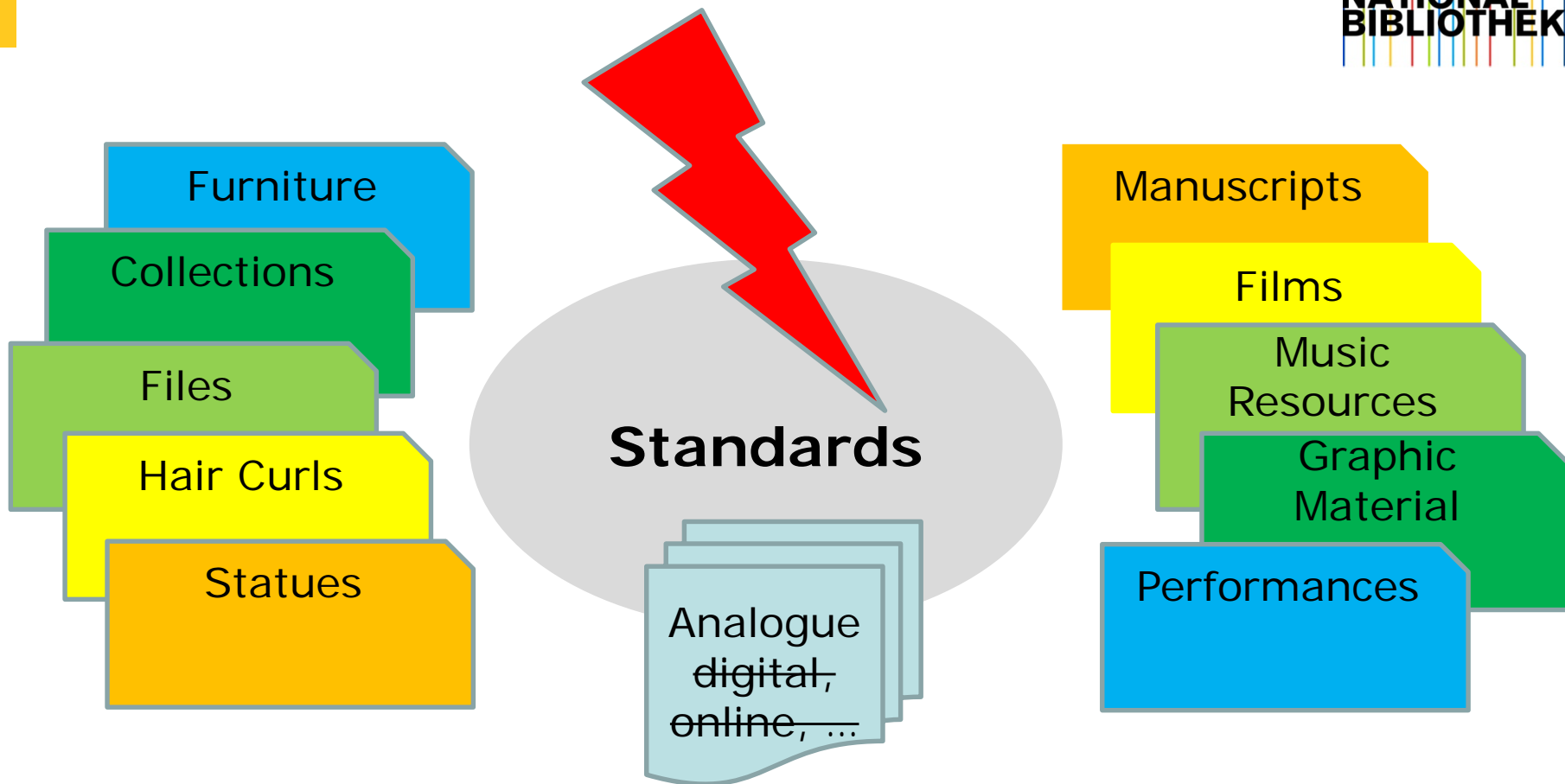
What is the linking tool?

What resources are we talking about here?

What is needed for this and how do we achieve success?

Many questions, not always an answer!

DEUTSCHE
NATIONAL
BIBLIOTHEK

Furniture

Collections

Files

Hair Curls

Statues

Analogue digital, online, …

special, particular, different …

Manuscripts

Films

Music Resources

Graphic Material

Performances

DEUTSCHE
NATIONAL
BIBLIOTHEK

Furniture

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Standards

Analogue ~~digital, online, ...~~

Manuscripts

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Standards – current status

– So far, each community has its own standards.

– First attempts to harmonise them are taking place.

– Nevertheless, thinking is mainly in sections.

Where are we going?

- Cross-disciplinary cooperation

- Identity of the collections should be preserved.

- Data should be interchangeable, at least at the core.

- The focus should be on the users.

What is needed?

– Motivated partners

– Stable organisational structure

– Sufficient resources

– Perseverance, high frustration tolerance and patience

Who are the suitable Partners?

– Experts for many subjects

– Strategic decision makers

– Users

– Experts of social change and development

Just try it!

https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?search=stabhochsprung&title=Special:MediaSearch&go=Go

Working groups for special Resouces in DACH

– Active since 2014

– Currently eight thematic groups

– Staffed by experts from the fields of libraries, archives, museums etc.

– Overarching platform for all working groups

Practical approach

Committee for Library Standards

is in the process of opening up to other cultural institutions

Expert Group on Data formats	Expert Group on Cataloguing	Expert Group on Authority file (GND)	Expert Groups on Special Resources
			Music, Audiovisual Resources, Old Books, Manuscripts, Graphic Material, Art Books, Provenance, Literary Archives

Platform of all Working Groups

What is common to these groups?

– Their material types can be found in many different cultural facilities.

– The existing regulations do not take these types of materials sufficiently into account.

– There are many "home-made" solutions.

– No capacity for complicated indexing models

What separates these groups?

– Integrated in partly very different organizational structures.

– The range of topics is very diverse.

– Very different composition of experts

What role does authority data play?

– Authority data are the lowest common denominator for all working groups.

– Authority data files are established tools with a stable organization.

– Most authority data files have very extensive vocabularies.

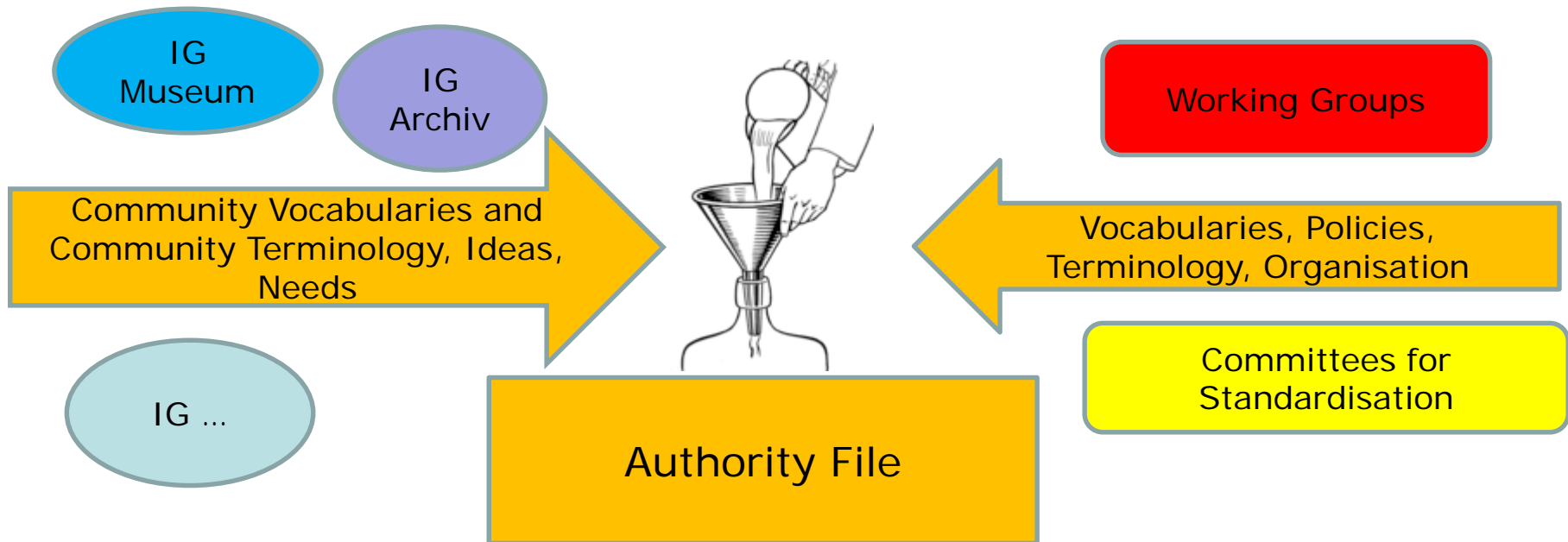– Terminology is approved and reliable.

Integrated Authority File (GND)

– The GND is a library tool developed out of the library community.

– The GND community has been working on opening the standards database for some time.

– The GND will change over the next few years to accommodate the requirements that arise from cross-disciplinary work.

Who is involved in opening the GND?

– The Committee on Standards in DACH as the steering committee of the GND, which has already been expanded to include members from the archives sector.

– The thematic working groups in DACH

– Interest groups (archive, museum, buildings, performing arts)

Vokabularies and Terminology

IG Museum

IG Archiv

IG ...

Community Vocabularies and Community Terminology, Ideas, Needs

Authority File

Working Groups

Vocabularies, Policies, Terminology, Organisation

Committees for Standardisation

https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?search=funnel&title=Special:MediaSearch&go=Go&type=image

What else is needed?

Museums,
Archives,
Libraries etc.

Curious colleagues who are willing to leave their institutional shell and work with colleagues from very different communities.

https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?search=schnecke&title=Special:Media Search&go=Go&type=image

Questions, comments?

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