

Reconsidering Library Standards to Capture the World of Ladino Publishing *Makena Mezistrano*

Description: The Sephardic Studies Digital Collection is emerging as the largest repository of Ladino texts written by Sephardim. While most of the collection is sourced from Seattle community members, they are exploring partnerships with Harvard, the National Library of Israel, and other private collections worldwide to consolidate scattered repositories. Pre-existing metadata for Ladino books is inconsistent for a number of reasons; current bibliographies cannot talk to each other and must be unified. Library standards often do not account for important data pertaining to Ladino books. They work with librarians at the UW to explore creating or modifying the Dublin Core to reflect the world of Ladino publishing, and to document those standards for reuse.

Makena Mezistrano is the Assistant Director of the Sephardic Studies Program at the University of Washington. She has spent the last two years working to unify the Sephardic Studies Digital Collection catalog as the SSP expands its growing collection of Ladino books. Her other duties at the SSP include digital content creation, event coordinating and fundraising. She holds an MA in Jewish studies from Yeshiva University and brings a personal passion to her work as a Sephardic Jew with family roots in Salonica, Greece.