The TEI Consortium’s Special Interest Group on Libraries has recently completed a major revision to the “Best Practices for TEI in Libraries.” The revised Best Practices are stored in ODD files and contain updated versions of the widely adopted encoding levels, which span from fully automated reformatting of print content to deep encoding to support content analysis and scholarly uses. A substantially revised TEI Header section supports greater interoperability between text collections and MARC records. In addition, the Best Practices now include schemas for encoding levels 1-4, derived from the appropriate ODD, providing a mechanism to better ensure conformance and interoperability of digital texts.

The revised section on the TEI header includes more explicit recommendations for transforming headers to and from MARC catalog records and recommends a more rigid structure that should improve interoperability with all types of library metadata. It also provides clearer advice on how to describe the TEI-encoded text versus the source document. TEI header recommendations are applicable to all five encoding levels.