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Web 2.0 and The Opening of WorldCat.org

by Morag Boyd, Member Services Representative, OHIONET

On August 6, 2006, OCLC launched the Web site WorldCat.org (http://www.worldcat.org). This site features a simple search box and offers people the option to download that search box for insertion on any other Web site of their choice. WorldCat.org is an extension of the Open WorldCat program, which shares a small portion of the WorldCat database with Internet search engines. Although the site is quite understated, WorldCat.org represents a major shift in OCLC's focus and reveals evolving attitudes about access to libraries and their resources.

From the OCLC perspective, the opening of WorldCat is evidence of several emergent strategic directions. OCLC has recognized that in order for libraries to remain relevant in Web 2.0, an interactive online world in which users expect to be able to interact and have instant results, they will have to change their approach.

Where once access to the data in WorldCat was tightly controlled by per-search charges and passwords—library staffers could practically hear the cash register each time the entered a search—WorldCat.org makes much of the data available to everyone at no charge to the user.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

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Complete contact information is always available at http://www.olc.org/TechnicalServices.asp.

Another aspect of the Web 2.0 approach is the emphasis on the downloadable WorldCat.org search box. One of the great things about Web 2.0 tools such as blogs, RSS, and social networking software is that a user can have content of interest to them delivered directly to their desktop, rather than having to go to a multitude of different Web sites. In keeping with this approach, OCLC is encouraging people—libraries, corporations, really anyone—to incorporate the WorldCat.org search box into Web sites, blogs, etc. More recently, toolbars to add WorldCat.org to the Google, Yahoo!, and Mozilla Firefox browsers have been launched.

Another feature is the ability to create links into WorldCat.org for specific items using standard numbers. By using simple syntax, people can build links into the "Find in a library" records view. These links are created by adding the standard number to a base. For example, use the base URL http://worldcat.org/isbn/ and add an ISBN following the last backslash, so http://worldcat.org/isbn/083893529X will link to AACR2, 2002 revision. ISSN searches and OCLC numbers can be built in a similar fashion. A geographic limit can be added to these URLs by adding "&loc=" followed by 5-digit postal ZIP code (U.S.), state name or postal abbreviation (U.S.), province name or country name. So, geographically limited OCLC number search for AACR2 in Ohio would look like this http://worldcat.org/oclc/50149682&loc=ohio.

Several other changes were also made with the launch of WorldCat.org, again in response to perceived expectations evolving from the Web 2.0

environment. In FirstSearch, result sets are initially sorted by the number of holding libraries, but in WorldCat.org a relevancy ranking has been applied. The ranking uses a variety of factors, prioritizing the appearance of search terms in title and author words and favoring newer and more widely held items along with a number of other factors. The relevancy ranking is one of the changing aspects for WorldCat.org. The need to place classic works higher in the rankings than their newer derivative works is current OCLC development priority. (A search for "Huckleberry Finn" will illustrate this problem.)

Moreover, a clustering technique that I like to call "FRBR lite" brings together several editions or formats in one set of results. This algorithm is applied in a context-sensitive manner, so that search term and any format limits entered by the user will affect the result set. For example, if the terms entered by the user seem to be an author name, the grouping and ranking will favor authors. Along the left of the results set display, facets are displayed that enable a user to refine their results. By clicking on a pre-defined category, similar to an online store, a user is led to items of interest without have to reformulate a search. Currently, WorldCat.org will highlight up to the six most frequent authors, subject areas (content), format, language, and years, listing how many records are in the facet. By clicking through several facets, the user continues to refine the result set. The ability to start broad and narrow a search is a more intuitive search strategy for many users as WorldCat.org is designed to be a better experience for web users.

Once a user has found an item of interest, they can enter a ZIP code or other geographic information and WorldCat.org will list holdings in

libraries near them. Users can also link directly into a library's catalog, Web page, or online reference services. There are also options to purchase items, including click-through programs that can raise funds for libraries. Taking a cue from the social networking features of Amazon and other online booksellers, registered users can also add reviews or contribute information about the resource.

Another interesting trend seen with WorldCat.org is the similarity in launch to many of the Google tools. When Google initially launches services like its news aggregator and Google Scholar, they are labeled as "beta releases." Taking the beta approach does a couple of things; it sparks interest in trying something out something new, but it also gives the creator more flexibility to tweak the tool on short timelines. Changes are incorporated as they are developed, without the

usual announcements and schedules that accompany changes in most OCLC products. In the case of WorldCat.org, although it was only made public in August, it has already had a number of changes installed. For example, an advanced search interface was added due to user feedback about a month into the process.

On many levels these new directions are great for libraries and for our users, but certainly they are not without controversy. One of the most controversial aspects of the WorldCat.org implementation has been the pricing model. I am sure that most people can understand that the development and programming costs for creating and maintaining a service like this must be covered somehow. For now, an institution must subscribe to WorldCat in FirstSearch in order for their holdings to appear in WorldCat.org. The good news is that OCLC has listened to feedback concerning this and is considering other funding models, such as participation fees.

Ohio's New Regional Library Systems
http://www.rls.lib.oh.us

Last year the State Library of Ohio reorganized the Regional Library Systems in Ohio. The reorganization's goals included reducing the number of systems from seven to four and thereby reducing administrative costs, ensuring membership in a Regional Library System for libraries in every county in the state, and providing for a shared set of services for all libraries. The four Regional Library Systems that resulted do ensure that every library is a member of a Regional System and therefore receives a minimal level of service. And by purchasing a membership in their regional system libraries can enjoy enhanced services and discounts.

For some Ohio libraries the reorganization process created little disruption. For others, the consolidation of the Regional Library Systems resulted in the elimination of their familiar regional structures and professional relationships. Now that the reorganization is complete, a clear pic-

ture of library cooperation in Ohio has emerged.

The Regional Library Systems in Ohio have a long history of providing training for technical services librarians and staff, individually and cooperatively. They have also fostered the development of regional interest groups around technical services issues. Certainly The Regional Library Systems wish to continue doing so, but they can only do so with our help. This is our opportunity.

To determine a library's Regional Library System just check out the map at http://winslo.state.oh.us/publib/rlsrecommendations.html#r1. The Northeast Regional Library System (NEO-RLS), the Northwest Regional Library System (NORWELD), the Southeast Regional Library System (SERLS) or the Southwest Regional Library System (SWON) are eager for our contributions.

The subscription pricing model is another example of a changed philosophical stance at OCLC. They are trying to find additional ways to enhance the value of the services they provide to libraries, and one way this can be done is by bringing users to a library from outside the traditional paths. I recently heard Jay Jordan, President and CEO of OCLC, talking about marketing "the library brand." By this he meant that OCLC is working to provide users with positive information experiences with "the library" but not necessarily any specific library. By creating associations with libraries in general, OCLC and the library community can strengthen and build on their inter-connections, using the historical strengths of libraries in order to meet the information needs of users in a changing environment.

Libraries should be making efforts to maximize their participation in WorldCat.org if they would like to be taken along into Web 2.0 by OCLC. For libraries to get the most benefit from WorldCat.org, there are two crucial steps. Firstly, the library must contribute their holdings to WorldCat and contribute and upgrade cataloging. If a library's holdings are not in WorldCat, there is no possibility that users can discover those resources through WorldCat.org. There are a number of other great reasons to do this, including the benefits for cataloging and interlibrary loan. For new OCLC libraries or libraries that have not maintained their holdings, OCLC offers batch loading services, often at no charge, to bring holdings up to date (http://www.oclc.org/batchprocessing/). As many users and other libraries look to WorldCat to locate items and the libraries that hold them, the value of showing your holdings increases.

Because ranking and clustering are driven by the contents of the MARC record, it remains crucial for catalogers to provide the fullest and most accurate cataloging possible. Libraries can contribute new records and upgrade records, not only for the benefit to other catalogers, but to the increasing number of users—and earn your library credits. All libraries with full authorizations can upgrade some

aspects of records, but the enhance status program enables screened libraries to upgrade many more records in WorldCat. Information on the Enhance program is available on the OCLC Web page (http://www.oclc.org/support/documentation/worldcat/)

Secondly, libraries should make sure that they have set up deep linking into their library catalogs. From the WorldCat Services Administrative Module, the FirstSearch administrator at a library can set up the syntax for linking into their catalog. From WorldCat.org and FirstSearch, linking to the library's catalog will then deliver the user to the specific record, if possible, greatly improving the visibility of the library and the user experience with actually finding the needed information resources. You library can also access usage statistics to see how many people are linking into your library from WorldCat.org.

Any library that has questions about WorldCat.org or how they can participate fully can contact OHIONET at 800-686-8975 or mailto:memserv@ohionet.org. OHIONET can assist you with WorldCat in FirstSearch subscriptions, batch loading projects, applying for enhance status, deep-linking and other OCLC products and services.

All of these new directions indicate that OCLC is serious about moving their products and services—and libraries—into an increasingly user driven environment. I am encouraged that OCLC is trying out new approaches, and of course libraries want to be where their users are and meet their information needs. WorldCat.org steps us all in these new directions, together.

For Further Reading:

Stephens, Michael. (2006, July/August). "Web 2.0 & Libraries: Best Practices for Social Software." *Library Technology Reports, 42* (4).

"WorldCat.org offers search access to libraries' collections" (2006, Aug. 8). Retrieved October 11, 2006 , from http://www.oclc.org/news/releases/200632.htm

Herbert Snyder. *Small Change, Big Problems: Detecting and Preventing Financial Misconduct in Your Library*. Chicago, Illinois: American Library Association, 2006. 149 p. ISBN 978-0-8389-0921-8, 0-8389-0921-3. $40.00 [ALA members $36.00]
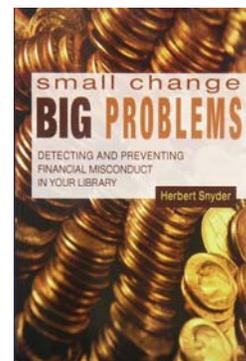
Fraud and theft in a library? Those of us who work in acquisitions units are well aware of how much library money and inventory flow through our areas, and therefore how much opportunity there is for financial misconduct. Now Herbert Snyder has written a book that may make this more apparent to the rest of us.

Small Change, Big Problems is a slim little guidebook for preventing financial misconduct in the library. It doesn't read like an accounting textbook or a financial management handbook. It also doesn't lay down a stack of unreasonable policies and practices for everyone to follow. What it does do is provide informed and practical advice on how libraries can protect themselves from fraud and theft through a variety of internal controls, how to recognize and uncover financial misconduct, and what to do when it happens.

Dr. Snyder is a certified Fraud Examiner and an Associate Professor of Accounting at North Dakota State University. He was the author of the *Small Change* column in *Library Administration and Man-*

agement, and writes articles for professional library publications on library finance, financial management, accounting and financial misconduct.

In *Small Change, Big Problems,* Snyder describes common schemes for skimming cash and routing payments as well as methods for recognizing fraudulent practices throughout the library. Simple and obvious tactics such as authorizing and confirming purchases, enumerating payment paperwork to prevent misuse and stamping invoices as paid are discussed. But Snyder also discusses how to implement the mental changes needed to truly protect the library. The underlying theme is that fraud and theft prevention are the library's responsibility from top to bottom, and that the library can only be protected if everyone from the board on down is awake to this responsibility. Systemic changes must often take place to prevent financial misconduct in the library, and Snyder goes a long way toward advising on how to accomplish this in both a practical and a theoretical sense.

Posters Available: Cataloging Web Sites & Cataloging Continuing Resources – Serials

Recent changes in the cataloging of Web sites and serials have precipitated updates to two of the most popular OLC TS Division cataloging posters. The updates are now complete and division members can download copies by visiting http://www.olc.org/TechnicalServices.asp and scrolling down to the *Resources* heading. The cataloging posters project was initiated to provide division members with assistance when cataloging unfamiliar formats. A sample MARC record is provided on each poster augmented by notes, tips, and guidance. Enjoy!

Digiblog: The ALCTS Web Log
http://blogs.ala.org/digiblog.php

Digiblog, the first Web log from ALCTS, is intended as a forum for debating the future of library collections and technical services. It was created in conjunction with the *Definitely Digital* ALCTS Midwinter Symposium, in hopes that the conversation will continue online. Digiblog was created thanks to the efforts of Christine Taylor (ALCTS), Pamela Bluh (University of Maryland) and Cindy Hepfer (University of Buffalo, SUNY). They have seeded the site with a series of controversial statements to inspire reactions, and attract users to the new site. Digiblog is freely available. Check it out!
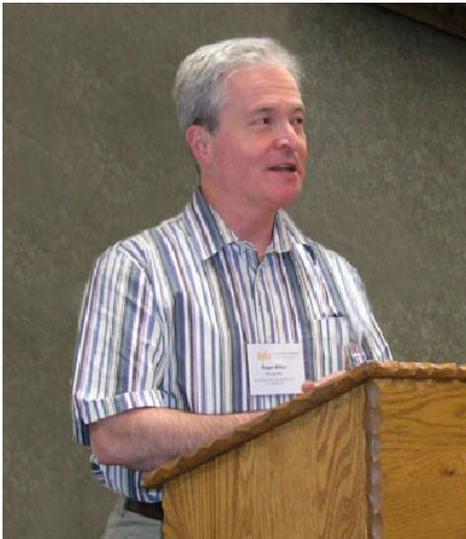
Year-End Perspectives: 2006 Accomplishments and Plans for 2007

by Roger M. Miller
Coordinator, Technical Services Division; Cataloging Services Department Manager, Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County

The Ohio Library Council had another highly successful year and the accomplishments of the OLC Technical Services Division were an integral part of this success. The division offered a variety of continuing education opportunities this year. A different approach was used for this year's chapter conferences. In order to avoid diluting attendance at the Mohican retreat in April, the Division offered programming on technical services topics geared to a non-technical services audience at the 2006 chapter conferences. Topics covered were "Book Damage Prevention and Repair for Everyone Else" (C, NE, SE, NW), "Cataloging Basics 101: Cataloging Videos and DVDs" (NE), "Dewey for the Rest of Us" (NE, SE, SW), and "MARC for Everyone Else" (C, N, NE, SE, SW).

The key event for us this past year was "Technical Services 2006: Charting a Course," a retreat held April 25-26 at the Mohican State Park Resort and Conference Center. The retreat featured Sheila S. Intner, Professor Emerita, Simmons Graduate School of Library and Information Science, who offered insightful remarks at the opening and closing of the two-day event. Other speakers from around the country provided wonderful programs on a variety of timely issues, including standards organizations, RDA, FRBR, the OCLC 2003 Environmental scan, non-MARC metadata, controlled vocabulary vs. keyword indexing, and the future of technical services. The retreat attracted 98 attendees from different types of libraries and from several states outside of Ohio, as well as many from within the Buckeye state.

In September, the Division hosted a table at OLC Connects at the 2006 Expo, held Sept. 15 at the Lausche building on the Ohio State Fairgrounds in Columbus. Our popular MARC record posters were displayed & handed out to Expo attendees.

Our Division's quarterly newsletter *TechKNOW* continued to be a popular service and source of information to technical services librarians throughout the state and elsewhere. Under the extraordinary editorship of Margaret Maurer, *TechKNOW* features articles and book reviews on a variety of topics of current interest to technical services staff. In addition to publication on the OLC Web site, TechKNOW is also available on a mirror site hosted by Kent State University at http://www.library.kent.edu/techknow. In 2006 the mirror site averaged approximately 1,800 hits per issue.

The Division continued its use of the OLC Web site during 2006. In addition to promoting the Mohican retreat, we published "how-to" posters showing typical MARC bibliographic records for certain types of materials; two of these posters were revised in 2006. Additionally, we used broadcast e-mails to publicize events, posters, etc. to the division membership.

Looking ahead to 2007, the Division's Action Council met in July to plan programming for chapter conferences and in October to plan for the 2007 Convention & Exposition. There are as many as 10 programs currently being developed for consideration of the Convention's Program Committee, and we look forward to being a part of this great event next year.

In spite of the fact that the Division offered 6 quality programs for inclusion in the 2007 chapter

conferences, our continuing education offerings at the chapter conferences will be fewer in number than had been hoped. At best, chapter conference attendees in 2007 will have only two technical services programs to attend, and at worst there are no technical service programs offered at all. The Division leadership has begun a discussion about how it might best provide continuing education opportunities to the membership outside of or in addition to the chapter conference venues. We expect this conversation to continue into 2007 and we are hopeful that a new vision might be achieved.

In closing, I would like to take this opportunity to once again thank the professional staff of the Ohio Library Council for all their support during the past year. I would also like to express my gratitude to the officers and Action Council members of the Technical Services division, especially Dan Liebtag, Kathy Hughes, and Maxine Sherman, whose terms of office expire at the end of this month. On behalf of the Technical Services Division, thank you very much for the energy, time, and talent you have given to us over the past 2-3 years. Best wishes to all members of the Technical Services Division for a happy and prosperous 2007!

The DEWEYERROR List

Since October 2004 catalogers have benefited from the existence of the DEWEYERROR list, an announcement list intended to distribute information about suspected errors in Dewey Decimal Classification (DDC) numbers. Current distribution patterns for MARC records allow for the distribution of bibliographic records prior to the discovery of suspected errors in DDC numbers. Once suspected errors are discovered, libraries are always free to query the Library of Congress (LC) by sending a message to mailto:dewey@loc.gov with information about the error. When LC edits a bibliographic record, the record is redistributed to all of the receiving agencies, and the earlier version is replaced. This process takes care of the error at the agency, but it is often too late for the local libraries, who have already added the title to their collections, perhaps without verifying the DDC number's correctness. Unless, that is, someone tells them about the suspected errors, and that is where the DEWEYERROR list comes in. Each time a list subscriber writes to LC concerning a suspected DDC error they also have the option of sending a copy of the email to the DEWEYERROR list.

For the past two years, the OLC TS division has sponsored the list. At a recent meeting, Ian Fairclough, the principal list owner, introduced a motion to terminate this relationship and the motion passed. It was the division's opinion that continued sponsorship is not necessary, and that the list can continue to operate as before, through the co-ownership of Ian Fairclough, Margaret Maurer and

Sevim McCutcheon at the Kent State University site.

DEWEYERROR subscribers will continue to send and receive messages as before; there will be no changes. To subscribe to DEWEYERROR, send an email to mailto:listserv@listserv.kent.edu that contains "SUBSCRIBE DEWEYERROR" plus your name. After responding to a confirmation request, the subscriber will be automatically added and will start to receive error reports. For further information about the DEWEYERROR list, please write to mailto:DEWEYERROR-request@listserv.kent.edu. The DEWEYERROR archives are located at http://listserv.kent.edu/archives/deweyerror.html.

Roll-Your-Own-Catalog-Card
http://www.blyberg.net/card-generator

Have a little fun today! Visit the Card Generator and create your own library catalog card art. The Card Generator is the creation of John Blyberg, Systems Administrator and Lead Developer at the Ann Arbor District Library. To read more about the Card Generator visit http://www.blyberg.net/2006/09/06/roll-your-own-catalog-card. You can also make your own cards and contribute them to the flickr pool at http://www.flickr.com/groups/catalogcards. Enjoy!
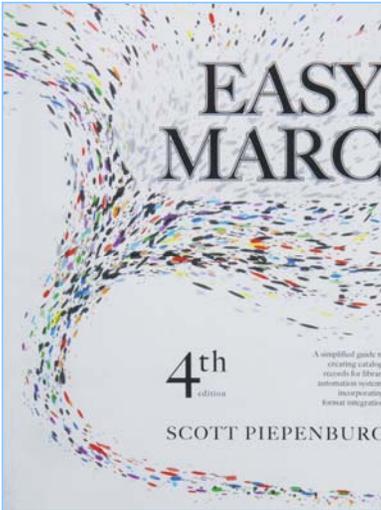
Scott Piepenburg. *Easy MARC: A Simplified Guide to Creating Catalog Records for Library Automation Systems, 4*th* ed.* San Jose: California: F & W Associates, Inc., 2002. 224 p. ISBN 0-9652126-2-9. $30.00.

True to its title, *Easy MARC* provides catalogers with a gentle, easy-to-use introduction to the MARC21 format. It is geared toward inexperienced catalogers and catalogers in small libraries and has also been recommended as a quick reference guide for library school students.

Piepenburg is an experienced cataloger and a frequent workshop presenter and writer on cataloging practices. This is the 4th edition of *Easy MARC*, which the author describes as evolutionary rather than revolutionary.

The book opens with a brief introduction that provides good advice regarding the use and evaluation of copy cataloging records. The bulk of the book is organized in MARC field order, laid out in tabular form, which facilitates its usefulness. For each tag Piepenburg provides a good description of the significance and purpose of the tags, indicators and codes. There are also notes, examples, and direct references to authoritative sources of additional information. Most fields and tags are included, not just the most-used ones, and therefore, for beginners, this book can also serve as a bridge to more complicated documentation. The notes sections include useful advice and information on how records interact with most automation systems and how this can impact cataloging decisions. For example, there is a very good explanation of when to make, and when not to make, 246 fields. There are sample records in the back as well as a brief index.

Easy MARC is based on MARC21 and therefore may not be as useful for OCLC catalogers. Most library automation systems are MARC21 environments, as are the many other sources of bibliographic records. Catalogers that principally catalog from within their automation systems will certainly be able to make use of this text.

The chief problem for *Easy MARC* is that it is somewhat dated, being current only through the 2001 amendments to AACR2R. But since the 2002 Amendments to AACR2R focused principally on continuing resources (serials and integrating resources) and map cataloging, the bulk of the book is still current, particularly for libraries that don't catalog many serials or maps. *Easy MARC* also does not attempt to teach AACR2 cataloging, and while it does provide information and examples on the cataloging of non-book materials, don't expect it to do so in any great detail.

Easy MARC is inexpensive, easy-to-use and authoritative. Despite these issues, it still has a place as a reference tool for smaller libraries.

Typo Of The Day Blog
http://typooftheday.blogspot.com

Here's a really fun way to remove highly probable typographical errors from the catalog. The Typo of the Day Blog delivers an error per day via RSS. Simply search the catalog for the typographical error to resolve problems. Gradually the catalogs, and therefore our shared databases, become cleaner and easier to search.

This blog was created by Terry Ballard and Phalbe Henriksen, the folks responsible for creating the Typographical Errors in Library Databases Web sites as well as the LIBTYPOS-L distribution list. Lately the terms on the list have followed a holiday theme including such misspelled words as "gohst", "Stehpen" and "Christma". Check it out!

The Program for Cooperative Cataloging's Mysterious Alphabet Soup: PCC, BIBCO, NACO, SACO, CONSER and SCCTP Unveiled

By Margaret Beecher Maurer, Head, Catalog and Metadata, Kent State University Libraries and Media Services

Last issue's article on NACO experiences at the Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County was both informative and encouraging for those of us who are interested in participating in cooperative cataloging programs. But in order to make decisions about participation, libraries need information about the purpose of the programs, their benefits and requirements and their relationships to each other. To the novice the Program for Cooperative Cataloging (PCC) and its programs can seem complex and confusing. These are broad-based, cooperatively managed programs that are referred to by an array of unfamiliar acronyms. Let's see if the following unveils at least some of the mystery in these important programs.

PCC—The Program for Cooperative Cataloging
http://www.loc.gov/catdir/pcc/

The Program for Cooperative Cataloging (PCC) aims to expand access to library collections by providing useful, timely and cost-effective cataloging that meets mutually-acceptable standards. According to the PCC 2005 Mission Statement, "The Program assists with the promulgation of standards, develops education and training opportunities for catalogers, and influences the development of cataloging and resource discovery tools in its support of record creation activity." Governance of the PCC is democratic and representative. The training program, while administered by the Library of Congress (LC), is decentralized.

The PCC replaced the National Coordinated Cataloging Program (NCCP). Begun as a cooperative program among eight university libraries and LC, NCCP ended in November 1992. The Cooperative Cataloging Council continued the work, eventually evolving into the PCC in 1994.

PCC member libraries benefit by receiving training and review to independent skill levels by experienced PCC trainers on a cost recovery basis. They lower their local cataloging costs by helping to increase the number of bibliographic and authority records available for use. This further reduces the need for original record creation at the local level for materials that are broadly available, thereby freeing the catalogers to focus their work on the creation of access to materials that are unique to their institutions. Members pay only travel and printing expenses, and receive access to cataloging documentation.

Trained and independent members of the PCC contribute new bibliographic and/or authority records to national databases, and edit or enhance records in national databases. Based on their training and experience, they are encouraged to be self-reliant without looking to LC for the final word.

Libraries join the PCC by joining the Name Authority Program Component (NACO), the Monographic Bibliographic Record Program of the PCC (BIBCO), the Subject Authority Cooperative Program (SACO), and/or the Cooperative Online Serials Program (CONSER).

It is important to note that PCC is an institutional commitment rather than a commitment by an individual librarian. This assures a return on the initial training investment by the PCC because the trainers know that the individuals will be supported in their endeavors by their institutions. It also assures a continuity of participation in PCC by an institution long after an individual cataloger has moved on. The library is not contractually bound to continue to participate in any PCC program, but minimum record contribution standards and quality standards do exist in order to maintain membership. To facilitate NACO participation, the library must also belong to a bibliographic utility, usually OCLC or RLG.

The PCC also develops training workshops in partnership with other organizations to increase cataloging skills among all catalogers, whether or not they are PCC members, and without the expectation that all will send new and changed records to the PCC databases. For example, the PCC developed the Catalogers' Learning Workshop (CLW) courses jointly with ALA's Association for Library Collections & Technical Services (ALCTS). Think of two concentric circles, with the PCC program training as the inner circle and the generic cataloging training courses in the outer circle.

NACO—The Name Authority Program Component of the PCC
http://www.loc.gov/catdir/pcc/naco/naco.html

NACO participants contribute or modify authority records for names, uniform titles and series at the Library of Congress/NACO Authority File (LC/NAF, or NAF), a database built by many, but maintained at the Library of Congress. They follow a common set of standards and guidelines so that they can contribute to the development of a common database that is consistent and predictable, thereby reducing the efforts by other catalogers.

The institution may commit to become a NACO library, but it is the individual cataloger that attends a week of specialized NACO training, and it is the individual that is authorized to modify or contribute records. This training can take place at LC or at a library. There is no charge for NACO training beyond travel expenses for the trainees and/or the trainer. Once trained, the cataloger's work is under review until they achieve independence.

Catalogers may also collectively contribute records to the LC/NAF through participation in a funnel project. This is a group of libraries that collectively contribute records to the NAF. NACO funnels may be based on similarities in terms of type of library, subjects or geographic proximity. Typically each funnel project has a lead cataloger (Funnel Coordinator) who administers the funnel and reviews work.

BIBCO—Monographic Bibliographic Record Program of the PCC
http://www.loc.gov/catdir/pcc/bibco/bibco.html

BIBCO members contribute full or core level bibliographic records to OCLC's WorldCat or to RLG, where they serve as copy for the larger cataloging community, even beyond the bounds of the PCC. According to the BIBCO FAQ, core level records are identified as PCC records and notable for their complete authority work (both descriptive and subject), a national level call number (such as a DDC number) and at least one subject access point drawn from nationally recognized thesauri such as LCSH, MeSH, etc., as appropriate.

New Home for AUTOCAT at Syracuse University

AUTOCAT, the library cataloging and authorities electronic discussion list, is moving from its long-time home at the University of Buffalo (SUNY) to a new home at Syracuse University.

The new listowners will also be taking over responsibility for AUTOCAT. Judith Hopkins announced in December that Sarah Theimer, Principal Cataloger and Assistant Dept. Head in the Cataloging Department of Syracuse University's main library will be Syracuse's official representative in the collective ownership. She will be ably assisted by Daniel CannCasciato, Head of Cataloging, Central Washington University, Marc Truitt, Associate Director, Information Technology Resources and Services, University of Alberta Libraries, and Judith Hopkins, who describes her new role as the "quiet listowner in the background."

Many thanks go out to Judith and to Douglas Winship, who have served us for so long as co-moderators of the AUTOCAT list. More details on the timeline for the transfer for the list and its archives will be announced shortly.

Active, independent NACO members of the PCC may join BIBCO. Additionally, OCLC institutions must have an OCLC National Level Enhance authorization. New participants attend a 2-3 day training class taught by a BIBCO trainer. There is no charge for BIBCO training beyond travel expenses for the trainees and/or the trainer. The training may be held at LC or at a library. BIBCO catalogers undergo a review period much as NACO catalogers do prior to achieving independence. BIBCO training materials are generic, but may be customized by a trainer to meet the needs of staff contributing records in a variety of formats.

BIBCO catalogers are not required to assign Library of Congress Classification Numbers (LCC).

databases and data-places

i pass by country-road barns
thinking about libraries,
daydreaming of data,
in layers, rising in the silos.
my car bump-bumpeting,
my mind and gravel spinning-
leaving clouds of dust
trailing behind on rural roads
while i contemplate
storehouses of information,
places of cultivation.
librarian farmers plant
their crops for consumption,
stacks of calculated words
that feed hungry minds
or rows of varied colors
on spines, facing out
crying, "pick me, pick me."
what harvest may come
but one that yields
satisfaction and
statistics, (smiles).
for data grows
data and we are fed,
watching our silos multiply.

by Jennifer Bull

PCC

The Core record standard calls for the assignment of an LCC number or a classification number from "an established classification system supported by the MARC21 format," such as the Dewey Decimal Classification (DDC) system. They are required to assign at least one subject heading from a "recognized thesaurus" such as the Library of Congress Subject Headings (LCSH). BIBCO catalogers are required to contribute at least 100 records per year, either full-level or core-level.

SACO—Subject Authority Cooperative Program of the PCC
http://www.loc.gov/catdir/pcc/saco/saco.html

This program was established to provide a way for libraries to submit new and changed subject headings to the LCSH, and new and changed classification numbers to the LCC schedules. Whether coming from LC staff, SACO libraries, or other libraries, all proposals receive editorial attention from LC's cataloging policy specialists. Only proposals from LC and SACO partners are considered pre-approved and immediately available for use after being assigned to an editorial list.

Any institution that participates in the other PCC programs may submit a SACO membership application. Participating institutions are asked to commit to contributing 10-12 proposals per year. Institutions can choose to participate independently or to join or to create a SACO funnel project.

LC, the PCC and ALCTS offer various types of SACO workshops periodically. The PCC strongly encourages all participants to take advantage of training opportunities, but does not mandate instruction for SACO as it does for other PCC components. The PCC SACO workshops offered periodically at ALA, and subject and classification courses offered by other training organizations, are excellent preparation to submit subject and classification proposals. The only cost for proposal submissions is the cost of the time and resources expended in the creation of the proposal. The SACO program has also developed a group of SACO mentors to assist with record submission.

CONSER—Cooperative Online Serials
http://www.loc.gov/acq/conser/

CONSER is the cooperative program that serves as a source of high quality bibliographic records for serials and other continuing resources. CONSER dates back to the early 1970s as a project to convert serial cataloging records into the MARC format. In 1997 CONSER became a component of the PCC program.

Records created and maintained by CONSER catalogers are available in OCLC, host of the CONSER database. CONSER records are also distributed to subscribers of the MARC Distribution Service serials file (MDS-Serials). Subscribers to the MDS-Serials file include companies that maintain knowledge bases for integrated library systems, electronic resource management systems, publication access management systems and other services.

CONSER members, OCLC members, and resource management services, benefit through the shared availability of high quality CONSER certified bibliographic records for serials. CONSER catalogers are able to modify or enhance records in the CONSER database and these modifications are passed on to database subscribers. CONSER members have unique opportunities for training by national authorities, and for participation in the development of policies, practices, and rule making related to bibliographic control of continuing resources.

To qualify for participation in CONSER requires NACO participation and a willingness to contribute cataloging routinely to the OCLC database. New member institutions must have already demonstrated good continuing resources cataloging ability in order to have passed the application process. Any needed training is provided and the catalogers then pass through a review period. The eventual goal, of course, is CONSER independence. According to the CONSER Web site, "The specific purpose of CONSER training and review for new members is to assure that they become not just good serials catalogers, but good CONSER catalogers." CONSER's commitment to training is so extensive that it has led to the development of The Serial Cataloging Cooperative Training Program (SCCTP).

SCCTP—The Serial Cataloging Cooperative Training Program
http://www.loc.gov/acq/conser/scctp/home.html

SCCTP was created to provide the training needed to "...increase the pool of knowledgeable serials and integrating resource catalogers and raise the quality of cataloging records contributed to shared databases." SCCTP provides high-quality standardized training materials and trainers for continuing resources cataloging and record-keeping.

SCCTP relies on library organizations and institutions to sponsor the workshops. CONSER coordinates SCCTP, offering training modules and workshops through LC's Cataloging Distribution Service.

In 2005 SCCTP joined other cooperative training initiatives under the umbrella of the Cataloger's Learning Workshop (CLW) http://www.loc.gov/catworkshop/. CLW is a clearinghouse portal for cataloging and other metadata training resources for information workers. The CLW editorial board provides editorial oversight of material produced by the participating programs: SCCTP, Cooperative Cataloging Training (a joint PCC ALCTS initiative), and Cataloging for the 21st Century. CLW is developing guidelines to provide more consistency in training materials created and distributed by component programs and hopes to enhance communication among course developers, revisers, CDS as distributor, and instructors.

Application forms for participation in all of these programs are available on the individual PCC Web sites.

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