

Catalogers Group
Minutes
November 13, 2003

Present: Sharon Benamou, Beth Feinberg, Cheri Folkner, Claudia Horning, Sara Layne, Joan LoPear, Janice Matthiesen, Luiz Mendes, Caroline Miller, Jeff Morehead, Nancy Norris, Hao Phan, Louise Ratliff, John Riemer (recorder), Barbara Rudich, Rita Stumps

I. Conference report (Caroline)

ASIS&T Conference
“Humanizing Information Technology: From Ideas to Bits and Back”
October 19-22, 2003, Long Beach, CA

Complete papers from a number of the sessions are available in printed proceedings that Caroline can loan to those interested.

Monday, Oct. 20th

Management and Information Studies: Exploring the Connections

4 speakers – 1 business professor and 3 LIS professors: Dr. Bill Edgar, Dr. Julie Hersberger, Anu MacIntosh-Murray (Ph.D. candidate), Dr. Maureen Mackenzie

The main topic was libraries as a business management model. From abstract: The study of organizational management has been divided into four levels of study. These include individual-level issues, such as perception; group-level issues, such as teams; organizational-level issues, such as culture and structure; and environmental-organizational level issues, such as organizational ecology and strategy.

Caroline planned on attending the session entitled **“Who Will Teach the Next Generation of Information Professionals,”** which was to be moderated by Virginia Walter of UCLA, but it was cancelled.

Tuesday, Oct. 21st

Sharing and Accessing Internet Resources Across Barriers of Nation, Language and Collection

From abstract: While the Internet provides great opportunities for sharing and accessing information resources globally, there are still many barriers to overcome. Liwen Vaughan and Mike Thelwall presented their study on national bias of information resources coverage as reflected in commercial search engines. In the area of cross-language information retrieval, although many search engines have the capability to retrieve information in Chinese using English queries, there has not been research on evaluation of the search capabilities and retrieval performances of such search engines. Shaoyi He presented on such evaluations. Gregory M. Shreve and Marcia Zeng

presented on use of parallel metadata to provide multilingual/multicultural access to a collection in the National Science Digital Library.

The Library as a Learning Organization and the Climate for Updating in a Period of Rapidly Changing Technologies

Ethel Auster, Donna C. Chan

From abstract: Rapidly changing technologies in libraries require continuous learning on the part of staff, particularly librarians, to keep up to date. This paper examined some of the factors affecting the participation of librarians in professional development activities. If libraries are truly determined to become learning organizations, they must first examine their own culture of learning and climate for updating.

NISO Annual Business Meeting

The next NISO Annual Meeting will be Jan. 11 from 4-6 at ALA Midwinter in San Diego.

Standards Development Committee (SDC) – oversees NISO's standards work; monitors trends. Goal – to become more pro-active by monitoring trends.

Standards being revised:

Z39.18 – Scientific and Technical Reports

Z39.19 – Thesaurus Construction and Management

Z39.29 – Bibliographic reference – including how to manage bibliographic citations for digital material.

New standards emerging:

Standards Committee AZ: Networked Reference Services. Exchange of questions and answers to different digital reference systems.

http://www.niso.org/committees/committee_az.html

Serials Information Exchange – joint working partnership with Editeur, to use ONIX standard for exchanging information about serial subscriptions.

<http://www.niso.org/news/releases/pr-EDItEUR.html>

Standards Committee AX: The OpenURL Framework for Context-Sensitive Services – balloting in November 2003. http://www.niso.org/committees/committee_ax.html

Open URL identifiers – need for registering classes of identifiers.

Standards Identification Metasearch – integrated access to multiple resources. NISO offered to take a leadership role in standards that can facilitate federated searching.

There was a NISO Metasearch Strategy Workshop in Denver, May 2003
<http://www.niso.org/committees/MS-workshop.html>

Key issues are:

Access management

Statistics

Searching options

Metasearch Identification

Resource Description

Results Set Management

“SRW/SRU” signifies Search & Retrieve on the Web/Search & Retrieve with URLs,

New NISO registration process

Lighter weight process – any member can ask to register an item/procedure → SDC reviews → goes to ballot → registered with 15% of membership stating interest.

Pat Harris on the state of the NISO organization:

Total of 79 organizations are members, including 17 new members. Underwent ANSI standards audit and will be re-accredited by ANSI next year. Significant progress has been made in the speed of rolling out standards to implementation – 24-36 months.

Wednesday, Oct. 22nd

Humanizing Information Retrieval: Organizing “Works”

Richard P. Smiraglia, Long Island University (speaker and moderator)

Allyson Carlyle, University of Washington

Edward T. O’Neill, OCLC

Patrick LeBoeuf, Bibliothèque Nationale de France

Anita Coleman, University of Arizona

Smiraglia – a “work” is at a basic level. Why should we care about works – the complexity is a problem of information retrieval. He has his own set of definitions that are slightly different from what we know of as the standard FRBR definitions. One model of a work – “documentary entity”. Document – a unique instance of recorded knowledge conveyed as text. Text – set of words. Document – the physical container. Work is a set of ideas represented by difference, divergence, convergence. FRBR – entity/relationship concepts. Quotes Carlyle and Svenonius – who add “Superwork” – as a collocating device. Also quotes Leazer/Furner – instantiation networks. “Work” is conceptual, any change constitutes a new, related work.

Smiraglia referred requestors of his Powerpoint content to his book, *Works as Entities for Information Retrieval*, published by the Haworth Press. (Also available as *CCQ* vol. 33, nos. 3/4.). That theme issue contains his article entitled “Further Reflections on the Nature of ‘A Work’: An Introduction,” and also one by UCLA’s Andrea Leigh, “Lucy Is ‘Enceinte’: The Power of an Action in Defining a Work.”

Allyson Carlyle's topic was "User Perspectives of Works." Her PPT slides are available in PDF at <http://dlist.sir.arizona.edu/archive/00/00/02/72/>

Why do we care about works? Humanizing the information retrieval process. Goals for users – build systems and processes that facilitate user identification and selection of items belonging to a work. Difficulty in ascertaining "user perceptions" of works. What kind of research will demonstrate user perception of works? – works revealed to users in catalog arrangements. Mid 20th century – Lubetzky urged expanded view of catalog objective was to bring works together. FRBR and 21st century notion of work as an abstract identity. There is little research based evidence of user perceptions. User research – Carlyle studied how people sorted wide variety of documents relating to "A Christmas Carol" – but that project was limited. New research to get at user perceptions – purpose was to see what users are willing to substitute. Future research – domain analysis. In library cataloging world – increased attention to cataloger training and system design solutions.

Ed O'Neill (OCLC) – OCLC's experience in identifying works. The article describing this can be found at:

http://www.oclc.org/research/publications/archive/2003/lavoie_frbr.pdf

Entitled: "The Concept of a Work in WorldCat: An Application of FRBR." FRBR entity relationship model. They are adding the terms "Superwork" and "Bibliographic family," which are related but not the same works according to FRBR (i.e. movie, translation, CD, etc.). Work – identified by title. OCLC created a study set with an algorithm that limited to personal authors. Use of authority files was essential to getting reliable results. Normalize using NACO rules. Difficulties encountered – 1) algorithmic/procedural failures: translations without uniform titles, generic titles, corporate authors, uncontrolled names; 2) conceptual problems. Types of works in Worldcat: 1) Elemental works – single manifestation (78%); 2) Simple works – single expression, multiple manifestation (16%), i.e. dissertations; 3) Complex works, multiple expressions (6%). Complex work types: 1) translations – all expressions are translations of the original. Other types of complex works include translations; 2) augmented work – added notes, intros, illustrations, bibliog., glossaries, etc. Orig. body of text unchanged but supplemented extensively over time; 3) Typical revised work – body of text has undergone substantial change over time. Ex. *Guide to the Library of Congress Classification* – 1st & 2nd ed. by Immroth, 3rd & 4th ed. by Chan with "Immroth's" added to the title; 4) Collected works – each being a distinct artistic creation – boxed set with separate ISBNs. 2 vols. Issued by publisher bound together.; 5) popular music – unreleased bonus tracks; collections/selections. Options: 1) Distinct works – every new combination results in a new work; 2) work of works; 3) manifestation with multiple works. Need for consistency.

[Comment: These findings argue against the practice of minimal-level cataloging, since the bibliographic records will lack sufficient data to pull together bibliographic families.]

Patrick LeBoeuf – "Musical Works in the FRBR Model or 'Quasi la stessa cosa': variations on a theme by Umberto Eco"

Idea of translation – preserve intention of the work. It takes an interpretation and a negotiation to achieve translation. Not always the same thing but *almost* the same thing. Central theme is the *intention* of the work. Variation #1: a matter of entities. FRBR's core group 1 entities. Variation #2 – when is it a new expression or when is it a new work? Eco's classification of forms of interpretation. Mapping Eco to FRBR – pretty consistent. Is part of a work considered to be a work as well (i.e. movement in a symphony). Whole/part relationships in FRBR. Are complete works considered to be a work? Problem with FRBR definitions. Item = distinct aggregate of material. Expression – aggregate of ? Work = aggregate of concepts. Manifestation – harder to decide.

Anita Coleman – Scientific Models as Works

PPT available in PDF at: <http://dlist.sir.arizona.edu/archive/00000273/>

Conceptual, mathematical, computational properties. Can be organized more meaningfully for information seeking purposes if they are considered as works.

Classification Across Disciplines: The Same, Only Different

Shawne Miksa, University of North Texas - Moderator and Organizer; Barbara Kwasnik, Syracuse University; Francis Miksa, University of Texas at Austin; David Crabbe, Cycorp, Inc.

From abstract: Classification experts in the information sciences are challenged to look at classification from several perspectives: how do we serve different disciplines in the arts and sciences, whose discourse traditions vary?; what can we learn from the understandings of classification as it is used implicitly and explicitly to organize information in other fields?; and, from a corporate case, on the way an artificial intelligence technology approaches the problem of knowledge representation and classification.

II. Discussion of OCLC Technical Bulletin 250: Parallel Records (Sara)

Preparatory to her attending a Heads of Technical Services (HOTS) meeting on Nov. 14, Sara led a discussion of the latest technical bulletin, which specifies a new policy for foreign-language cataloging records in WorldCat. Except for vendor records, identified by the presence of a 938 field, multiple records can now coexist for the same title.

Three-character language codes in the 040 subfield \$b will reflect the language code of the cataloging, when it is not English; there is a limit of one record per language.

Sara suggested the change in practice represents very little additional work. One can copy the OCLC# of the record, execute the NEW command, and paste the OCLC# into the 936 of the new record as a first step of cataloging. The existence of the foreign-language record can represent a labor-savings to an original cataloger, particularly if the intellectual work of subject analysis has already been done.

The mention of batchloading in the Technical Bulletin merely refers to institutions who upload cataloging created locally and who cannot control how their records might match in WorldCat based on 040 \$b.

One unclear matter is what to do with a record that was modified (before this new policy) to change the language of description to English while the 040 \$b still shows another language like “spa.”

The OCLC#s in the 936 fields of parallel records are necessary for pulling together related records once OCLC implements its new Oracle platform.

III. Announcements (John)

The UCLA Library Friends is being replaced by a new group called UCLA Library Associates.

LHR will soon issue guidelines on how staff should take the leave scheduled for everyone the last week of December.