

Catalogers Group

January 20, 2005

Minutes

Present: Valerie Bross, Chamyra Kincy, Sara Shatford Layne, Joan LoPear, Renée McBride, Luiz Mendes, Nancy Norris, Louise Ratliff, John Riemer, Angela Riggio (recorder), Barbara Rudich, Hermine Vermeij (Music Cataloging Intern working with Renée)

The agenda for today's meeting included reports on highlights from the ALA Midwinter Conference in Boston.

Barbara Rudich:

Barbara noted that the pervasive theme of the meetings she attended was the catalog's effectiveness as an OPAC.

ALCTS Catalog Form and Function Interest Group meeting: Doris Van Kampen (Saint Leo University) talked about how technical services and public services were working together to improve the functionality of the OPAC. Julia Dunlap's (Arkansas State University) presentation was entitled "Creating a Patron Friendly Catalog." Barbara noted that the substance of these presentations was somewhat overshadowed by the lively discussions that took place following each speaker, as attendees commented on their institutions' efforts to improve access via the OPAC.

ALCTS Cataloging and Classification Section Research Discussion Group: Pat Riva (McGill University) reported on a project which mapped MARC 21 fields to categories in the FRBR (Functional Requirements for Bibliographic Records) model, as well as to classes for record relationships proposed in the research of Barbara Tillett and Richard Smiraglia. The project also did a reverse mapping from FRBR to MARC 21. The details are fully described in *Library Resources & Technical Services (LRTS)*, 48(2): 130-43 2004. The analysis shows that there is no way to retrieve/identify all bibliographic relationships with current coding schemes, and that there are certain defined relationships in the FRBR model that cannot match to MARC linking fields (76X-787) because the relationships do not exist in serial publications.

OCLC Connexion User's Group: two speakers presented their institution's experience in migrating to the Connexion Client.

ALCTS Council of Regional Groups (CRG) Business Meeting: Barbara reported on several items that the committee is working on, among them:

- ALA is considering a different site for 2010 Annual Conference, scheduled to be held in Orlando. New York, San Antonio, and Dallas are among the alternate possibilities
- ALA is issuing an RFP for a content management system

- ALA is releasing community software this spring, which will allow committees to conduct business online, alleviating the need to travel to both Midwinter and Annual meetings
- ALA online elections will continue
- ALCTS Task Force on the Library of Congress Action Plan will look at OPACs and their integration with other discovery tools
- ALA is proposing a change in the time blocks for conference meetings to provide low/no conflict times so attendees can visit exhibits and also to present fewer meeting time conflicts (Sara distributed a handout of the proposed schedule for 2006)
- The CRG wants to become more visible in the ALCTS community, and has formed a Continuing Education Committee to help facilitate more education over a broader area

Barbara also listed several programs that the group has recently sponsored.

Louise Ratliff:

ALCTS/LITA MARC Formats Interest Group sponsored the presentation “Creating a Virtual Undergraduate Library Collection with the Hierarchical Interface to LC Classification (HILCC),” which featured presentations by Adam Chandler (Cornell University), Diane Hillmann (Director of Library Services and Operations, NSDL), and Jim LeBlanc (Cornell University). Adam and Jim conducted a test with 150,000 bibliographic records from the undergraduate collection from which they extracted classification numbers and correlated them to the corresponding caption in the classification schedules. The ultimate goal was to create groups of like-records, based on subject. The 150,000 records produced 350 distinct categories, which is a manageable group, but the procedure would not be scalable to a substantially larger record set.

LITA/ALCTS CCS Authority Control in the Online Environment Interest Group: LC’s and other updates are available at:

<http://www.ala.org/ala/lita/litamembership/litaigs/authorityalcts/2005midwinter.htm>

PCC: This meeting took on somewhat of a different format this time. The reports were kept brief, and the session featured a speaker, Dale Flecker, who talked about “OPACs and Our Changing Environment.” Flecker talked about OPACs in light of other “peer resources” in an expanding online universe. Technology is offering tremendous advances in research opportunities via search assistance. This discussion raised several questions, like: Is a smaller role for OPACs acceptable? What is the role of handcrafted metadata? Can people get their hands on what they need via Google?

Louise also spent Friday at MIT for a meeting with D-Space users and stakeholders. During this informal meeting, participants shared information regarding digital repositories and metadata.

Sara Layne:

On Thursday, Sara attended an informal Endeavor meeting. Several institutions are moving to the UNICODE version of Voyager this summer. LC is waiting until next fall.

Endeavor is advertising keyword-in-heading with their planned new release of Voyager (version 5.0).

CIP Advisory Group: The use of publisher-supplied summaries of children's nonfiction titles is working well; the project might be expanded to include other types of material. Cornell and Northwestern are providing CIP for their University Press books.

Sara is chair of the Cataloging and Classification Section (CCS) this year. The group is working on several strategic plans (ALA, ALCTS), the CCS is reviewing its charge. CCS has been soliciting input; so far, catalogers are unhappy because they do not feel that they are well-represented in the overall ALA plan.

Map Cataloging and Discussion Group: Adam Schiff presented a project that uses MARC tag 043 to automatically populate area studies Web pages.

Committee on Cataloging: Description & Access (CC:DA): The draft of AACR3 pt. 1 was discussed. The draft has been submitted for limited review by select groups. This review will not be widespread. All comments are due by February 11. At its April meeting, the Joint Steering Committee will come to some decisions about the draft. Sara brought along three handouts from this meeting, and offered to share copies with anyone who might be interested:

AACR3: Resource Description and Access. Part I. Description: Background to the December 2004 Draft (John Attig)
<http://www.libraries.psu.edu/tas/jca/ccda/docs/chair22.pdf>

"Significant issues in AACR2 that remain unresolved in AACR3"-- from the "Group of Five" (Paul Weiss et al.)

"Comments on draft of Part 1, AACR3-Summary. ALCTS CC:DA Omnibus TF meeting, Friday, 14 January 2005"

The next Catalogers Group meeting will be held on February 10 (2:30-3:30).