

Catalogers Group  
May 11, 2006 Minutes

**Present:** Melissa Beck, Sharon Benamou, Valerie Bross, Hong Cheng, Claudia Horning, Laura Horwitz, Chamyia Kincy, Rhonda Lawrence, Toshie Marra, Caroline Miller, Nancy Norris (Recorder), Louise Ratliff, John Riemer, Kristen Wilson

**Agenda:**

**I. Presentation/discussion of highlights from BIBCO & CONSER Operations Committee meetings at LC, April 27-28 (Valerie, Caroline)**

**II. Announcements**

Valerie attended the CONSER Operations Committee Meeting, April 27-28, 2006

Home page for Agenda & Documents: <http://www.loc.gov/acq/conser/agenda-ops-2006.html>

General Discussion Topics: Program for Cooperative Cataloging

1. Series!

Of course, the hot topic this year was LC's decision to discontinue control of series headings. PCC members discussed (a) series control & what PCC should do next; and (b) LC's non-consultation, considering LC's relationship to PCC and to the library community more generally. Action: PCC formally voted to send a message of concern via Mark Watson (PCC chair); and also voted to complete an independent analysis of the costs/benefits of series control and send the conclusions to the Policy Committee for use at the fall 2006 meeting.

2. Serial Record Division Reorganization

LC's Acquisitions & Bibliographic Access Division is being reorganized from functional categories (monographs v. serials) to point-of-origin categories (U.S. v. non-U.S.). LC staff are setting up implementation teams; the reorganization will probably take effect in October/November 2006.

3. Sharing Metadata & Future Directions of the Program for Cooperative Cataloging

- a. Sharon Tsai (LC), Robert Bremer (OCLC), and Luiz Mendes (UCLA) gave presentations on metadata sharing present & future.
- b. Work Teams: All PCC participants broke up into 5 groups to brainstorm ideas for implementing "PCC Strategic Directions 2010." For details on PCC-SD, see: <http://www.loc.gov/catdir/pcc/pcc2010.html>

4. Cataloging changes

- a. OCLC Terminology Project: OCLC will soon be providing cross vocabulary mappings (e.g., LCSH to MeSH). <http://www.oclc.org/research/projects/termservices/>
- b. BLvl "i": OCLC will implement integrating resources coding for the fixed field in summer 2006
- c. Multiple 260 fields: When OCLC implements multiple 260 fields, catalogers will add indicator values to distinguish early-middle-current publishers. Visually, the use of subfield \$3 may identify the era of a particular publisher.

## CONSER Highlights

1. **Partnerships:** SerialsSolutions catalogers will begin record maintenance by correcting 780/785 link errors that have come to their attention. Eventually, other types of bib maintenance will be added.
2. **Latest entry cataloging:** The group considered a proposal termed "limited latest entry cataloging." In fact, this turned out to be a proposal to identify the current title. Action: Les Hawkins will re-formulate the proposal and refer it to the Committee on Automation for further study
3. **Linking practices:** Ed Jones prepared discussion items on 76X/78X linking CONSER practices, and the use of multiple links to the same bib record. Multiple links may be beneficial in terms of FRBR applications; but may be problematical for record readability in some ILSs. Action: Les Hawkins will develop a proposal for revision of the CEG and send it to CONSRLST for discussion
4. **ISSN revision:** As a result of comments from the recent ballots, ISSN has clarified its proposal for a medium-neutral ISSN. The "medium-neutral ISSN" is now termed a "Linking ISSN" (or ISSN-L). It will be assigned to all serials, based on the first publication in the ISSN database. The ISSN-L will only change if ALL titles (across media) change title. Conclusion: The ISSN database is the only way to know for sure what ISSN-L has been assigned to a specific serial.
5. **OCLC derived records for online serials:** Last year, OCLC began a partnership with knowledge bases, to enhance OCLC by providing records for online serials. Half of the serials in the knowledge bases were already represented in OCLC. Of the rest, about half had corresponding records for print; and about half lacked any record. Question: Should the records derived from print be added to the CONSER database? The Task Force on Coverage of e-Serials looked at 100 records from the group derived from print. In general, the results were fairly good. The main problem was that a significant percentage of 856 links were invalid. Conclusion: OCLC will authenticate these records based on the level of authentication in the original record.

Adolfo Tarango at UCSD is co-chair of this ongoing Task Force; for more information, contact [atarango@ucsd.edu](mailto:atarango@ucsd.edu)

6. **Access-level record:** Regina Reynolds & Diane Boehr co-chaired a task group to look at core data elements in serial bib records. Based on FRBR end-user tasks (find, identify, select, obtain) the task group developed guidelines for an access level record. This record provides a base-line for data; depending on specific, additional elements may be needed for descriptive adequacy of a particular title. Conclusion: A revised version of the guidelines will almost certainly be incorporated into the CONSER documentation.

Melissa Beck of UCLA participated in development of the guidelines & coordinated testing; for more information about this emerging standard, contact [mbeck@library.ucla.edu](mailto:mbeck@library.ucla.edu)

The official minutes are now posted at: <http://www.loc.gov/acq/conser/conop2006.html>

Caroline attended the BIBCO Operations Committee (OpCo) meeting, 2/3's of the time spent jointly with CONSER. Agenda: <http://www.loc.gov/catdir/pcc/bibco/opcoagenda06.html>

The LC announcement on series took many by surprise, including the PCC Chair, LC staff, and the bibliographic utilities. Currently, less full LC records overlay other libraries' fuller records in OCLC. About 20 LCRIs are affected by this change and need to be revised.

### **Update on Series Developments from Various Settings (John)**

John asked for a sense of the group at the Heads of Technical Services (HOTS) in-person meeting that was held the day after LC's announcement. Most of the southern UC campuses have a long tradition of strong control of series, to prevent duplicate acquisitions. Berkeley will likely be following the LC decision, which resembles its past local practice. The change will disrupt the long-standing classed-together series that Berkeley's faculty have been accustomed to.

A subgroup of the Shared Cataloging Program Advisory Committee will be looking at the impact the LC decision will have, and it will recommend what UC campuses should do about it. There are number of things libraries could do to rely more on automated techniques and altered workflows to retain some amount of the controlled series access enjoyed currently. The subgroup hopes to finish its report and submit it to HOTS by the beginning of June.

The local significance of the LC series decision was a topic of discussion at the May 3 Technical Services Council meeting, attended by Caroline and John. Acquisitions staff need controlled series access in carrying out their work. ACCM will be charged to recommend local practices for UCLA. <http://staff.library.ucla.edu/groups/tsc/minutes/minutes5-3-06.doc>

If OCLC and RLG are merging their files, LC would now be free to do its cataloging directly in OCLC as many libraries do. Complicated loading of records from LC, with provisions to protect controlled series fields from other libraries, could be avoided. If libraries used 8XX fields exclusively for series access points (avoiding use of 440s), validation work would be much simpler. OCLC could open up series fields for universal upgrades by any one with a full-level cataloging authorization. If libraries were set up to receive revised copies of WorldCat records to which their holding symbols were attached, then they would be positioned to obtain controlled series access in the long term. Another post-cataloging measure is asking one's authority vendor to trace a maximum of series when records are processed.