

Catalogers Group
Minutes
June 29, 2006

Present: Gia Aivazian, Nora Avetyan, Sharon Benamou, Valerie Bross, Claudia Horning, Chamya Kincy, Sara Shatford Layne (facilitator), Caroline Miller, Nancy Norris, Roxanne Peck, Louise Ratliff, John Riemer (recorder), Rita Stumps, Kristen Wilson

Discussion of Issues that Arose at ALA New Orleans

LC Series Decision

Gary Strawn's research found a method of matching non-unique series in 490 fields to series authority records. The 260 field (imprint) in a bibliographic record can be compared to the equivalent 643 field(s) in the series authority record (SAR). This process depends on the existence of a SAR, which is kept up to date when place of publication and publisher vary. This matching strategy, being incorporated into Strawn's Cataloger's Toolkit, perhaps could be replicated in the WorldCat environment.

More studies need to be done of how series are and are not used in searching.

Ironically, the current RDA draft <http://www.collectionscanada.ca/jsc/docs/5rda-parta-ch6&7.pdf> calls for providing for an access point for series, under rule 6.2.2.2.1b.1:

Provide an access point for the aggregate resource following the general guidelines given under 6.1.4.

ALA's Government Documents Round Table (GODORT) has voiced support for series.

Those present at the CONSER and BIBCO at Large meetings' series panel discussion appeared to support PCC's exclusive use of 8XX fields for series access points (discontinuing use of the 440 field).

Documentation in CONSER and BIBCO shows some discrepancies that need to be reconciled.

OCLC is refining its record loading/overlay programs to make a distinction between Encoding Level 4 records that do and do not contain an 042 code. Only the former can safely overlay an existing WorldCat record.

RDA Part 2 draft

Initial positive feedback has been received on draft chapters 6-7. This part covers the recording of relationships between resources and provision of headings. The concept of "mixed responsibility" appears to have gone missing. At ALA the necessity of main entry headings (for citation forms at least) came in for heavy discussion.

The working documents of the Joint Steering Committee for Revision of AACR are publicly available for the first time, at: <http://www.collectionscanada.ca/jsc/working1.html>

Big Heads and Standards for Vendor-Produced Cataloging

A number of the stakeholders met at LC on April 17 to discuss the standards that should apply to cataloging records such as Casalini Libri is now creating on behalf of LC and selling to others. Some present at that meeting question the expense and the need for including authority work. For

example, it was suggested that Harrassowitz German titles could be cataloged by India's Marcnow company <http://www.marcnow.com/> sans authority work. Minutes of that meeting: <http://www.loc.gov/library/bigheads/source/vendor%20mtg%20at%20LC%20April%202006%20short%20version%20jun06.doc> Shouldn't work delegated to others be done to the same standards it would have been done in-house?

What Change Is Next from LCSH?

(1) Precoordinated LCSH may be abandoned in favor of FAST (Faceted Access to Subject Terminology, <http://www.oclc.org/research/projects/fast/>) for all materials. Beacher's comments at the PCC Participants' meeting Sunday afternoon strongly suggested this was coming.

Example of FAST application: For the book

Author/Name: Goodwin, Doris Kearns.

Title: Team of rivals : the political genius of Abraham Lincoln / Doris Kearns Goodwin.

the pre-coordinated LCSH strings

600 Lincoln, Abraham, \$d 1809-1865
650 Political leadership \$z United States \$v Case studies
650 Genius \$v Case studies
600 Lincoln, Abraham, \$d 1809-1865 \$x Friends and associates
650 Presidents \$z United States \$v Biography
651 United States \$x Politics and government \$y 1861-1865

would become

600 Lincoln, Abraham, \$d 1809-1865
648 1861-1865
650 Political leadership
650 Genius
650 Friendship
650 Presidents
650 Political science
651 United States
655 Case studies
655 Biography

(where topical, chronological, geographic, form, and personal names are coded separately)

This book does not represent a case study on friendship. The people involved were not Lincoln's "friends."

Considerably more ambiguity is introduced when the string

Arctic Regions--Study and teaching--Canada
is no longer pre-coordinated. What is the subject of the teaching and where is it occurring?

The difference in quality between FAST and totally uncontrolled keywords is much greater than the difference between pre-coordinated LCSH and FAST. According to OCLC staff the percentage of time that LCSH strings involve ambiguity is small. If so, should pre-coordination be retained just in those situations?

2) LC may start minimal-level cataloging for music CDs soon (using Encoding Level 3).

CIP Program Survey

At least 80% of survey responses favored keeping the Cataloging-in-Publication program intact *and* continuing to include it in books.

At LC those performing CIP verification work and copy cataloging may well merge.

ALA-related topics deferred to next Catalogers Group meeting [July 6, 2:30-3:30]:

The OCLC-RLG merger

The "New" catalog