

Catalogers Group: Thursday, January 25, 2007

Present: Behzad Allahyar, Gia Avazian, Nora Avetyan, Sharon Benamou, Melissa Beck, Valerie Bross, Laura Horwitz, Chamyia Kincy, Sara Shatford Layne, Rhonda Lawrence, Toshie Marra, Caroline Miller, Nancy Norris, Paul Priebe, Brian Provenzale, Louise Ratliff, John Riemer, Hermine Vermeij (recorder), Kristen Wilson

1) Announcements

- a) Caroline - OCLC updates from presentation by Glenn Patton
 - i) Working on transition of OCLC users to RLG—merging the records. RLG is sending OCLC 2 million records a day to load, and OCLC is running them against their own records, merging the duplicates, and adding the new ones. New records comprise approx. 15%. For the meantime, records in non-roman scripts are being set aside.
 - ii) Connexion 1.7 will include an authority history database.
 - iii) Connexion 2.0 will come out in May or June, and it will include institutional records. The structure will be more like RLIN, with an OCLC master record and institutional records.
 - iv) One concern is duplication of BIBCO records for BIBCO members currently using RLIN.
 - v) Louise – Connexion 1.7 will also include Persian.
- b) Melissa – The CONSER Standard Record was to have been implemented on February 1, 2007, but it has been delayed to allow more time for documentation.

2) Reports from & discussion of ALA Midwinter Conference in Seattle

- a) Topics offered:
 - i) CONSER Standard Record – Training
 - ii) Future of Cataloging
 - iii) RDA
 - iv) OCLC Master Vs. Institutional Records
 - v) WorldCat Identities Project
- b) Future of Cataloging (led by Chamyia)
 - i) The session included a moderator (David Miller from Curry College) and six speakers—Sallie Smith (King County Library System), Ana Lupe Cristán (Library of Congress), Mary Charles Lasater (Vanderbilt University), Casey Bisson, Tamera Hanken (Tacoma Community College), and Daniel Joudrey (Simmons College GSLIS)—each of whom discussed one or more of seven values ALCTS chose in the “ALCTS and the Future of Bibliographic Control: Challenges, Actions, and Values” document.
 - ii) The seven values:
 - (1) ALCTS serves libraries of all types and sizes.

- (2) ALCTS understands and respects the most diverse needs of all types of library users for all types of materials.
 - (3) We understand that the development of information technology has made possible the significant reuse and extension of existing bibliographic/authority metadata.
 - (4) In the realm of advanced digital applications, we are interested in collaboration, not competition.
 - (5) Budgets are the outcomes of political processes; budget decisions have ethical and moral implications.
 - (6) Librarianship is an international profession; technical services specializations have become globalized.
 - (7) The future is longer than the past.
- iii) Sara was asked where she sees this going, and she responded that it is an effort to get the cataloger's position stated, so we don't appear to be resisting all change. It was an attempt to make as positive a statement as we can about cataloging, while making ALCTS more proactive.
 - iv) John mentioned that he thought it might have been more useful to have a practical approach; for example presenting a tool like Endeca, and then show how much metadata is needed to keep an impressive tool running and useful.
 - v) There was discussion about how much differentiation there should be between cataloging and the catalog (Karen Coyle has spoken about focusing more on alternatives to the catalog, and not making the assumption that all our efforts are going into a traditional OPAC). Valerie mentioned that she sees the lack of value of cataloging as the biggest problem. Louise and Gia expanded on this thought, both arguing that we need to make ourselves and our work more visible, and we have to be more proactive and assertive. John added that we need to figure out more things we can do with the data we create.
 - vi) There was discussion about the Working Group on the Future of Bibliographic Control (the author of the document), and whether their next regional meeting (February in Oakland) will be open to any UCLA members.
- c) RDA Update Session (led by Louise and Rhonda)
 - i) The update seems to be that RDA is moving along, and it may be more or less useful than what we have now.
 - ii) The release date is for the first quarter of 2009.
 - iii) Rhonda mentioned that by delaying it another quarter, it should give the reviewers a chance to look at it as a whole product rather than in small parts.
 - iv) ALA is on one end of the spectrum, wanting many changes, and other library associations are on the other, preferring it to be approved as quickly as possible.
 - v) Chapter 3 will be available for review March-July 2007, Chapter 4 will be available June-September 2007, and Part B will be available in December 2007.
 - vi) John added that he doesn't even know if we want a major change in the cataloging rules or not, since if they change a lot, they won't match with our

earlier records, but if they don't change much at all, what was the point of making a whole new system?

- 3) There was not enough time to go over the other topics from ALA, so Sara proposed another Catalogers Group meeting for February 15.