

# Database Maintenance Advisory Council

March 23, 2005

ATTENDEES: Mary Ellen Bena, Lisa Bouchard, Rob Carle, Geoffrey Kirkpatrick, Carol Lagasse (CDLC), Peggy Mello, Lisa Pitkin, Julie Stump, Joe Thornton

MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY, 2005 MEETING: The meeting began at 9:30. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved without comment.

BEHAVIOR OF REQUESTS DURING BIB MERGES: Julie asked if we had made an enhancement request to Dynix to address the issue we discussed at the last meeting: merged bib records do not merge requests correctly, but 'zipper' the request dates instead of sorting them chronologically. Joe said that he had not made the request yet. Geoff added that this problem is becoming less urgent because there's less merging required due to our use of OCLC and Baker & Taylor. The problem mainly applies to older records that patrons had a chance to request before they were replaced by a good records from OCLC or B & T.

245 \$h: We revisited the 245 \$h issue. Geoff asked if we could write a script to automatically update the 245 \$h based on the content of the 020 field. Joe said that he's reluctant to update a bib record using SQL because we may miss some other tables that Dynix upgrades when bib records are updated. Geoff asked if we could write a report to show records that have 020's with the relevant codes but no corresponding 245 \$h. Joe said yes, but he'll need the codes. Peggy or Lisa Pitkin said they would send them to him.

Lisa P said that the 245 \$h should be updated as soon as the first item record is attached. Rob said that he constantly reminds the libraries of the necessity to do exactly that.

300 FIELD: Lisa P asked if it would be useful to have a cheat sheet for the 300 tag that catalogers could use. Rob asked how much of the cataloging manual we're planning to ask catalogers to tape to their PCs.

CLEANUP: Joe asked if people have seen improvements in the problems we had related to cleanup. For instance, has anyone noticed an improvement since Rawdon deleted 26,000 bib records that had no items attached?

Geoff asked if we should budget for next year so that catalogers can feel free to use OCLC as their first source of bib records. Joe said that catalogers should be doing that now. It was actually Geoff's suggestion a year ago that we'd save money using one great

(if expensive) source of records instead of a lot of little lousy sources that take too much of a cataloger's time just to retrieve a relatively poor record. Joe also said that we're on a pace that will not put us way over our estimate of records to be downloaded from OCLC in a year. ASC is aware of how much we're cataloging and how much it costs, and they are not objecting.

856 \$u: Geoff said that BETH has already signed a contract with a vendor of downloadable audiobooks, and they will need to use the 856 \$u (Uniform Resource Identifier), which holds a URL and enables an OPAC user to link directly to an outside web resource. This needs to go to ASC because the 856 \$u was disabled by us to prevent HIP users from using the PC for non-library purposes. Lisa P pointed out that the trend in OPACs is toward value added services such as reviews, tables of contents, etc., all of which require 856 \$u. Joe said he will bring the issue to ASC.

FAST-ADDS: This topic overlaps with the agendas of the Resource Sharing Advisory Council and the Serials Subcommittee. One of the methods that the Serials Subcommittee will recommend for the handling of serials that circulate uses Fast-Adds. Rob proposes creating alternate views to limit the choices (e.g. collection code and location) that circ staffs will have when fast-add'ing magazines. Joe will bring this proposal to ASC.

Geoff said the real question is: is there anyone who Fast-Adds and expects the record to persist (i.e. FA's are being used for a purpose for which they were not designed). We end up with non-FA itypes, non-FA collection codes, and a generally messy catalog.

Rob's proposal will fix this problem going forward but we still have the problem of unwanted Fast-Adds in the catalog.

CATEXPRESS: Lisa P said that we're still having occasional problems with records that are saved in CatExpress but don't show up in the catalog. Joe asked that she and everyone else email us immediately when this occurs, and we'll try to track down the cause of the problem.

**The next meeting is scheduled for April 21, 2005 at 9:30 at UHLS.**