

Database Maintenance Advisory Council

June 22, 2005

ATTENDEES: Mary Ellen Bena, Lisa Bouchard, Laurie Burns, Rob Carle, Mary Coon, Sue Dague, Geoffrey Kirkpatrick, Deidre McGrath, Peggy Mello, Lisa Pitkin, Carol Reppard, Julie Stump, Joe Thornton, Xiaoli Wang (UHLS)

MINUTES FROM MAY 10, 2005 MEETING: The meeting began at 9:30. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved without comment.

SERIALS ITEM RECORDS: Rob had asked if we could delete serials item records that are attached to a good bib record. Since we're now using the Serials Module and the Item Entry method to handle serials, Rob asked if we need the item records anymore. Laurie said that TROY's reference staff uses stafpac instead of the HIP to search for serials and so they need the item records to stay as they are. Lisa P said that the only thing that should be attached to a good serials bib record is a summary holdings statement. Laurie said that TROY has no problem with deleting the item records, but wants to know how serials records will look after it's done. (The advantages of stafpac over HIP are 1) less jumping around, and 2) less logging in and out).

We decided that this issue is not resolvable today. We need to look at TROY's situation. We need all libraries to update their summary holdings. We need a form on the web that libraries can use to send their summary holdings changes to UHLS, who will send them on to CDLC for the Union List of Serials. We need to create copy records for all serials titles that don't exist, using the summary holdings information. We need to make the HIP display as useful as stafpac.

We will ask all libraries to send us a list of all magazines that they keep (not just current subscriptions), how long they keep them, and their summary holdings statements.

DIACRITICS IN THE MARC EDITOR: Mary Ellen demonstrated the use of diacritics in the MARC Editor. Lisa P, who had asked for the demo, said that she already understood the part that Mary Ellen showed, but that she needed a chart, since stafpac gives inaccurate descriptions of the special characters. GUIL is increasing its ESL collection, so this is increasingly important.

CATALOGING PROBLEMS: Julie had forwarded some duplicate/bad cataloging records that the VOOR reference staff had emailed to her. Some of them appear to be overlaid Acquisitions records. We discussed at length the need for a better way to leave good records intact when importing records with the same ISBN. Rob and Mary Ellen

will configure the import process to protect every field, and we'll ask Dynix how we can implement a "true merge," by which we mean a merge where every subfield in the existing record is left intact unless it matches a subfield in the incoming record, in which case it's replaced.

Joe will set the "245\$h" report to run weekly. This report identifies all records that should have a 245\$h but don't.

STAFF PRIVILEGES: Laurie said that everyone at TROY works at circulation and it would be useful if catalogers could have circulation privileges. Geoff said, "If you're allowed to edit a MARC record you should be allowed to do anything." (I didn't record what we decided to do about this – Joe)

PHANTOM AUTHORITY RECORDS: We had a long discussion about authority records, including the fact that we want to delete any authority record that has no bib record attached. Joe will run a script provided by Dynix to do this.

OCLC: General dissatisfaction with CatExpress problems: slow; import files not always available early the following day as they should be, ...). Joe speculated that the dropping of the "Passport" cataloging tool may be partly responsible, since many thousands of users would have switched suddenly from Passport to CatExpress.

MISCELLANEOUS: Sue reported a problem with patrons placing requests on on-order records. Lisa P said the solution is to just edit the on-order record instead of deleting and replacing it when the item comes in. The requests will carry over.

Sue asked if we could show the series number in HIP displays. We discussed that plus adding the series title to the title keyword index. Eventually we decided that the existing setup is good enough.

AUTHORITY CONTROL: Joe reported that as soon as the board approves the proposal for authority control that we submitted to ASC, we're ready to proceed on that project.

The next meeting is scheduled for August 17, 2005 at 9:30 at UHLS.