

Database Maintenance Advisory Council

October 11, 2006

Attendees: Lisa Bouchard, Rob Carle, Mary Coon, Sue Dague, Deidre Lisio, Peggy Mello, Carol Reppard, Julie Stump, Michael Sweeney, Joe Thornton

Minutes of last meeting: Approved without discussion.

WorldCat.org: We have an opportunity to attach our OCLC holdings symbol (VUE) to the OCLC records that correspond to our entire collection, whether or not we cataloged them originally with OCLC. Evidently we used OCLC a long time ago, stopped for a while, and started again two years ago when we subscribed to CatExpress.

Some issues are:

1. This would cost us nothing. OCLC is offering this as a free service. They will take a file of all our titles, attach our symbol to every corresponding OCLC record, and delete our holding symbol from every old record that we no longer own.
2. WorldCat.org is a freely available interface to the entire WorldCat collection -- about 70 million records. When you've retrieved a search result you can enter a zip code to see which WorldCat libraries in your area own a copy. OCLC is working with Google and Yahoo to incorporate this service into their tools, so it's probable that a lot of people will start their library searches there. The catch for us is that you must be a FirstSearch WorldCat subscriber in order for your holdings to appear in a WorldCat.org search result. From Nylink: "The maximum annual cost for unlimited access to WorldCat on FirstSearch for all public libraries in UHLS would be \$28,215." They also implied that a lower price is definitely negotiable.
3. ILL. I think that the attachment of our holdings symbol to 500,000+ OCLC records might increase the number of out-of-system interlibrary loan requests we receive.

Joe said that he thought the main question for Database Maintenance is whether there might be unintended negative consequences of adding our holding symbol to 500,000 OCLC records. Specifically, he asked whether or not this would greatly increase out-of-system ILL requests. No one thought that that would be a big problem. Joe will ask some ILL people at our libraries if they object and, if not, recommend to ASC that we attach our holding symbol (VUE) to all relevant OCLC records.

ISBN-13: Although at our last meeting we discussed the ISBN-13 upgrades that SirsiDynix announced recently, and decided that they were not necessary because we are able to input and search and retrieve records with thirteen digit ISBN's, we learned afterward that there are other functions, especially in the Acquisitions module, that require the upgrades. Joe is scheduling the upgrades with SirsiDynix and trying to work around a potential obstacle related to our custom programming. Unless we encounter unexpected setbacks, the upgrades should take place in late October or early November.

Graphic novel bibliographic records: APLM has offered to take the lead in resolving problems with graphic novels. (Thank you, Deidre! – Joe) Deidre handed out a proposed way of dealing with these records, with these main points:

1. The Database Committee agrees to the way APL handles MARC records for graphic novels.
2. Problems with older MARC records can be emailed to Deidre, and she will fix them as time permits.
3. Other libraries must agree to let APL move their item records. Deidre would notify the libraries when the move is completed.

In the ensuing discussion it became clear that the libraries have different ways of handling graphic novels, and that agreement on a standard method may not be simple to achieve. We will make graphic novels an agenda item for our next meeting, and bring examples of the different ways we're handling them.

Authority Control: Joe has started the process of updating our authority records with LTI's AUP and AEX services. We discussed the potential interruption of our normal workflow, but Joe said it should be much less disruptive than the major authority control project we undertook at the end of 2005. We discussed LTI's recommendation for handling the Library of Congress's decision to stop providing series authority records. We decided to go with LTI's recommendation. We discussed the possibility of importing just the new and corrected authority records from LTI, if the associated bibliographic records will show the updated authorities automatically (because the authority fields in the bib records are actually links to the authority files). UHLS will test. This would prevent us from overwriting bib records that have been updated since 11/1/05 with the older versions of the same records that have been stored at LTI since last year's project.

Mary Ellen - status report on how things are going since Mary Ellen's "retirement." Also, we revisited the list of concerns about Mary Ellen's responsibilities that we looked at (and is attached) at the end of the last meeting. Things seem to be working pretty well. Mary Ellen worked twelve hours in September and is willing to work as needed. Joe will not catalog above his ability. If there is a sudden or major change in cataloging requirements or Mary Ellen's availability then we will reevaluate her position and hire a replacement if necessary.

Subject headings in foreign languages. from Sue: “What is our procedure, if any, in dealing with subject headings in foreign languages for an item that is originally in English? Do we leave them or do we want to delete them?” The consensus is: leave them. Carol pointed out that TROY’s Spanish speaking population has grown a lot. Sue will attend NYLA’s Cataloging Workshop and ask others how they handle this issue.

Union List of Serials: CDLC asked for an updated list of summary holdings for UHLS serials. Joe gave them access to the *Serials Summary Holdings* report on the web reports page (<https://horizon.uhls.lib.ny.us/reports/>) and they will use that to update our holdings in the *CaDiLaC Online* Union List of Serials. Joe asked the Database group if we should look at our holdings statements to make sure they’re accurate. Everyone will, and will either update their own holdings or send changes to UHLS, by email or hardcopy.

Z39.50: SELCO and BCCLS are still not working. Joe will ask Jonathan to look into it, and reported that Jonathan has improved the ZCF files by removing unsupported indexes. He will put the new ZCF files on the ftp server. MELVYL (University of California) is one of our files now, and Carol said that Phoenix is a good cataloging source. Joe will ask Jonathan to add a Phoenix ZCF file.

NEWCATS: Joe reported that after the last meeting he ran a report to show the bib#’s of all NEWCATs belonging to each library, but was unsure what to ask the libraries to do with the lists. After some discussion we decided to ask them to:

1. check if it’s a valid record
2. if it’s circulating, attach it to a real bib record
3. if it’s on-order, delete the item and bib records

UHLS will be available to help any library that needs it. The project could be time consuming for a few libraries because each NEWCAT item has to be retrieved from the shelf.

Merge profiles: There are three profiles to choose from when merging records in stafpac: NEWCAT, transhdg, and Overlay. The first two look to be identical and the third is wanted by no one. Rob asked if he could delete the last two and rename the first one “Merge” so there will be only one merge profile, which should simplify merging and training. We agreed that Rob should go ahead.

Miscellaneous:

- Julie asked if we should reconvene the Serials Subcommittee, but Rob pointed out that it's identical to the Database Maintenance Advisory Council, so we might as well address all issues in this group.
- We went back to look at WorldCat.org and Joe pointed out how it's FRBR'ized – search results are grouped by relevant categories such as dates, material type, etc. Carol had forwarded an email to the group announcing the closing of RedLightGreen, and Joe said that that decision was influenced by the growth of WorldCat.org, which RedLightGreen endorses.

Next meeting: November 14, 2006 at 9:30 at UHLS.

List of cataloging issues:

Mary Ellen's position and all it entailed? Who will handle this now?

Original cataloging? Who will handle?

What all is CDLC doing under contract?

LC changes how are we are going to handle them without a head cataloger?

Who will be responsible for answering upper level cataloging questions and ongoing training issues?

In the UHLS Cataloging Handbook (June 2004), it states: "The Upper Hudson Library System is fully responsible for authority control over the following fields in the bibliographic record: ...". Who is responsible now?

Serials: who does one send holdings updates to? Who will close ceased records, reflect frequency and publisher changes? Who will take care of title changes? Who will merge monograph records with serials records and alert libraries about their holdings (a function that Database voted should be taken care of by UHLS)?

Who will address the cataloging side of things when we need to make another system migration? Who will take the lead in navigating the cataloging changes ahead as RDA, ISBN-13, etc. are implemented?

Who will take care of database cleanup (newcats still unaddressed, leading words such as A, An, The have incorrect indicators, incorrect 245 \$h, etc)?

Who will resolve tricky situations such as overlaid records and relinking holdings?

Who will be training new people on the Cataloging Manual procedures for the editing of records? Before it was either Karen or Mary Ellen that did this.