

Database Maintenance Advisory Council

February 18, 2011

Attendees: Lisa Bouchard (BETH), Rob Carle (UHLS), Anne Coletta (SNLK), Mary Coon (APLM), Deidre Lisio (APLM), Lisa Pitkin (GUIL), Carol Reppard (TROY), Julie Stump (VOOR), Mary Trev Thomas (BETH), Joe Thornton (UHLS)

Authority control -- change schedule?: Joe asked if the authority control processing that we have done annually by LTI is noticeable, and if we could consider doing it every second or third year, given our budget constraints. The discussion centered on series. Lisa P. said that the LTI work on series is useful and noticeable and worth doing every year. Deidre said that LTI's algorithm is not working well for graphic novels and that she has given up correcting the records after they return from LTI. Deidre thinks that LTI is not adhering to national standards, and she'll draft a message for us to send to LTI for an explanation.

Lisa P. also said that LTI does a good job with author entries (again, useful and noticeable).

Mary raised the issue of timing: specifically, that it would be more convenient if we could send the database to LTI at the end of March instead of the end of December, since orders pile up at the end of the year. Joe will ask LTI if switching to March is an option. Mary Trev suggested that we ask the directors about the timing. Joe will.

Merging authority records: While Rob and Julie were working at VOOR, they saw a lot of authority records that needed to be merged. Since we moved to a new server last June, this function is more easily done (i.e. much faster), so Rob will make a project of it, and asked that people notify him whenever they spot candidates for merging. There are still limits to the size of records that can be merged during normal work hours, so Rob will handle large records during off-hours.

E-books: Julie asked if we had MARC records for our e-books (i.e. OverDrive titles). Joe said that we import MARC records for these as soon as they're made available from OCLC, which is usually a little while after we've purchased the e-book. He also said that we have an issue with titles (especially OverDrive "maximum access" titles) that expire, because the MARC record then points to a title that we no longer own. We're thinking of ways to deal with this issue, but don't have a recommendation yet. A potential problem is that if a library notifies us that they've canceled a title or that it expired on its own, we could delete the MARC record, but then would have to pay for it again if another library purchased the title later.

Project Gutenberg: Lisa P. reminded us that at our last meeting we had discussed producing a flyer announcing and explaining the *Project Gutenberg* titles available through OverDrive. Joe will talk to Tim about this.

EBSCO alternatives?: Julie asked if anyone uses a vendor other than EBSCO for serials. Mary said yes, but not successfully. Consensus was to stick with EBSCO.

Next meeting: Joe will suggest a Tuesday or Thursday sometime in April.