

Meeting summary for Cataloging Advisory Council, Thursday, December 4, 2025

Zoom summary edited by Lisa Bouchard

In attendance: Lisa Bouchard (EGRN), Anne Coletta (BETH), Lisa Thomas (BETH), Sarah Kerr-Mace (MEND), Kathleen Tyrrell (GUIL), Chris O'Brien (BETH), Pam Jacobson (SNLK), Loreen Kaiser (TROY), Xiaofei Li (APL), Peggy Mello (COLN), Jane Feeney (BETH)

Quick recap

The meeting focused on library systems and records management, including discussions about Overdrive files, on-order records, and cataloging practices. The group addressed changes to library labels and the transition to a new catalog system, Vega Discover, scheduled to launch on January 1st. Attendees discussed various cataloging tools and practices, with emphasis on effective tool usage and the importance of communication channels, while UHLS served as the attendance monitor and provided guidance on system transitions and support availability.

Next steps

- [Stephanie: Coordinate with Lisa Pitkin to arrange in-person STE serials training and cataloging for Upper Hudson in March, including recording for staff who cannot attend.](#)
- [Stephanie: Send ideas for future training or sharing sessions to Stephanie for Upper Hudson coordination.](#)
- [Stephanie: Send an email to Joe \(or Cataloging group\) regarding the posting of helpful staff resource lists on the Upper Hudson website.](#)
- [UHLS: Ask Chris and Joe about the status of Cat Express/WorldCat for the group and report back.](#)
- [Sarah: When purchasing a new laptop, ensure it comes with Windows 11 Pro \(or contact UHLS for guidance on OS licensing\).](#)

Summary

Overdrive File Management Discussion

UHLS and Anne discussed the process of handling Overdrive files, with Anne confirming that she imports them from Sky River when needed. UHLS expressed concern about giving Anne extra work but was reassured that it was manageable. They agreed that everything else was going well, and UHLS clarified that their role in the meeting was to take attendance and answer any questions.

Industry Code Usage Discussion

Anne and UHLS discussed issues with on-order records not appearing on a report, which Anne plans to investigate further. They also touched on a meeting with Ingram, where they discovered they don't use a specific code (949) that others in the industry do. UHLS mentioned that this was relevant for Baker and Taylor but not for Ingram.

Library Systems and Record Management

The meeting focused on discussing library systems and record management. Anne and UHLS discussed the decision not to use Ingram's automatic item record production service, citing concerns about lack of control and inappropriate call number population. The group also addressed changes to library labels, with Anne noting a planned change to a different font.

Computer Purchase and Licensing Discussion

Sarah discussed purchasing a computer and operating system for staff, with UHLS advising her to consider Windows 11 Pro and use her Menands license. UHLS offered to help with the setup and emphasized the importance of using the correct license. The meeting began at 9:35, and UHLS served as the attendance monitor, noting the presence of Xiaofei, Lisa B., Pam, Peggy, and Cora. UHLS reminded attendees to email recommendations to Cataloging for proper distribution.

Staff Training on Cereal Cataloging

Stephanie announced that Lisa Pitkin has agreed to teach a STE (Staff Training Event) on serials cataloging for UHLS in March, with plans to record it for staff who cannot attend. The group discussed the possibility of incorporating regular staff presentations on new techniques or standards into future meetings to make them more meaningful.

Cataloging Practices and Communication Updates

The group discussed cataloging practices and communication channels, with UHLS emphasizing the importance of using the cataloging advisory list and review files. Stephanie inquired about Colonie's recent RFID task and cataloging issues, which UHLS confirmed could be shared for discussion. UHLS also offered to provide training on cataloging topics and mentioned that review files could be used flexibly without concern for space at the moment.

Cataloging Tools and BrowseQuery Discussion

The meeting focused on cataloging practices, with Peggy suggesting the use of browseQuery for quick queries instead of Create List. UHLS emphasized the importance of using available tools effectively, particularly for frequently used functions like online delete. The discussion was informal, with no major topics raised, and the conversation ended with an open invitation for further discussion if needed.

Vega Discover Catalog System Launch

The meeting focused on the transition to a new catalog system, Vega Discover, which is scheduled to launch on January 1st. Stephanie inquired about the availability of resource lists on the Upper Hudson website, and UHLS advised contacting Joe for assistance. UHLS emphasized that while large libraries like Stephanie's have capable staff to handle the new tools, support will be available for both large and small libraries as needed. The group discussed the autonomy libraries will have in customizing their own showcases, with UHLS noting that Bethlehem and Rensselaerville, for example, will be able to make independent decisions. The conversation ended with a reminder for participants to communicate any concerns or questions, both on and off the list, and to stay in touch over the holiday season.