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THE INTERNET

The Digital Object Identifier System

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In 1997, The Association of American Publishers released the Digital Object Identifier (DOI) system. The DOI arose from the publishing industry's concern over copyright management in the emerging digital, networked environment. Describing the DOI as "the license plate for digital content on the information superhighway", the AAP unveiled the project to mixed reviews.

Comparable to ISBN or Dewey Decimal numbers, DOI ultimately will achieve much more, including identifying everything from a book to chapters and even smaller units of text within the book—vastly enlarging the universe of copyrighted, saleable objects. The creation of an international system in which publishers and other owners of copyright regularly tag their pieces of intellectual property with DOIs in the way that book publishers regularly use ISBNs is the goal of the project. The DOI system consists of three parts:

- A two-part identifying number, the DOI, assigned by the DOI agency and the publisher that identifies both publisher and document;
- An automated directory, composed of a computer system that will accurately link an object, be it a book, picture or CD-ROM, to whomever currently owns it;
- The databases maintained by publishers that provide further information to the user.

The DOI

A DOI consists of a unique, persistent identifier providing a link between a user and a rights-holder or distributor. Each publisher is assigned one or more prefixes. The first two digits of the prefix identify the directory manager who assigned the number. After the first two digits comes a number indicating the publisher. This is called the publisher ID or the Information Provider ID. The publisher ID is followed by a slash, a suffix, and the item ID. The publisher or rights holder assigns this set of characters that identifies the content uniquely.

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TSLL EDITORIAL POLICY

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Technical Services Special Interest Section

“Oh. It’s the issue with all the minutes again.” That’s what many of you thought when you took a look at this issue. Yes, reading minutes is not usually a fun activity, and it’s not going to help you catalog that new looseleaf, negotiate a license agreement, decide on a new vendor, or any of the other million real-life tasks waiting. But unless you were at each of the meetings, you should skim the minutes at least. After all, you chose to join the TS-SIS, and someone paid for it, so you should monitor what’s going on. ‘Nough said.

This past year went much too quickly! It seemed sudden that I was no longer in the comfortable position of Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect, and now I feel the not-so-comfortable responsibility of the position of Chair of TS-SIS. There’s no chance for a deep breath, either. Not long after returning from the Annual Meeting, two deadlines and a basketful of details faced me. As I begin writing this column, I’m waiting for a last-minute program proposal, wondering which proposal to select as the section’s guaranteed program at next year’s annual meeting, and hoping next year’s programs will live up to the high standard set by those presented this year.



Working on this column has given me a few moments’ opportunity to reflect, so I’ll ask your indulgence for my whining. I recognize that I’m not doing this all on my own; there are a lot of our fellow members working just as hard as I am on TS-SIS business. And isn’t that one of the purposes of an organization such as ours? To pool resources to benefit the members? I truly appreciate every one of you that worked on a program proposal in some capacity and those of you that said, “OK” when I asked you to do something for the section! I’m counting on that willingness to continue from others as I ask for participation throughout the year.

TS-SIS has a lot to do this year. That’s true every year, and I’m sure those that have chaired the section in the past would heartily agree. First of all, there are the programs for the annual meeting. Many of you may not know that the proposals are just the beginning of a process that continues throughout the year. Once a program is selected, that program’s coordinator takes over the task of seeing it through to completion in July by securing speakers and a moderator if necessary, and making sure they meet the many deadlines between now and then. The coordinator is also responsible for the program descriptions in the preliminary and final programs. My thanks to those of you who have agreed to take on this often-unrecognized task!

In a couple of months, Alva will begin her major assignment – the annual survey. This is no minor task! Please support her in any way you can, especially by completing the survey and returning it on time. I learned the past

six months how much we truly do depend on the information given in the survey responses. It is your main opportunity to express your opinions about the activities and direction of the section. OK, I sang this same song at least four times last year, so I’ll let Alva take it up.

There is a small group of members, along with colleagues from OBS, which work hard throughout the year to bring us this great newsletter. I know how valuable this benefit of membership is to each of us, and I applaud the Editors, the Business Manager and the Board for their contributions. I happen to know, though, that it’s not an exclusive group – they welcome input, especially in the form of articles or guest columnists, from any of you. Just don’t expect to find out whom Ms. Manager is (several of us tried in DC, but, alas, to no avail) and have a good attitude when it comes to accompanying clip-art.



In the coming months, we have a number of goals to at least start on, all of which are in some way interrelated. Shortly, I will be forming an ad hoc Strategic Planning Advisory Committee. This committee will be assigned the task of reporting to the Executive Board its recommendations on a strategic plan for the Technical Services Special Interest Section. I decided a year ago that this would be the emphasis for my term as Chair, and I believe it is imperative to accomplish this goal before we can deal with the issue of whether to merge with the Online Bibliographic Services Special Interest Section. I’m not ignoring the results of the survey, in which the majority of members and non-members alike were in favor of investigating a merger. It *could not* be a fair evaluation

of the merger issue without already having a firm grasp of what TS-SIS is all about. I sent out a call for volunteers for this ad hoc committee on the TS-SIS listserv, but I'm certainly still hoping to hear from any of you wishing to serve or who knows someone to recommend. I'd like to have members of the committee who are shorter-term, medium-term, and long-term members of the section, and those from a variety of library types.

Joe Thomas readily accepted the assignment of reviewing the TS-SIS "handbook" (go to the TS-SIS Web site to take a look yourself) to correct inconsistencies among the documents and between the documents and our practices. Thanks, Joe! Soon we will begin the process of formally disbanding the Exchange of Duplicates Committee as a standing committee and asking the Serials Committee to accept it as a permanent subcommittee. We

also plan to formalize duties for the new Executive Board Member-at-Large and the process by which standing committee members are assigned.

Ugh, I almost feel like whining again! I won't, though, because I *know* that I'll have more than enough help from you. Right?

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Online Bibliographic Services Special Interest Section



From the Chair

Before I do another thing—special thanks are in order.

There are a lot of really good, hard-working, dedicated people who've helped me out tremendously this past year—volunteers who wrote down commitments and ideas on the OBS survey, volunteering their time and energy because they believe OBS is a worthwhile SIS. At least that's the only reason I can think of that people who are already way too busy at work can volunteer to help out and provide comments and advice. You know, it really is **people who make the difference** in any organization... but, I digress... Anyway, thank you for trusting me to take the OBS reigns for a year. We have horses hitched up, the wagon's loaded up and ready to go, but wait! Who has the map? Where is the map? Where **are** we going??

[fade to black]

[insert sweet babbling brook sounds]

Some OBServations

Narcissus would be pleased with OBS, as we will be looking at ourselves at least for the whole year, perhaps longer! Yes OBS fans, this is the—Year of the Mirror—we are going to OBSess with OBStinacy about whether we are OBSolete.

For those who haven't kept up on the OBS question of investigating merging until now, read through your past 2 *TSLL*'s for more details. Briefly, this investigation arises because a margin of 3-to-1 in favor of investigating merging was tallied from the 1998/99 OBS survey results. The numbers of respondents (54) was hardly a loud **mandate** when compared to the total OBS membership (317). But, the margin of votes in favor of investigation is simply too large to ignore.

As chair, I figure I have four major areas to take care of for OBS this year:

- 1) Investigate whether OBS should "merge" with TS SIS;
- 2) Have corrections and updates made to the OBS Web site;
- 3) Make sure that OBS education programs are well advertised; and
- 4) Work hard to avoid scheduling conflicts between OBS and TS business and committee meetings for Philadelphia.



That's a pretty full plate.

Most of the merger investigation will revolve around two biggie elements:

- 1) Are the OBS statements of its mission outdated and/or not as precise and accurate as they should be? and
- 2) Are the OBS committees doing what they are "supposed" to be doing?—Or perhaps, do the committees **know** what they're suppose to be doing? Phone calls, etc. will need to be made.

Let's peer at OBS with a telescope for now; then in later columns we can get out the microscope for some serious investigation. Let's begin our OBServations by gazing at the statement of OBS as it appears in our OBS Web site:

"The Online Bibliographic Services Special Interest Section (OBS-SIS) of the American Association of Law Libraries focuses on all aspects of the various national and local bibliographic utilities. These include public access to bibliographic data online, acquisitions sub-systems, mail message systems, and integration of circulation systems with the online bibliographic data. The Section:

- * Facilitates the exchange of information on the choice and installation of local and national

online bibliographic systems,

- * Provides opportunities for its members to share ideas for more effective and efficient use of their systems,
- * Monitors the products and services of the online systems, and
- * Communicates concerns of law libraries to the systems and networks.”

The above sounds good, eh? So, what committees does OBS have currently to provide a forum to match the statements above? We have the Local Systems Committee, the OCLC and RLIN committees, the Web Advisory Committee, and the Education Committee. These are what I call the “service” committees. That is, they are the mechanisms that are **supposed** to serve the needs of the OBS membership specifically, but also exist to help non-OBS members when their needs match the purpose of OBS. The other committee in OBS, the Nominations Committee, is not a service committee but an internal committee — and extremely necessary. Then there is the other crucial component of the OBS “staff” ... your beloved officers.

Well, as the story goes, OBS became a full-fledged SIS in 1977. Imagine back then, twenty-two years ago; the time when bibliographic utilities were “immature”— mere fledglings — and the needs of AALL librarians for information-sharing about those utilities were very mature. In those days, the meeting rooms were full of folks wanting to vent and needing more information than they could get elsewhere. Discussions took place on issues and problems that were more specific to law libraries. The need was so great that beginning in 1987, there was a series of yearly AALL programs called “Micros to Mainframes” whose large rooms were filled with participants. Everyone wanted to know the most current best systems on the market, and they wanted to hear from librarians rather than vendors. Bill Walton, James Hambleton and Richard Leiter spoke on numerous library systems, large and small, but stayed

away from bibliographic utilities interfacing local systems. I don’t believe there’s been a systems comparison program like that in many years. I’m happy that one has currently been proposed and is sponsored by OBS for AALL in Philadelphia.

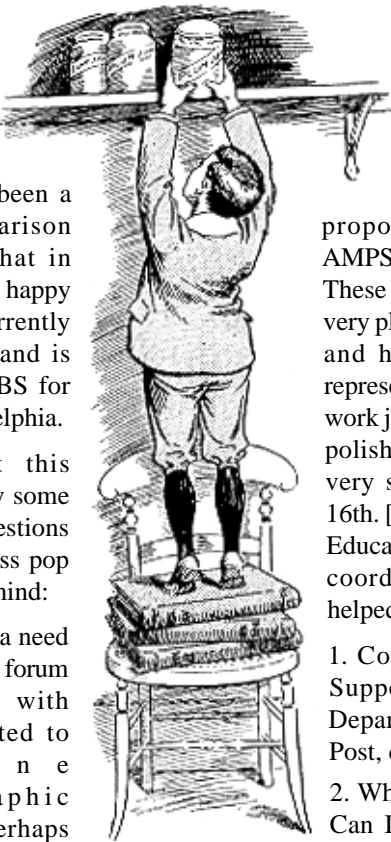
I write about this because certainly some of the larger questions OBS must address pop immediately to mind:

*** Is there still a need for an AALL forum that deals with issues related to online bibliographic utilities? Perhaps utility networks and users councils meet these needs.

*** Is there still a need for an AALL forum that deals with issues related to local systems?

Perhaps these needs are being met via local systems users groups, e-mail discussion lists, and published literature which covers such information (e.g., “Library Systems Newsletter” published by ALA, or OBS/AALL sponsored “Local Systems Directory.”).

I’m going to approach this merger investigation slowly. First I’ll write some TSLC OBS Chair columns, and I’ll attend an AALL sponsored retreat in mid-October in Chicago where all SIS chairs are asked to attend to discuss leadership and strategic planning. After the retreat I’ll talk with some experienced folk who’ve been through an SIS dissolution. I’ll also be asking the OBS members-at-large to help with some phone calls. In a few months, Ellen McGrath will start researching the history of OBS and should also uncover details on a similar investigation of OBS merging with TS-SIS several years ago where the membership voted not to



merge. There are many convincing pros and cons concerning merging. But for now, let’s bask in the warm glow of the six programs that were proposed and submitted to AMPSC for 2000 in Philadelphia. These are not in any order. I am very pleased with these proposals and hope you are too. They represent an enormous amount of work just to get them resurrected, polished and submitted by the very short deadline of August 16th. [Insert applause to the OBS Education Committee and all the coordinators and others who helped]

1. Core Competencies for Support Staff: Librarians As Departmental Leaders (Phyllis Post, coordinator)
2. What I Like, Who Has It and Can I Have It? An Update on Library Integrated Systems (Tim Knight, coordinator)
3. Instant Gratification! The Z39.50 Gateway to Searching, Cataloging and ILL (2 part-program, Mary Jane Kelsey, coordinator)
4. The Text Encoding Initiative and Electronic Legal Texts (Kevin Butterfield, coordinator)
5. Leadership Through Experimentation: Modern-day Benjy Franklins (Sally Wambold, coordinator)
6. The Alphabet Soup of Cooperative Cataloging: Leading Through Participation in NACO, SACO, BIBCO, and CONSER (Ellen McGrath, coordinator)

Lastly, for now (heh heh.... there will be more later)— please, please contact me, or any OBS officer if you haven’t already made your “merging” opinions known via last year’s OBS survey or talking to me personally. Next column we’ll get into pros and cons that were written in the survey.

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Technical Tips

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Some Tales of ALA 1999 Midwinter and Annual Meetings:

I picked up my copy of the newly-revised *Anglo-American Cataloguing Rules* at ALA's Midwinter meeting, in January. Its cover is a pale, diffident green, unlike the bold hunter green of the 1988 edition. After attending this year's ALA meetings, I suspected that the tentative color may represent the fleeting nature of this edition.

A major topic, in January and in June was: What is a serial, and how should we describe (catalog) it? Over the past several years, the CONSER Task Force on AACR has discussed the nature of seriality. Jean Hirons of the Library of Congress has played a leading role in this discussion, and is the chief author of the Task Force's April 1999 paper "Revising AACR2 to Accommodate Seriality: Report to the Joint Steering Committee on the Revision of AACR" [available at www.nlc-bnc.ca/jsc/ser-rep0.html]. She spoke at Midwinter, at numerous meetings at ALA's June conference, and at AALL. In her paper, seriality (the serial nature of library material, or bibliographic resources) is defined thus:

"Seriality refers to the fact that certain types of bibliographic resources are issued over time, regardless of whether they are intended to be complete or have no predetermined conclusion, and thus, the bibliographic data can change over time."

This is broader than the present AACR2 definition of a serial: "A publication in any medium issued in successive parts bearing numeric or chronological designations and intended to be continued indefinitely."

If implemented, the new concept of seriality will change the way we catalog

a lot of the material in law libraries. The big difference is in recognizing the serial nature of loose-leaf titles, sets with supplementation, and Web sites. If we change the way we catalog them, our online systems may treat them differently.

The paper presents this model of seriality:

Static resources (no seriality): Static items are complete when they are first issued (or published), whether in a single part (a one-volume novel), or in multiple parts (a two-disk compact disk recording). This category includes books, e-texts (such as e-books), maps, sound recordings, etc.

Successively-issued resources: Information is added to successively-issued items in a succession of *discrete parts*. This category includes serials, series and multi-part items that are not complete when they are first issued, such as a large treatise published in 8 volumes over five years. It also includes monographic titles (themselves static) which are updated by a succession of supplements.

Integrating resources: Information is added to integrating resources in a succession of changes which *do not remain discrete*. This category includes loose-leaves, Web sites (made up of many changing Web pages), and changing databases.

For years, the cataloging rules considered loose-leaves as monographs (they sit in a single binder), while we struggled with their added pages and changing authors, titles, and publishers. Law librarians have always known that loose-leaves had seriality. Like loose-leaves, Web sites may not have successive issues, they may not have incrementing numbering or

chronology, and when they change title, they sometimes drop the old title completely. These loose-leaf characteristics are troubling to catalogers accustomed to normal periodicals and serials, but they're old hat to law library catalogers whose loose-leaves have been integrating for decades! Now as the rest of the world's catalogers deal with Web sites, the concept of integrating resources may solve our problems with loose-leaves.

Hirons' paper proposes to develop cataloging rules that allow us to describe library material which is static, which is successively-issued, and which is integrating. It recommends changes to AACR2 which will accommodate all these forms. For integrating resources, it proposes to begin with Adele Hallam's *Cataloging Rules for the Description of Loose-leaf Publications*, adding rules as needed for electronic resources. This is good news for law catalogers who have long relied on Hallam's work.

We may get to be less picky about what is a title change. In fact, it is recommended that we think less about what constitutes a title change, more about what requires a new bibliographic record. Title changes may not necessarily generate a new bib record. By June, it looked as though print periodicals and series will continue to receive successive entry cataloging (a separate bibliographic record for each title change). But integrating entities such as loose-leaves, Web sites and additive databases may be cataloged on one bib record under their latest title and latest publisher, with earlier titles and publishers added. Electronic journals (e-journals) which change title may be cataloged by successive entry (separate records) if the earlier title still appears on the earlier issues. But those e-

journals which display only the latest title (even for the old issues which were originally issued under the earlier title) may be cataloged all on one bib record under the latest title.

Another paper which was discussed at ALA in June was MARBI Discussion Paper no. 114 “Seriality and MARC 21” [available at lcweb.loc.gov/marc/marbi/dp/dp114.html]. MARC 21 is the name for the newly-combined U.S. and Canadian MARC formats, which provide computer labels, or tags, for cataloging records. If AACR2 is changed, MARC coding must change too.

That pale green cover of AACR2 may reflect an effort to reorganize the cataloging rules. The Task Force is urging a three-part book: Part I could be description, no longer organized by physical format, but by area of description, more like most MARC-tagging manuals. Since physical formats overlap these days, they are no longer an unambiguous way to organize the rule book — the cataloger can no longer be sure which chapter to start with. (Is it a book or is it electronic? Is it a sound recording or a serial?) Part II could again be concerned with access points. Part III could deal with relationships to other works: linking entries and uniform titles. Some of the thinking underlying this proposal is in Tom Delsey’s complex paper “The Logical Structure of the Anglo-American Cataloging Rules drafted for The Joint Steering Committee for the Revision of AACR” (August 1998), available at <http://www.nlc-bnc.ca/jsc/aacrdel.htm>.

Comments on the Hiron paper can be submitted to the Joint Steering Committee through September — instructions for commenting are on the JSC Web site, along with the paper. The JSC will meet in the fall to continue these discussions.

Godfrey Rust’s presentation at the annual meeting (during Midwinter) of the National Information Standards Organization (NISO) gave us all a

reason to pay attention to metadata. He connected many of the standards being developed for identifying works and users.

Metadata is a general term for structured data which describes other data. A cataloging record is our best-known example of metadata: it describes a particular book; it can be linked to one or more unique identifying numbers. The term “metadata” is now being used mostly for machine-generated or author-generated data which describes electronic resources, such as Web sites. Ideally, metadata is carried within the electronic resource, so that the resource comes with all the data needed to find it and to track its use.

To allow us to find (or otherwise deal with) a book or other object, it must have some kind of unique identifier (perhaps a number), and a description that goes with that identifier so we know — with certainty — what is being identified. In the library and publishing worlds, we already have standards that identify and describe the things we purchase, collect and lend: ISBN and ISSN, UPC codes, AACR and USMARC, Dewey and LC call numbers, and many others. To some degree, these traditional forms of metadata allow unique identification and description. But they were designed for specific uses by libraries, booksellers and publishers, to describe relatively simple resources which were stored in a physical location. Some require significant intellectual work and time to create. And, while these standards have rules and structures, they don’t fully relate to one another.

Rust stated that we need a new kind of metadata. It must be useful for many purposes. It should be generated when the creation is first distributed and used over and over again (“do it once, do it right”). It should be capable of dealing with all kinds of material. It must deal with complex aspects of that material: a book is only taken off a shelf, but a digital object may be copied, excerpted, reformatted and distributed in a new medium, purchased or licensed with limitations.

Rust put it this way:

- * PEOPLE make STUFF. (Authors write books, singers record songs, etc.)
- * PEOPLE use STUFF. (Readers read books, fans listen to concerts, etc.)
- * PEOPLE make deals about STUFF. (Readers buy books and subscribe to magazines, fans purchase recordings, readers borrow books and articles through Interlibrary Loan, readers photocopy articles, restaurants play recordings of songs, publishers reprint photographs, people download text, data, video clips, sound clips, etc.)


Rust suggested that now that articles, sound recordings, video clips and databases are readily available electronically, in our libraries and on the Web, we need far tighter control over who may use our resources than a library card that allows you to borrow a book. He maintained that authors, publishers, booksellers, providers of databases, and libraries share the need to identify material (STUFF), its users (PEOPLE) and the terms on which it is used (DEALS). Rust spoke of creators and of creations. He defined a right as “authority originating in law for a Party to do or to authorize another Party to do a defined act to a Creation.” He spoke of rights-owners and of rights administration. He reminded us that libraries, although we may not charge for use, still have agreements by which we purchase and lend material.

He insisted that, with electronic availability of creations, rights must be controlled automatically. There will soon be far too many transactions to handle it manually. We will need standard identifiers tied to descriptions (metadata). The advantage of the new kind of metadata (as opposed to traditional cataloging) is that it can be built into the creation, and perhaps can be generated automatically.

Rust named several dozen organizations now working on schemes for metadata to identify and describe book components, creations of all kinds, sound recordings, musical works,

audiovisuals, etc. This is an exciting moment, he said. Because many standards are moving toward the same goal, there's hope of interoperability — of compatibility which will allow us to use the various standards to generate the metadata we need to allow the use of material electronically. "Metadata is the lifeblood of e-commerce," declared Rust.

Slides of his presentation are available on NISO's Web site (<http://www.niso.org/pdfs/rust.pdf>). His related paper

"Metadata: The Right Approach : An Integrated Model for Descriptive and Rights Metadata in E-commerce" is available at <http://www.dlib.org/dlib/july98/rust/07rust.html>. 

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MISS MANAGER

To contact Miss Manager, please write in care of the TSLLE Editors

Dear Miss Manager:

I need help! It's not just a single management question, but management in general. Somehow, I've been thrust into the position of managing more and more staff when all I really want to do is catalog. It wasn't so bad when there was just one staff member who had lots of experience and we each spent most of the day cataloging and consulting one another and seeing that our student worker processed things correctly. But then we hired a second professional who needed lots of training and lots of supervision, then the original staff member retired, then I was given the loose-leafers to supervise, and I have less and less time to do what I want! What should I do?

*Sincerely,
Born to Catalog*

Dear Born :

Miss Manager has known several catalogers who have found themselves in a situation which may be described as a cousin of the Peter principle.* These catalogers are honestly uninterested in moving up any ladders, and are happy to do nothing but catalog (although Miss Manager does not believe that the element of incompetence implied in the true Peter principle works in this category. Knowing where your strengths lie and seeking fulfilling work over advancements are traits foreign to many in the business hierarchies addressed in that work.)

Any skill which is challenging to learn, difficult to execute well, and arcane to those who are not familiar with it tends

to be extremely satisfying to the true proficient. Imagine a person who learns to weld and becomes better and better at it until he is so good that those who supervise his work decide he should pass on his skill to the less-experienced. That is a very good arrangement for the supervisors who guarantee themselves a steady supply of welders. It is not as good for the original welder who wants to weld.

This is your analogous position. Your supervisors, perhaps without your consultation, decided that it was more important for you to train staff to perform their work well than to spend as much time doing the specific tasks of cataloging. Obviously, this vision of the upper management in your library does not match your own. Your first step should be to address the reasons for such a decision – if indeed it was a decision. Depending upon the way things are done in your library, this new scenario may be the result of drift rather than an active decision that came out of an organized strategy. It is up to you to discuss this with your immediate supervisor (whether that is a department head, a director, a supervising attorney.) Find out what vision those who are in charge of the library's big picture have for your area. You may discover that you have more leeway than you imagine.

One of the unfortunate truths about cataloging in a law library is that many of those who are not involved in it have little understanding of it. If you are convincing enough to make it clear that your skills are best put to use performing the highly professional and necessary task of cataloging, and that the supervision of personnel should fall to someone else, it may be a simple matter of moving around a few reporting lines. But you should be sure that is what you really want. It is likely that those who set salaries will give more credit to those who can manage people than those who don't. This is just a reality of the workplace.

If after attempting to redirect work patterns in your library you find that things will not change, and if you are truly convinced that cataloging is the only work for you, you will

have to look for work elsewhere. If that becomes the chosen alternative, you will have to look for either a very large law library that has positions available for people who only catalog, or a large research library outside of the legal field. But Miss Manager would like to remind you that even if you were born to catalog, you chose to come into a profession that is changing very much with the times. It may be that those trained to be professional librarians will spend less and less time doing the particular task (whatever it may be) that first attracted them into the profession. A librarian without flexibility will have a very tough time in the years ahead.

*"1968 L. J. Peter *Peter Principle* (1969) i. 25 My analysis of hundreds of cases of occupational incompetence led me on to formulate *The Peter Principle: In a Hierarchy Every Employee Tends to Rise to His Level of Incompetence.*" OED2 on CD-ROM (Version 1.10).

Mis-Manager:

Pardon me for saying so, but you have got your head stuck in the clouds, lady. All of your wishy-washy answers are suitable (if at all) to those who work in some luxurious academic ivory tower. You know nothing about managing people in the real world. If you'd ever spent any time in a really busy library where things actually need to get done, you might have a clue. You would not be fretting over who's happy and who's not — that's just bull. You give people a job. They do it or they don't. If they don't, they're out on their ear. If they do, you pay them. You bust your butt to get the next thing done. It's simple and requires no so-called experts to guide the way.

*Sincere as hell,
Mr. Gruff*

Dear Miss Manager:

I cannot abide your lack of managerial expertise. You have never once mentioned the absolute necessity of beginning every managerial encountering opportunity with a "visioning priorities briefing." It is absolutely essential to first appropriately de-abstract the decisioning process by sessioning the inputting collaborators within the core community membership where the primary ownership of the agreed-upon themes are realized as resonant or non-resonant with the elemental essencing of the mission statement. You need to attend more seminars.

*Sincerely, in the sense that my own views are merely one set of potentialing enablers,
Ms. Trendy*

Dear Gruff and Trendy,

Miss Manager would first like to take the opportunity to express her profound gratitude for the undoubted blessing of never having worked for either of you. If possible, could you both put yourselves for a moment in the place of the staff person working in a law library who has some specific task to accomplish? I think it is clear enough that people in such a position require neither an iron fist nor a pile of mush.

They want managers who will give them guidance, encouragement, and useful criticism.

No one minds being persuaded to perform a task differently or better if the persuasion is sensible, clear, and humane. It is deep in human nature to respond aggressively (or at least defensively) to aggression, whether or not the aggressive manager has a good point to make. It is also deep in most human beings to stop paying attention when processes become too convoluted or uninteresting. Management is primarily a species of human interaction; and the style and substance of management are deeply intertwined.

Judging from the apparent styles of your management, I suspect that the substance that you both lack is a proper respect for your employees. Respect for any person who works under your direction is a minimal requirement in a manager. Respecting someone does not mean that you pretend substandard work is acceptable or that immature behavior is just lightheartedness. Respecting someone means that you are taking that person, and that person's work, seriously. You are willing to use the skills you have as a person overseeing the work of others to correct where necessary and to praise when appropriate. If you come down hard every time someone makes a mistake or fails to adhere to your rules you will lose the respect of your employees because you have failed to show respect to them. On the other hand, if you are removed from the nuts and bolts of the work you are supervising to such an extent that you cannot offer concrete solutions, you lessen your chances of having any staff person pay attention to your advice.

Mr. Gruff and Ms. Trendy, you are the twin peaks on every pointy-headed boss out there. I have never known a truly effective manager who was not, first, a decent person and, second, someone with good common sense. If you are lacking in either of those qualities, you should look to those fundamental elements first and then decide if anything else in your management style needs to be refined.

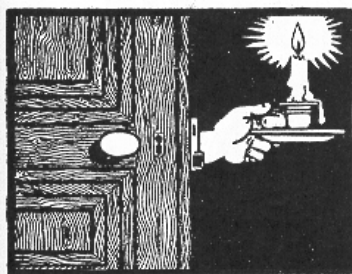
Dear Miss Manager:

My boss is a wretch! He himself has no affection for pets of any kind. My technical services staff are all passionate about their dogs and cats. My dictator/director refuses to let us use sick time to care for our pets or to take them to the vet. How do I deal with such an insensitive lout?

*Furiously,
Fido fanatic*

Dear Furry,

Miss Manager refuses to enter into the religious wars between those who love animals as equals, or nearly so, and those whose idea of human-animal interaction is chiefly encompassed in the idea of livestock. I imagine that your director has human resources policies on his side if you were to decide to push this issue. I would advise you not to fight on something which you have little chance of winning and which will create animosity based on world views outside of law library practices. 🏛️



OBS OCLC COMMITTEE

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Pre-Conference Institute on Knowledge Access Management

I was fortunate enough to have the opportunity to attend the three-day OCLC Institute, "Knowledge Access Management: Tools and Concepts for Next-Generation Catalogers," presented prior to the annual conference in Washington, D.C. This was truly a consciousness-raising experience! The institute faculty consisted of Erik Jul, Associate Director of the OCLC Institute, and Ann Sandberg-Fox, Cataloging Consultant and Trainer. Erik Jul presents a scary yet exciting picture of opportunities that currently present themselves for knowledge access managers (librarians) in today's electronic environment. We can influence the way in which electronic resources are organized, or by inaction and lack of vision, we can become marginalized and eventually left behind. Ann Sandberg-Fox is among the first line of policy makers in the cataloging community. Her presentations were pragmatic in approach, offering the participants an opportunity to better understand the similarities and differences between MARC and Dublin Core (DC) information.

On Day One, we learned about several alternative methods for creating metadata (in addition to MARC and DC), including: TEI (Text Encoding Initiative), EAD (Encoded Archival Description), and GILS (Government Information Locator Service), all of which use SGML. During the second day of the institute, Erik Jul presented us with an in-depth discussion of RDF (Resource Description Framework) which he considers one of the most important current developments in the organization of electronic resources. On Day Three, the class participants

broke into groups to give presentations on concerns and actions to be taken by various factions within the library community. All in all, I came away from the institute with a much better understanding of the issues involved in the organization of materials on the World Wide Web and how libraries can influence the ways in which the Web should be organized.

OCLC has vastly increased the number and type of institutes offered. They now include the following:

- ⊕ Knowledge Access Management for Reference Librarians
- ⊕ Continuity and Innovation in Resource Sharing
- ⊕ Using Metadata for Knowledge Management
- ⊕ Knowledge Access Management Tools and Concepts for Next-Generation Catalogers
- ⊕ Knowledge Access on the Web: Metadata Applications
- ⊕ Technology Planning in a Time of Rapid Change: A Workshop for Academic Library Directors


For more information see <<http://www.oclc.org/institute/index.htm>>.



Y2K Status Report

While in the exhibit hall at the AALL conference in Washington, D.C., I happened to see a demonstration of a Y2K status report service at one of the larger vendor stations (yes, I earned my cool bag!). It contained a list of that vendor's products and services and their Y2K status. So, I got to wondering, does OCLC have such a list? Sure enough, they do! Not only that, but they have an entire portion of their Web page devoted to Year 2000 concerns. According to K. Wayne Smith (remember him?), "Fixing the Year 2000 problem will cost the world at least a trillion dollars and OCLC at least \$8 million." Dave Morris, project manager of OCLC's Year 2000 effort and manager, OCLC Reference Offline Products, says, "OCLC intends to have all of its software compliant in time to allow additional end-to-end testing of its systems before the deadline arrives." Most valuable is the product and service status report at <<http://www.oclc.org/oclc/menu/y2kserv.htm>>, which lists each product/service and its state of readiness. I found most of these to be either Y2K compliant or obsolete. One of the notable exceptions is OCLC Passport for Windows. Its note states:

Users are required to check all macros utilized with the software to ensure that the dates used with certain commands contain four-digit year representations. Details are available in a written statement available from OCLC Legal. Requests for this written statement should be directed to:

George Buzash
OCLC Legal Department
6565 Frantz Road
Dublin, Ohio 43017 



RESEARCH & PUBLICATIONS

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[Chris Tarr, UC Berkeley <tarrc@mail.law.berkeley.edu> is the guest editor for this column. She shared some details of the following American Library Association conference presentation at the July 18, 1999 OBS/TS Research Roundtable at AALL. See also Becky Lutkenhaus' minutes of the Research Roundtable on page 18. – LeGrande Fletcher.]

Publish! Information, Networking And Motivation For Cataloging And Classification Research

American Library Association, Association for Library Collections & Technical Services, Cataloging and Classification Section, Policy and Research Committee Program (New Orleans, LA, June 27, 1999).

This program was designed to offer support, advice and motivation for librarians doing cataloging and classification research. Three people spoke:

- 1) Dr. Francis Miksa, Professor at the Graduate School of Library and Information Science at the University of Texas at Austin <miksa@gsliis.utexas.edu> (512) 471-3877;
- 2) Dilys Morris, Assistant Director for Technical Services at Iowa State University Library <dmorris@iatate.edu> (515) 294-8186; and
- 3) Carlen Ruschoff, Head of Cataloging at Georgetown University and *Library Resources & Technical Services (LRTS)* section editor for Cataloging and

Classification <ruschofc@gunet.georgetown.edu> (202) 687-7429.

Sarah E. Thomas, University Librarian at Cornell University <set9@cornell.edu> (607) 255-3689, commented on their advice. She was followed by Gregory H. Leazer of the Dept. of Library and Information Studies at UCLA <gleazer@ucla.edu> (310) 206-8135 and recent winner of a Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers (PECASE), who spoke about the research that led to his award. It was an inspiring and informative program.

Research is Like Grass

Dr. Miksa's role was to inspire us. He spoke about the commonness of research as a human activity (common as grass, he said); the motivation for research, (curiosity about phenomena); and research topics ("curious questions I have had"). Dr. Miksa pointed out that the notion that research is some rare and specialized activity (think of Jody Foster in the film *Contact*) is inaccurate. He noted that people do research all the time – about airline fares, or the best lawn mower to buy, or simply about things which interest them. The difference between common and professional research is a matter of degree. For professional research, one needs a better toolbox of methods, willingness to work meticulously according to strong rather than weak procedural rules, and a commitment to thoroughness. He stated that the best research is motivated by curiosity – curiosity about a phenomenon, which he defined as something that comes to our attention and is striking or special. He then gave examples of things he has been curious about, which included questions about users and systems, and questions about "information-bearing entities" — the things we catalog — and

in particular, whether the aspects we include in bibliographic records are really the most important things about those "entities."

Ms. Morris spoke about the importance of research as a way to help us adapt to change. Her own research, time and cost analysis, sprang from her need to know the best way to implement change at her institution. She noted the importance of research for promotion and tenure. She gave tips on how to conduct research and come up with research topics, including collaborating with other librarians, including public service librarians; consulting with journal editors; attending conferences; and focusing on subject interests. She mentioned the importance of specialized journals, although she also noted that peer reviewed journals were the most valuable for attaining promotion and tenure. Above all, she advocated a synergy between professional research and practice (i.e. one's job).

An Editor's Writing Tips

Ms. Ruschoff is an editor of a peer reviewed journal, *Library Resources & Technical Services* <<http://ala8.ala.org/alcts/lrts>> and gave very practical advice from an editor's point of view. She discussed how to find a topic, and how to write and submit an article. Criteria that editors look for include a topic of significance relevant to the journal's readership in an article with a logical format, clear hypothesis and clear writing. She advised that, when choosing a topic, you should pick a topic of interest, but also one where you can make a contribution. Search the literature thoroughly to be sure you can shed a new light. When writing or submitting your article, match your approach to the topic and your language to the type of audience likely to be

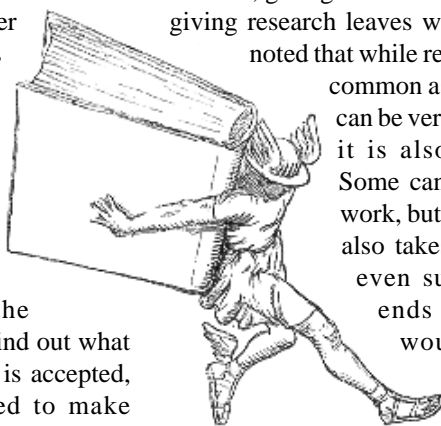
reached by the journal to which you submit. The problem should be stated clearly, using the literature to give background and to show that the problem is significant. The problem statement should be followed by a hypothesis, "if this then that". The research methodology should fit the problem. Findings should be stated in a separate section, followed by an analysis giving the implications of the research – why it is important and how it can be used. The analysis should be as complete as possible, including failures. An honest and straightforward discussion is always more useful to the reader. The writing should be clear. You should remember that others are not as immersed in the problem as you are, and do not assume that your readers will be familiar with jargon.

When preparing to submit your article, read the guidelines in journals to find out what they want. If your article is accepted, you will likely be asked to make changes. Read these changes and ask questions. If your article is not accepted, the editors may write and ask that the article be rewritten and resubmitted. This is no guarantee of future publication. Talk to the editor, and consider how much time the rewriting will take. It may or may not be worth your while. If your article is rejected, don't despair. It may be that your article is not on topic for that particular journal, or that your topic is well vetted already, or that your research is not well founded. Again, talk to the editor.

The Value of Research

Sarah Thomas, University Librarian at Cornell University, responded to the ideas presented by the three previous speakers. Speaking about the benefits and value of research, she seconded the notion that research can help us adapt to change. She noted that if we know what we are currently doing and can identify our successes and failures, we can make changes and move forward more easily. She also noted the

importance of research in the tenure process, and in garnering respect for our profession, but noted that more altruistically, research helps us to understand ourselves and feel more satisfied in our jobs. She also mentioned some steps administrators can take to foster research. These included explicitly mentioning conduct of research in job descriptions; evaluating research in merit raises and promotions; and modeling research for colleagues by having staff who write or give presentations give them to staff at home as well. She also listed mentoring new librarians; being flexible about time for research; giving financial support; and giving research leaves with pay. She noted that while research is "as common as grass," and can be very rewarding, it is also not easy. Some can be done at work, but inevitably it also takes weekends, even sunny weekends that one would rather



spend in the garden.

Low Hanging Fruit

After some audience discussion, including the advice from one audience member that newer librarians be encouraged to get started with smaller and easier projects – "low hanging fruit," Karen Calhoun, Cataloging Head at Cornell University <ksc10@cornell.edu> (607) 255-9915, mentioned that she had a "low hanging fruit" to offer. Ms. Calhoun is the Chair of the Standing Committee on Automation for the Program for Cooperative Cataloging (PCC). She spoke of the PCC's need for libraries to test out the new core level cataloging standard. Information is available on the PCC Web site <<http://lcweb.loc.gov/catdir/pcc/modelsab.html>>. Gregory Leazar then spoke about the research that got him his PECASE grant, and seconded Dr. Miksa's advice that research stems from curiosity, advising the audience to investigate problems we are interested in. He then gave a brief overview of his work, which itself looked curiously and curiously, but interesting! 📖

AALL Research Committee Seeks Comments on Research Agenda

The Research Committee is charged with several duties, including that of periodically reviewing AALL's Research Agenda. The Agenda is scheduled for review this year.

The Research Agenda highlights the Association's research priorities and was first approved by the Executive Board at its April, 1993, meeting. The purpose of the Agenda is "to identify researchable questions and issues for law librarians to explore with practical impact on the improvement of law libraries and their services, the job performance and professional development of law librarians, and the contributions of law libraries to the legal profession."

AALL's members are encouraged to read the Research Agenda and send suggestions and recommendations to the Research Committee. The Agenda can be found on AALLNet at <<http://www.aallnet.org/committee/research/>>. Hardcopy is available at 25 *AALL Newsletter* 92 (no. 2, October 1993). Comments on the Research Agenda and suggestions for updating its contents can be addressed the Committee Chair, Barbara Bintliff, or to any member of the Research Committee (see the Committee's web page for contact information).



The following serial title changes were recently identified by the University of California, Berkeley Law Library cataloging staff and the University of San Diego Legal Research Center serials staff:

The American University journal of gender and the law
Vol. 1, no. 1 (spring 1993)-v. 6, no. 3 (summer 1998)
(OCoLC 27671879)

Changed to:

The American University journal of gender, social policy & the law
Vol. 7, no. 1 (1998-1999)-
(OCoLC 41510353)

Georgetown journal on fighting poverty
Vol. 1, no. 1 (1993)-v. 5, no. 2 (summer 1998)

Changed to:

Georgetown journal on poverty law & policy
Vol. 6, no. 1 (winter 1999)-

International Monetary Fund. Staff papers
Vol. 1 (Feb. 1950)-v. 45, no. 4 (Dec. 1998)
(OCoLC 1753643)

Changed to:

IMF staff papers
Vol. 46, no. 1 (Mar. 1999)-
(OCoLC 41418786)

Journal of contemporary law
Vol. 1 (winter 1974)-v. 24, no. 2 (1998)
(OCoLC 1205166)

Margaret McDonald
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SERIALS

Christina Tarr
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Changed to:

Journal of law & family studies
Vol. 1, no. 1 (1999)-
(OCoLC 41401517)

Journal of health and hospital law
Vol. 21, no. 5 (May 1988)-v. 31, no. 2 (June 1998)
(OCoLC 17999014)

Changed to:

Journal of health law
Vol. 31, no. 3 (fall 1998)-
(OCoLC 40650134)

Law forum journal
Vol. 28, no. 1 (winter/spring 1998)-v. 28, no. 2 (summer 1998)

Changed to:

University of Baltimore law forum
Vol. 29, no. 1 (summer/fall 1999)-

Legal.online
Vol. 1, no. 1 (July 15, 1995)-v. 5, no. 5 (May 1999)

Was absorbed by:

Internet newsletter
v. 4, no. 3 (June 1999)-

Trust letter
no. 41 (1973)-no. 397 (Dec. 1998)

Changed to:

ABA trust letter
No. 398 (Jan. 1999)-

TVVS, otherwise known as Tijdschrift voor vennootschappen, verenigingen en stichtingen
1. jaarg. (1. mei 1958)-41. jaarg. (dec. 1998)

Merged with:

Naamlooze vennootschap to form: Ondernemingsrecht
1991:1-

Willamette bulletin of international law and policy
Vol. 1 (1993)-v. 4 (1996)
(OCoLC 28756393)

Changed to:

Willamette journal of international law and dispute resolution
Vol. 5, no. 1 (1997)-
(OCoLC 39651310)

The following serial cessations were identified by the University of San Diego Legal Research Center serials staff and the University of California, Berkeley Law Library acquisitions staff:

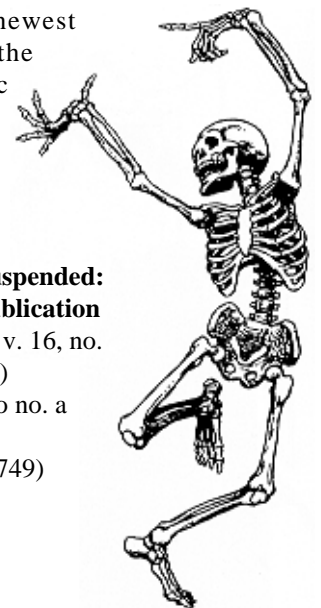
Change exchange : the newsletter for reduction of litigation cost and delay
Ceased with: v. 10, no. 1 (Nov. 1995)
(OCoLC 12879605)

Droit et pratique du commerce international = International trade law and practice
Ceased with: v. 22, no. 4 (1996)
(OCoLC 2243128)

Update on the courts
Ceased with: v. 5, no. 3 (spring 1997)
(OCoLC 26829395)

And, the newest member of the "bibliographic undead":

The California regulatory law reporter
Publication suspended: 1996-1998; **publication resumed with** v. 16, no. 1 (winter 1999)
Frequency: two no. a year, 1999-
(OCoLC 7533749)





SUBJECT HEADINGS

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Guest Author: Aaron W. Kuperman
Library of Congress,
Regional and Cooperative Cataloging Division
akup@loc.gov
(N.B. This is not an official communication from the Library
of Congress)

Except for a handful of libraries with highly specialized collections, the pending KB schedules won't have a great impact on the typical American law library. Most English-language books that discuss Jewish, Islamic or Canon law are at least as likely to class with the law of the country rather than in KB. Church and state classes by state, not by church. Thus, subject headings, rather than classification, are the critical element in communicating the mix of religion and law.

"Religious law" is a square peg that doesn't fit well in the round hole of American law. Perhaps reflecting the almost "sacred" doctrine of separation of church and state, American lawyers intuitively feel that if something is "religious" it can't really be law. In most western jurisdictions religious courts are largely irrelevant, and it was unheard of for anyone to try to manipulate the civil legal system in support of a theocratic domestic relations regime. It was widely assumed that "modern" secular law would replace ethnic, religious, and customary law throughout Africa and Asia, so that "religious" law would increasingly be a subject for a few specialists and antiquarians rather than mainstream legal scholars. American law cataloging practices evolved reflecting these perspectives.

For starters, it is easiest to note when not to bring out "religion." As an example, the historic common law definition of marriage as being between one man and one woman is not merely based on the Christian teachings but until relatively recently the only "marriage law" in England (and its American colonies) was the applicable canon law (Jews being excepted). Those canon law principles were adopted, with modifications, into the current "secular" domestic relations law applicable to all persons, though it is still very obviously based on the 18th century English canon law. We do not assign "religious" subject headings to works on this subject since they have lost their religious identity and are now general law. For example,

we don't use "Polygamy (Canon law, Anglican communion)" (which is not a valid LCSH heading) for a book on POLYGAMY—LAW AND LEGISLATION—UNITED STATES, even though the latter was derived from the former.

However that doesn't mean that "religious" law has disappeared even in the United States. While the reception of English canon law created one law for all citizens, many religious minorities do not regard marriage as being solely an affair of state. For the most part, most non-Protestant Americans still regard questions about marriage to be governed only in part by the legislature and in many aspects they still follow their own religious law and use their own religious tribunals. In many Afro-Asian countries, each ethnic and religious group is expected to be governed by their own domestic relations law (i.e., the religious or ethnic or tribal law is the law of the country for any given individual).

English-language books on Canon law domestic relations usually class in KB since applicable cases (e.g., Catholic Church annulment proceedings) rarely involve state courts. However, many cases involving other religious groups often end up in a civil court when an aggrieved party in divorce proceedings tries to use a state court to force the other spouse to agree to a religious divorce. Once a state court is involved, the case is no longer one of "religious law" and classes in a number such as KE572, but with subject headings for the secular topic DIVORCE—LAW AND LEGISLATION—[jurisdiction] and a second heading for the group in the form of JEWS [RELIGIOUS MINORITIES, MUSLIM WOMEN, etc.]—LEGAL STATUS, LAWS, ETC.—[jurisdiction]. If the book also discusses the internal "religious" law of the group, there might be an additional heading for that.

Cases of "religious law" ending up in "state" courts are not limited to domestic relations. There is a number at KF760.R44 for books on writing a probatable will according to religious tenets. Again, the first heading is secular: WILLS—UNITED STATES, the second heading is ethnic/religious for the group, e.g. MUSLIMS—LEGAL STATUS, LAWS, ETC.—UNITED STATES and if the book also gets into the details of religious law pertaining to wills a third heading may be needed, e.g. WILLS (ISLAMIC LAW).

Whether to include a heading for the "religious" law requires some thought. For example, a Pakistani law of Islamic marriage (applicable to Muslims only, non-Muslims are governed by different laws) would get a first heading for MARRIAGE LAW—PAKISTAN and probably a second heading for MARRIAGE (ISLAMIC LAW). A heading for

“Muslims—Legal status, laws, etc.” is probably redundant in an overwhelmingly Muslim country.

In the above example, whether to include a geographic, as in MARRIAGE (ISLAMIC LAW)—PAKISTAN, should depend on whether the discussion of the religious law is country specific. If the “Islamic” component of the book is obviously Pakistani a geographic subdivision is needed and the book should class with law of the country (if for example, an Egyptian or an Indonesian saw the book, they would say “this is Pakistani and not relevant to my studies of Islamic law except as an example of Pakistani practice”). Of course if the whole book lacks a geographic orientation, it would class in KB with the “religious” heading as a first heading. In what is an illogical inconsistency, Jewish and Canon law headings generally do NOT accept geographic qualifiers, while Islamic headings do.

One needs to avoid confusing laws applicable to a group with the customary laws of the group. For example, the Indian divorce laws applicable to Hindus are based on Anglo-American law rather than traditional Hindu law, and are considered quite objectionable by many Hindus. All books on the law of divorce in India, regardless of which group it is applicable to, get a first heading for the “secular” subject DIVORCE—LAW AND LEGISLATION—INDIA. A book on laws applicable only to Hindus then gets a second heading HINDUS—LEGAL STATUS, LAWS, ETC.—INDIA. Since the statute in question is not based on classical or traditional law, there is no need for an additional heading for DIVORCE (HINDU LAW). Such a heading would be misleading since the book is on secular (basically English) law being applied to Hindus in contrast to their own customary religious law.

While domestic relations is the most common and “sexiest” area to find discussions of religious minorities having their own law, it exists elsewhere. To the extent allowed (and in the U.S., the constitutional right to make contracts means it is allowed), individuals can

stipulate that their private contracts are governed by their own religious law, and that disputes will be litigated in religious tribunals (which is usually considered a form of arbitration). This results in a broad range of private and commercial matters ending up being litigated based on religious law. If one encounters a book on the subject, the “secular” heading (supporting the class number) comes first, and the religious headings come later, e.g., ARBITRATION AND AWARD—NEW YORK (STATE) followed by COURTS, JEWISH, but with no geographic because Jewish law headings don’t take geographic subdivision, unlike Islamic law headings.

The subject heading CHURCH AND STATE (which becomes RELIGION [JUDAISM, ISLAM, etc.] AND STATE in non-Christian countries) is still a hot topic. Less controversial is the area of ECCLESIASTICAL LAW (which becomes RELIGIOUS LAW AND LEGISLATION in non-Christian countries) and its many narrower terms that deal with issues arising when a religion is established, so that, for example, TITHES and CHURCH ATTENDANCE—LAW AND LEGISLATION are governed by acts of the legislature. The American states disestablished their state churches 200 years ago, so for the most part these

headings will be only of historical interest to a library that collects only American law. Some aspects of this area of law still lives on, however, such as SUNDAY LEGISLATION and ASYLUM, RIGHT OF which have taken on meanings transcending their origins as aspects of the state church’s legal status. For times and places where these are “legal” issues referring to laws governing the established religion, they should be treated like any other law subject heading (if not, they probably should class in B, not K). Many of these headings’ reference structures need revision (hint: SACO project needed?).

American law librarians once comfortably thought they lived in a world of well-established, exclusively secular law. Today we confront legal literature reflecting a world with much greater diversity, where in many countries “reception” is a problem for politicians rather than historians, and where many ethnic and religious groups look to their traditional religious jurisprudence as a vehicle for asserting autonomy and promoting group survival. As catalogers, we can use the flexibility in subject heading arrays to help our users access these materials, even if they may seem quite bizarre to our typical mono-cultural users. 🏠



Online Bibliographic Services SIS 1998/99 Annual Business Meeting



July 19, 1999

Jack Bissett, Chair, called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. Jack introduced Board members and thanked them for their contribution: Brian Striman, Incoming Chair-Elect, Marla Schwartz, Member-at-Large, Ellen McGrath, Outgoing Member-at-Large, and Ismael Gullon, Outgoing Secretary-Treasurer.

Jack called for the approval of the OBS SIS 1998 Annual Business Meeting minutes as published in *TSLL* v. 24, no. 2. The motion was carried. Jack wrote the OBS Annual Report which is available at the OBS Web site <www.aallnet.org/sis/obssis/>. He encouraged the membership to visit the Web site which also contains the procedures manual and election results and will soon include a membership roster.

Secretary/Treasurer report: Ismael Gullon reported that as of May 30, 1999, there were 317 members. He mentioned that OBS membership has been declining since 1998. Ismael announced that 314 ballots were mailed and 109 were returned for a rate of 34%. Ellen McGrath was elected Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect, Cynthia Cicco, Secretary-Treasurer, and Georgia Briscoe as Member-at-Large. He thanked Sue Roach and the Nominating Committee for the great slate of candidates and also thanked Virginia Bryant, George Praeger, and Richard Amelung for their willingness to run. He requested permission to destroy the ballots and it was granted.

As of May 31, 1999, we have a balance of \$5,549.15. We spent \$1,209.63 extra in postage/printing this year due to the forthcoming publication of the *Law Library Systems Directory*, 2nd ed. Forthcoming expenses include our contribution to *TSLL* and the 1999 Conference.

Reports of Committee and Representatives:

CONELL Marketplace: Sue Roach represented OBS at CONELL. She stated that there were 96 participants this year at CONELL and she was able to briefly introduce them to OBS.

TS/OBS/CS/RIPS Reception: Marla Schwartz stated that the reception went well. She thanked Innovative Interfaces for their contribution to the reception.

Technical Services Law Librarian: Linda Tesar reported that both Anna Belle and she enjoyed being editors of *TSLL*. If there are any problems or issues that have not been addressed, let them know. They are also planning to produce a 25th anniversary issue and are asking for contributions to enhance it. They are still looking for columnists to write about technical services in small libraries and automation. Jack presented Linda and Anna Belle with boxes of chocolates.

Local Systems Committee: Phyllis Post announced that the *Law Library Systems Directory*, 2nd ed., is due in the fall. The committee plans to update the survey questions in light of new developments in automated systems. They are also investigating the possibility of moving the directory to a Web based product. Susan Goldner is the new chair of the Local Systems Committee.

OCLC Committee: Susan Chinoransky informed us that the Committee will be meeting on Tuesday, July 20, 1999. They are planning to discuss the OCLC Metadata Institute and the WLN merger.

RLIN Committee: Jack Bissett reported on behalf of Pat Callahan, Chair, that Anne Myers is the new Chair of the RLIN Committee.

Research Roundtable: Ellen McGrath reported that Frank G. Houdek, editor of *Law Library Journal*, was the

speaker at the roundtable at which there were 24 participants. He highly recommended the participation of technical services librarians in publications. Alva Stone announced that she is a member of the editorial board for *Cataloging and Classification Quarterly*. She will gladly advise people about the journal's policies and the kinds of articles the board accepts. Ellen will share that information with LeGrande Fletcher, co-editor of the Research & Publications column in *TSLL*.

Education Committee: Ellen McGrath, Chair, reported that Committee has been discussing and exchanging ideas via e-mail. We have six proposals for the Philadelphia 2000 Conference, some fleshed-out better than others. She announced that the Education Committee meeting would be on Tuesday afternoon at 12:45 p.m. Ellen explained that the SIS will have one guaranteed slot on Sunday afternoon at next year's conference so it would be wise to identify the best proposal program for that Sunday afternoon. The deadline for proposals was August 16, 1999.

MARBI Representative: Since most of the OBS members attended the TS business meeting, Rhonda Lawrence decided not to give the complete report that she gave at that meeting but rather to highlight details from her report. She announced that MARC has a Web page that contains texts of discussion papers, proposals and agendas. This site provides a wealth of documentation about what's happening at the upcoming MARBI meeting <<http://lweb.loc.gov/marc/marcadvz.html>>.

Rhonda mentioned and briefly discussed some of the proposals and discussion papers significant at the MARBI meeting. (1) Discussion Paper No. 118: Non-filing characters in

MARC 21; (2) Proposal No. 98-08: Defining URL/URN subfields in the MARC 21; (3) Discussion Paper No. 114: Seriality and MARC 21. A lively discussion ensued regarding the "seriality" proposal. She needs to report to MARBI how law catalogers feel about the issues discussed so feel free to e-mail her with your comments and suggestions.

Joint Research Grant Committee: Corinne Jacox informed us that last year's recipients were LeGrande Fletcher and Christina Tarr. Mr. Fletcher's research resulted in an article, "Nevada Practice Materials: A Selective Annotated Bibliography," which was published in the Spring 1999 issue of *Law Library Journal*. Ms. Tarr has asked for an extension until July 1, 2000 to continue her research for "Alternative Cataloging: Cataloging at Amazon.com Online Bookstore." The Committee has granted the extension. No grant applications were received this year.

New Business:

Future of Web Advisory Committee: Jack informed the members that Sarah Andeen is the Chair of the Web Advisory Committee. If you are interested in working in the committee, please contact Sarah at <sandeen@smtpgw.maricopa.gov>.

Bylaws revisions: Jack Bissett thanked Alva Stone, Chair of the Committee, Brian Striman, and Sally Wambold for their contribution to the Bylaws revision. Since the Web Advisory Committee and the Joint Research Grant

Committee have served as Ad-hoc committees, we need to incorporate them as Standing Committees of OBS-SIS. The other revision to the Bylaws is the change from *Robert's Rules of Order* to *Sturgis Standard Code of Parliamentary Procedure* as the official rules for conducting OBS meetings. Alva Stone, Committee Chair, moved that the revised Article 7, section 1, and Article 9 as shown, be approved and adopted. Both motions were carried.

Installation of new Board Members: Jack Bissett introduced the new Board members: Brian Striman, Chair, Ellen McGrath, Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect, Cynthia Cicco, Secretary-Treasurer, and Marla Schwartz and Georgia Briscoe, Members-at-Large. Jack thanked the OBS membership for the opportunity and honor of serving them.

Open Discussion: Brian Striman, Incoming Chair, informed the members that he will investigate the merging issue as requested in the survey. He wants to first review our mission statement to verify that it follows what we are currently doing in OBS. He will post information in both OBS and TS-SIS lists. Alva Stone suggested that OBS be involved in creating an "Automation Resources Committee" as requested in the survey. Brian Striman adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Ismael Gullon
Secretary-Treasurer
gullon_i@mercer.edu

OBS-SIS RLIN Committee



MINUTES

July 20, 1999

Pat Callahan, University of Pennsylvania, chaired the meeting for Mary Chapman, New York University, who was unable to attend AALL this year. Robin Dale, RLG representative, was unable to be present due to a scheduling conflict. At the RLG Law Roundtable held on Saturday, July 17, R. Dale reported that RLG is involved with digitizing projects at Cornell and also plans to set up a law Web page for access policies and other law community-related resources. The ILL Manager was also demonstrated at this meeting.

RLIN Database Advisory Group report, Anne Myers, Boston University.

RLG has a number of foreign databases available through RLIN or via Zephyr, which converts foreign MARC to USMARC on the file for display and transfer. Copies of the list were distributed with a request that it also be posted to the Web on either the RDAG or Law Web pages. Problems were reported in the Eureka display of #v for the genre form. Use of the subfield generates error reports. There were questions why there is a delay by RLG to implement the

update to fix this problem; Anne will refer this to RDAG. The 007-reproduction field should be kept blank.

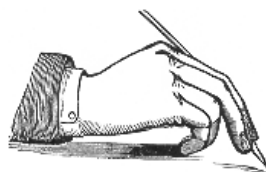
Libraries using CURL and Deutsche Bibliothek records as well as vendor records reported them useful for order purposes but not for cataloging.

ARA, Authority Record Assistant, is available for NACO libraries. It allows a heading from the bibliographic record to be used to generate a basic authority record from a template.

Format of future meetings was discussed. The hour format works well. The question of the value of meeting annually was raised. Public services staff does not demonstrate an interest in attending because the group is seen as one for technical services staff. Next year's chair will poll for agenda items before the AALL final program is printed in May; if nothing is pressing, the committee meeting may be cancelled. RLIN listservs, Web pages, and email could be used for general announcements.

Anne Myers will be the new RLIN Committee chair. ☺

OBS-SIS & TS-SIS Research Roundtable



July 18, 1999

Twenty-four law librarians attended the OBS/TS-SIS Research Roundtable at the annual AALL conference in Washington, D.C., on July 18. Ellen McGrath from SUNY at Buffalo and LeGrande Fletcher from Brigham Young University coordinated the roundtable, which provided librarians in various technical services positions with a forum for discussing the obstacles and rewards inherent in research and publishing.

Frank Houdek, editor of *Law Library Journal*, attended the meeting as a guest speaker and shared some guidelines for getting published. He emphasized that *LLJ* is interested in variety. His personal goal as editor is that every reader of *LLJ* will find at least one article of interest and value in each issue. Articles need not be lengthy and laden with footnotes to be published; shorter articles, opinion pieces and annotated bibliographies are welcome. He said that he receives far fewer articles relating to technical services than he does to public services and that he would like to see the number of technical services articles increase.

Houdek also reviewed some of *LLJ*'s submission guidelines with the group (based on the "Author's Guide" printed in each issue of *LLJ*). There is a rolling deadline, which means that manuscripts are accepted year round. Upon receipt, Houdek acknowledges that he has received the manuscript, and will notify the author of a tentative date for review. Two print copies of a manuscript should be submitted (or one copy as an email attachment), with references conforming to the Blue Book. Although manuscripts are accepted at any time, Houdek recommends submitting them early on in one's research, or better still, sending potential article ideas to him at <houdek@siu.edu> or (618) 453-8788. He cautions that there is a time lag

between submission and publication due to the collaborative editing process which then takes place between the author and the editor.

The group also discussed some obstacles to technical services oriented publishing. Some attendees cited lack of institutional support as a primary deterrent. Often times an institution's lack of support for technical services librarians to publish stems from the fact that these positions may not be tenure-track. Houdek stated that there are incentives outside of the institution that can help motivate professionals to research and publish. Self-fulfillment, and the satisfaction that one gets from contributing to the profession, are both factors that should be considered.

The group also discussed ways to make research and publication a less daunting task. Co-authorship was raised as a possibility. Such collaboration allows authors to share the work and also enables the sharing and development of ideas. Also, symposium issues in which all of the articles relate to a specific area can make the process easier. *LLJ* has used this approach in the past, and plans to use it again.

Corinne Jacox from Barry University of Orlando informed the group about OBS/TS Joint Research Grants that are available to help defray the expenses of conducting research. OBS-SIS and TS-SIS each contribute \$500 per year to the grant fund. The grants are intended to facilitate projects that will directly or indirectly benefit technical services librarians. They can be used to cover any out of pocket expenses such as mailings and travel. Two former recipients were in attendance and shared what they used their grants for. LeGrande Fletcher used his grant to travel to Nevada to finish an annotated bibliography of Nevada legal practice materials. His bibliography was published in the

Spring 1999 issue of *Law Library Journal*. Chris Tarr from the University of California at Berkeley intends to use her award to travel to Seattle to tour Amazon.com's facilities and learn more about their cataloging techniques. Jacox stated that the application process is fairly simple, and encouraged anyone who may be interested to contact her at <cjacox@mail.barry.edu> or (407) 275-2100. Further information and the forms are on the OBS-SIS Web site at: <<http://www.aallnet.org/sis/obssis/researchinfo.htm>>.

Several other opportunities for publishing and professional involvement were discussed at the meeting. The *Technical Services Law Librarian* always welcomes contributions and is particularly interested in finding columnists. Also, Carol Avery Nicholson from the University of North Carolina reminded everyone of the Professional Development Listserv. She is always interested in new topics for generating listserv discussions and also needs individuals to serve as moderators for these discussions hosted at: <<http://www.aallnet.org/prodev/listserv.asp>>.

Chris Tarr also provided a brief summary of a research and publishing session she attended at the annual ALA meeting in New Orleans on June 27. The title of the session was "Publish! Information, Networking and Motivation for Cataloging and Classification Research." Please see the Research & Publications column in this issue of *TSLL* for Tarr's summary of the content of that session.

Rebecca Lutkenhaus
Drake University Law Library
<rebecca.lutkenhaus@drake.edu>

MINUTES

Technical Services SIS 1998/99 Annual Business Meeting

Sunday, July 18, 1999

Joe Thomas called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Secretary/Treasurer Report:

Membership: In September 1998, we received a total dues credit of \$3750.00 which represented \$6.00 for each of the 595 members of TS-SIS.

Election Results: The election for the 1999/2000 Executive Board was conducted by mail ballot. 595 ballots with accompanying biographical information and candidate statements were mailed to members the week of March 1, 1999. 268 ballots (45%) were returned by the deadline of April 2, 1999.

Financial Status:

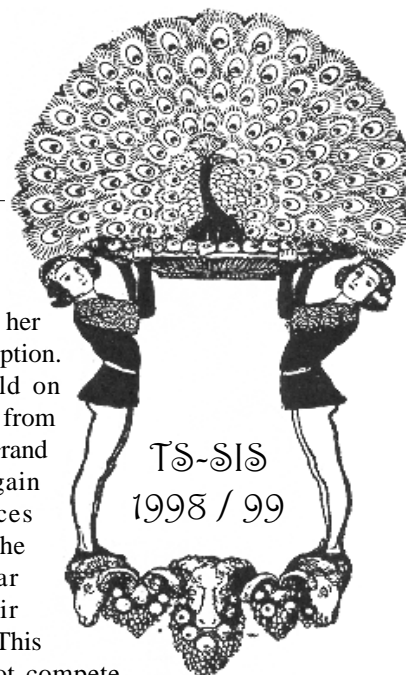
Balance on hand (10/1/98)	\$19,587.25
Income	
Exchange of Duplicates Subscriptions	1,320.00
Expenses posted as of 5/31/99	
Miscellaneous Expense	125.07
Postage/Freight	330.06
Printing	408.00
Supplies	21.08
Duplicate Exchange	523.93
Balance on hand (5/31/99)	\$19,499.11
Encumbrances	
Estimated TS-SIS Share of TSSL v.24	2,814.45
Giveaways for TS-SIS Table	2,393.94
½ Joint Research Grant	180.50
Meeting Signs	80.91
New Brochures Printing Expenses	79.02
Projected Balance on Hand as of 7/1/99	\$13,950.29

Technical Services Law Librarian

Linda Tesar reported on a very successful and enjoyable year as Co-Editor with Anna Belle Leiserson. Currently, they still need to find columnists for "Technical Services in Smaller Law Libraries," and "Automation." Linda also announced plans to celebrate *TSSL*'s upcoming 25th anniversary in the next volume. Finally, she encouraged members to contact the editors with ideas, article proposals, or problems.

TS/OBS/RIPS/CS SIS Joint Reception

Mary Burgos submitted her report on the Joint Reception. The reception was held on Saturday, July 17, 1999 from 6:00 to 7:30 P.M. in the Grand Hyatt Hotel. Once again Innovative Interfaces generously sponsored the reception, this year increasing their contribution to \$4000. This year's reception did not compete with the ALL-SIS reception and as a result, the turnout was much better than last year.



Standing Committee Reports

Acquisitions: Carmen Brigandi reported increased activity on the listserv. She also mentioned Rob Richards' two Web sites for legal publishing mergers (listing who owns who) and library collection development policies.

Cataloging & Classification: Melody Lembke, outgoing chair, submitted the committee's report. The committee's main accomplishment was the organization of several standing subcommittees: Description and Entry, Subject Analysis, and Administration. Another subcommittee has also been established to discuss the possibility of using England instead of Great Britain. The Library of Congress has asked for the law library community's input on this question.

Exchange of Duplicates: Joe Thomas reported for Melinda Davis who was unable to attend. There are currently 42 members of the Exchange of Duplicates Committee. Everything is now in a database rather than on paper slips. A current problem for the group is title inconsistencies within the database. Sometimes the same item may appear more than once as different members use different variations of the title.

Preservation: Pat Turpening reminded everyone of the Preservation Program, D7: *Preservation at the Crossroads: A Debate Between the Traditional World of Print and the Brave New World of Digital*, and the following roundtable. The Committee also scheduled a tour Tuesday afternoon of the LC Binding facility. Pat presented the results of her survey regarding preservation in law libraries. She received 36 responses and will try to get more. The biggest priority for those

surveyed is repairing heavily used volumes. Finally, Sally Wambold contacted the chapter presidents offering the Committee's help with preservation issues.

Serials: Joe Hinger conveyed the Serials Committee's disappointment at their inability to get program proposals accepted. The Committee proposed two programs and a full day workshop for the Washington meeting but all were declined. On a different front, the Committee is still compiling an article on serial statistics. They also discussed the question of whether the Committee should remain a standing committee or become a subcommittee of another committee. No consensus was reached and the Committee will revisit the issue at a later date.

Other Reports

Education Committee: Janet announced the new chairs for the standing committees: Acquisitions, Carmen Brigandi; Cataloging & Classification, Chris Long; Exchange of Duplicates, Kristina Kulman; Preservation, Pat Turpening; Serials, Joan Liu. Janet also explained the program availability for AALL 2000 in Philadelphia. TS-SIS will be guaranteed one Sunday afternoon slot with which we can do with as we please. The last time slot of each day will also be reserved for the SIS's but we must compete for these slots. The deadline for program proposals is August 16th. Janet asked for more ideas and explained that not all the ideas submitted had been followed through completely. An open forum to discuss next year's program proposals is scheduled for Monday at 4:45.

Nominations Committee: Nonie Watt reported for the Nominations Committee. Alva Stone was elected Vice Chair/Chair-Elect and Cindy May was elected Member-At-Large. Nonie thanked the

candidates and Joe Thomas for the enjoyable experience.

OBS/TS Joint Research Grant: Corinne Jacox explained the current status of last year's grant projects. LeGrande Fletcher's bibliography on Nevada legal materials was published in the Spring 1999 issue of *Law Library Journal*. Christina Tarr requested and was granted an extension on her project to study cataloging and Amazon.com. The guidelines for the joint grant are now available on the OBS-SIS Web site. No one applied this year so no grants were awarded.

Research Roundtable Special Report: LeGrande Fletcher delivered a special report for the OBS/TS Research Roundtable. The group met earlier this morning. Twenty-four people attended the meeting which Ellen McGrath co-monitored. Frank Houdek, editor of *Law Library Journal*, asked people to submit technical services articles to him for publication in the *Journal*. He relayed his philosophy of attempting to have one article of interest to each member of AALL in each issue of *Law Library Journal*.

Representative Reports

MARBI: Rhonda Lawrence reported on the topics currently under discussion by MARBI. MARC is no longer USMARC; the new name is MARC21 to reflect the harmonization with Canadian MARC. The project to harmonize this format with UK MARC is on hold. There will be a two-day preconference at ALA next year on Metadata. ALA has asked AALL to cosponsor the event. Loose-leafs are at the heart of the group's current discussions on the definition of seriality. Potentially, they may no longer be cataloged as monographs. They may become serials or something completely different. Rhonda reported on two other significant issues. The first item mentioned is a new proposal

for non-filing characters, Proposal 98-16R <<http://lcweb.loc.gov/marc/marbi/1998/98-16r.html>>. Nothing has been implemented but the issue is being heavily discussed. The other item of significance, Proposal 99-06 <<http://lcweb.loc.gov/marc/marbi/1999/99-06.html>>, concerns 856 fields. MARBI voted to accept the proposal which changes the repeatability of subfield u (URL). Now, a second URL will require a second 856 field.

CC:DA: Ann Sitkin explained that CC:DA does not revise rules, the group makes recommendations; some are accepted, some are not. She announced that [computer file] will eventually be replaced by [electronic resource]. Much work has been accomplished by the task forces. Two really important issues concern the proposal to revise content vs. carrier (when to make a new record) and seriality. See <<http://www.ala.org/alacts/organization/ccs/ccda/tf-024g.html>> for the report by the Task Force on Rule 0.24 and <<http://www.nlc-bnc.ca/jsc/ser-rep0.html>> for Jean Hirons' report, "Revising AACR2 to Accommodate Seriality."

SAC: Marie Whited announced that delimiter v had been implemented over the past year. The Subcommittee on Form Headings/Subdivision Implementation must continue its work because delimiter v is wreaking havoc with authority control systems. A second area of interest to SAC is metadata. The Subcommittee on Metadata and Subject Analysis is currently working on types of vocabularies and classification in metadata records. See <<http://www.aallnet.org/sis/tssis/commrept/1999/sac9902.htm>> and <<http://www.aallnet.org/sis/tssis/commrept/1999/sac9906.htm>> on the TS-SIS Web site for Marie's full reports from February and June, respectively. Marie has completed her term as AALL's representative to SAC and will be succeeded by

Melody Lembke.

SISAC: Joan Liu reported that SISAC and BISAC had partially merged to form BASIC, an acronym for Book and Serials Industrial Communication. BASIC will study areas of interest to both groups such as activities with EDI/EDIFACT message development. Other SISAC activities will remain under SISAC's jurisdiction. SISAC has also established a new Binding Task Force to work on transmitting binding data as EDIFACT messages. For Joan's full report, see <<http://www.aallnet.org/sis/tssis/commrept/1999/sisac.htm>>.

Renee D. Chapman Award

Jean Pajerek presented the Renee D. Chapman Memorial Award for outstanding contributions in technical services law librarianship to this year's recipient, Dr. Jolande Goldberg. As Senior Cataloging Policy Specialist for Law Classification at the Library of Congress, Jolande is responsible for the development of all the new and revised LC law classification schedules that have appeared over the last 25 years. She is currently working on the schedules for religious law and a revision of the Roman law schedule.

Announcements

Carol Avery Nicholson, member of the Professional Development Committee, will be soliciting members' help with three workshops: Basic Cataloging (to cover 2 ½ days), Advanced Cataloging (1 day), and Technical Services Management (2 ½ days). The Professional Development Committee

would like members to submit proposals (see RFP's on TS-SIS home page) for programs that can be held at the annual meeting or travel around the country.

Linda Tesar asked for volunteers to man the TS-SIS table in the Exhibit Hall.

Joe Thomas reported that only 250 of the current 650 TS-SIS members are subscribed to the TS-SIS listserv. He had planned to use the listserv as his main avenue of communication during his term of office but worried that not all members were connected. As a result, the list will be purged early in August and repopulated with the membership rolls at AALL Headquarters. This means that non-members will be unsubscribed and will need to resubscribe.

OBS-SIS will be investigating the question of merging with TS-SIS over the course of the next year.

Jack Bissett, outgoing chair of OBS-SIS, has been elected as 1999/2000 SIS Council Chair.

Joe thanked Martin Wisneski, the TS-SIS Webmaster, for his work maintaining the Web page.

Comments from the New Chair

Janet McKinney thanked all the outgoing and incoming board members. She announced that she hopes to work on the following issues during the coming year:

- Ⓢ Program proposals – We need to find a way to speed up the process.
- Ⓢ TS Practices vs. Handbook – Joe had asked this past year's board to look at the TS-SIS documentation

on the Web. We've discovered several inconsistencies between the written procedures and actual practices.

- Ⓢ Exchange of Duplicates Program – should this be handled by a standing Exchange of Duplicates Committee or should the standing committee become a subcommittee of another standing committee such as Serials?
- Ⓢ Member at Large duties – during his/her second year of board membership, the Member-At-Large chairs the committee in charge of the Joint Reception. Currently, the first year of a Member-At-Large carries no specific duties. Janet would like to review this for possible changes.
- Ⓢ Education Committee Chair – should the Education Committee Chair be the incoming Vice Chair or the incoming Chair?
- Ⓢ Strategic Plan – Janet would like to develop a strategic plan over the course of the coming year. What is our mission compared to OBS-SIS?

Finally, Janet asked everyone to fill out their surveys when they receive them this fall and send them to Alva.

There being no further business, meeting was adjourned.

*Respectfully submitted,
Linda Tesar
Secretary/Treasurer
tesar@law.vanderbilt.edu*



TS-SIS Standing Committee on Cataloging and Classification



July 19, 1999

Report of the Chair and Old Business:

Chair Melody Lembke opened the meeting on Monday, July 19, at 7:05 am by introducing several sub-committees being formed. Her goal is to have a vehicle for continuing work from year to year and for giving feedback to the Library of Congress as needed. She asked for volunteers for several standing sub-committees and there were sign-up sheets available for those interested. The several groups are: Description and Entry, Subject Analysis, and Administration. Some concrete tasks were set for these groups. The Subject group will be discussing the creation of a list of inherently legal subject headings that as yet do not have a law and legislation subdivision with the end goal of making suggestions for enhancements to LC. The Administration group will be handling issues relevant to the use of paraprofessionals for copy cataloging. An additional sub-committee was set up to discuss the issue of the use of the geographical subdivision Great Britain versus England in subject headings. John Hostage will chair this group. The other committees still need Chairs.

Reports

ALA ALCTS Subject Analysis Committee [SAC]: Liaison Marie Whited reported on the work of this committee. Her full reports from both the Midwinter and the Summer meetings are available at the TS-SIS Web site: <<http://www.aallnet.org/sis/tssis/commrept/reprept.htm>> This was Marie's last report. Melody Lembke will follow her as the AALL representative to this ALA committee.

ALA ALCTS Cataloging and Classification: Description and Access [CC:DA]: Liaison Ann Sitkin's report

is also available at the TS-SIS Web site. One of the topics the committee is working on is the revision of AACR2R to accommodate seriality. Ann invited all present to attend the program with Jean Hirons based on her paper on seriality with special emphasis on loose-leafs. This program will be followed by a rountable discussion. Ann also announced that she has a draft of the legal serials module for the CONSER manual if anyone is interested in looking at it. This was written by Rhonda Lawrence and revised by Ann Sitkin and John Hostage.

ALA MARBI committee. Our liaison Rhonda Lawrence would like to set up a committee to give a response to MARBI discussion paper 114. Rhonda sent around a sign-up sheet for those interested in this committee. The paper is available on the Web at: <<http://lcweb.loc.gov/marc/marbi/dp/dp114.html>>

Jolande Goldberg of LC reported on the development of the LC classification schedules for religious legal systems. She is almost finished with KBR, KBS and KBP. KB will be comparative religions law. KBR is for Canon Law. KBS is for the Catholic Church and Modern Canon Law. Drafts of both schedules are on the Web and are being reviewed by Pontifical University and the Vatican. KBP for Islamic Law is mostly approved. She is working in partnership with Lesley Wilkins and the Islamic Legal Studies program at Harvard Law School. This schedule is not yet available on the Web. She will begin working on a schedule for Jewish Law in the fall and will be finished by next year in time for the bicentennial of the Library of Congress.

New business

There was a very lively discussion on

program planning for AALL Philadelphia 2000. Aaron Kuperman of LC suggested a program on the new religious law classification schedules along with or in addition to a program on religious law for non-specialists. Aaron will propose this program. It was also suggested that we put together another "Cataloging a la Carte" type program. Reggie Wallen implored the group to write well developed and thought out proposals. This year's programs were accepted because they were good and not because there was a technical services track. She explained the process the education committee goes through to select programs, stressing that they have a tight time schedule and need to see catchy, well written proposals which are not full of jargon.

The RFP's sent to the TS-SIS from the AALL Professional Development committee and distributed at the Business Meeting were discussed. The question was what do we as a committee want to do. Several suggestions were made, but nothing concrete was decided. Much of the discussion revolved around the short notice surrounding these RFP's. It was mentioned that much time and work goes into planning something like a Basic or Advanced Cataloging Institute. Others mentioned programs that have already been planned and could be recycled.

Final announcement

The meeting ended at 8:30 am. with Melody introducing Chris Long as the new chair of the Cataloging and Classification committee.

*Minutes recorded by
Elizabeth Geesey Holmes
Harvard Law School Library
eholmes@law.harvard.edu*

The DOI *(continued from page 1)*

The length of the number can reach 128 characters. Publishers can assign the DOI to any level of work or product. Attaching a DOI to the whole does not preclude also assigning DOIs to the parts. For example, a book can carry a number, as can a chapter, illustration or table.

The Directory

The directory works, in effect, as a router. Holding all the DOI numbers and the address of the server maintained by the publisher, it serves as an intermediary between the user and the rights-holder. When a publisher moves, changes servers, or sells rights, the new location is updated in the directory, but the number remains the same, always attached to the same content.

This sounds similar to the Persistent URL (PURL) system developed by OCLC. The directory is based on a similar system, Handles©, developed by the Corporation for National Research Initiatives (CNRI). Both systems perform single point resolutions that is, they return a single URL for each item, but the Handle system offers the potential for multiple point resolution, much like an authority record, so that an automated system can deliver different outcomes to a resolution request dependent upon user specified requirements.


The Database

Metadata is essential to commerce as it must be possible to process transactions via unique identifiers without recourse to physical inspection of the items being traded — which may be inconvenient or impossible. Publishers/rights holders would maintain a database that contains the actual content, plus information about the content. Applications of the DOI will require an interoperable scheme of metadata with each DOI; the basis of the DOI metadata scheme is a minimal “kernel” of elements.

The system debuted to mixed reviews at the Frankfurt Book Fair in 1997. At that time, the American Library Association expressed concerns over ways in which copyright law lagged behind the technology involved. The technology for implementing the full DOI system was also lacking. Special browser plug-ins were required to use the Handle© system and publishers were concerned about the lack of connection between the DOI and existing ISBN, ISSN and ISWC numbering systems. Ann Leer, strategic planning advisor for Oxford Interactive Learning at OUP, described the system as “a Dis-Organized Idea, albeit a good one.”

In the last two years, there has been much formalization of the DOI initiative. An international foundation has been formed to provide support for further work. The Foundation exists to support the needs of the intellectual property community in the digital

environment, and specifically to promote and develop the use of the Digital Object Identifier. The Foundation developed a set of principles, available from their Web site, governing the use of metadata in the DOI system. It also participates, alongside the Dublin Core and IFLA, in the Interoperability of Data in E Commerce Systems (INDECS) project.

What does this mean for us? The ability to track locations of data on the Web and to have sets of metadata and copyright information available are of great value to catalogers, but the DOI is also broadly defined as a tool for electronic commerce. As information becomes a commodity traded and sold via the Internet, publishers will develop systems such as the DOI for supporting these transactions as well as maintaining a record of copyright. Our methods of acquiring and providing access to it will need to keep pace and evolve as well. 

For More Information:

DOI Homepage
<<http://www.doi.org>>

DOI: Current Status and Outlook
Norman Paskin, Director, The International DOI Foundation
<<http://www.dlib.org/dlib/may99/05paskin.html>>

INDECS Homepage
<<http://www.indecs.org/>>

Identifiers and Their Role in Networked Information Applications
Clifford Lynch
<<http://www.asis.org/Bulletin/Dec-97/lynch.htm>>

The Role of Metadata Supply Chains in DOI-Based, Value-added Services
John S. Erickson, Ph.D.
VP of Technology Strategy, YBP, Inc.
<<http://www.ybp.com/ybp/papers/doiservicesapr99.htm>>

DOI: a New Identifier for Digital Content
Paula Berinstein
Searcher, Jan 1998 v.6, no.1, p.72

DOI: Digital Object identifier or dis-organized idea?
Sally Taylor
Publishers Weekly, Nov. 10, 1997 vol.244, no.46, p.13



A Guide to Library Technical Terms

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	<u>What it sounds like:</u>	<u>What it is:</u>
Retrospective conversion	A post-mortem religious experience	Changing existing card catalog records to online records
Z39.50 (Z39 dot 50)	An annoying robotic side-kick in a cheesy science fiction movie	A protocol that allows a search in one library's catalog to be carried out in other catalogs
Reference interview	Touch-and-go conversation between a potential employer and your current boss	Touch-and-go conversation between a reference librarian and a patron
OPAC	Organization of Petroleum Absorbing Countries	Online Public Access Catalog
Circulation override	Access Services staff heading out on horseback to track down delinquencies	Allowing items which usually don't circulate to do so
Electronic dissemination	Process by which Microsoft intends to take over the universe	Publishing without paper and distributing via computers
CONSER	Nefarious government body	An international cooperative serials cataloging program
Serial	Misspelled breakfast food	A publication which is intended to keep on publishing
Bibliographic entity	A ghost haunting the library	Anything that can be described in a cataloging record (including a ghost haunting the library)
Monograph	A scholarly presentation of profoundly important ideas representing an original direction within a particular discipline, or across several disciplines	A book



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