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A Tribute to Cynthia Aninao (1952-2007)

by Karen Douglas
Duke University Law Library

On February 4, 2007 Cynthia Aninao lost her year-long battle with non-Hodgkin's lymphoma at the young age of 54. Cynthia was Head of Technical Services at the Robert Marx Library, University of Cincinnati College of Law, where she had worked for the past 17 years. Her passing leaves a great void, both at the library where she worked, and in the law library community as a whole.

Cynthia made many valuable contributions to law librarianship, specifically in acquisitions, during her tenure. In 1995, Cynthia Aninao founded and, up until 2005, moderated *LAW-ACQ-L*, a discussion list devoted to the special issues that acquisitions and collection development law librarians faced. *LAW-ACQ-L* came on the scene right when the merging of law publishers began. It was a place where we often went to get the latest information on who was now publishing a certain treatise, a place where we shared our woes and success stories concerning vendor customer service and picked each other's brains for best practices. In the beginning, Cynthia added each new member by hand, passing around sign-up sheets at each AALL Acquisitions Committee meeting and Roundtable, so that new librarians could join the discussion group. It was several years before it became a formal discussion list. Each posting went to Cynthia's personal e-mail address and she forwarded them to the subscribers. When this process was automated, Cynthia still acted as moderator, screening all the postings. Vendors weren't allowed to belong to this discussion list. This was our place as acquisitions librarians, to candidly discuss what was on our minds. Cynthia vigorously upheld this policy. Over the years, I got so much useful advice from this discussion list that I would always recommend it to any new acquisitions librarian I met. It has become a vital part of the law acquisitions communication system. The *LAW-ACQ-L* discussion list is still running and is now moderated by Dick Vaughan, Acquisitions and Serials Control Librarian at Indiana University Law Library at Bloomington.

This was not Cynthia's only contribution to law acquisitions librarianship. She was very involved with the professional development and continuing education of law acquisitions librarians. She was the driving force behind the most recent

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December Column

First, I have some news to share. With much regret, the OBS accepted Step Schmitt's resignation from the position of member-at-large because she is leaving law librarianship. Her last day at Yale was December 15. She contributed to OBS in a number of ways in addition to serving on the board including: working on the strategic plan, speaking at last year's Local Systems Roundtable, and helping to organize the "Alphabet Soup" Reception. Our loss is another's gain, and so we wish her the very best in her new adventure. And quite an adventure it is! She is going to be the Supervisor of Technical Services at Zayed University in Dubai, United Arab Emirates. We asked Caitlin Robinson to step into Step's position and she graciously accepted. Caitlin will serve until next July, when a new member-at-large takes office.

Last time, I promised that this column would be about the new OBS Strategic Plan and the progress that has been made toward accomplishing its goals. Let me start by giving a very warm thanks to the committee that created it. Very ably cochaired by Ellen McGrath and Kevin Butterfield, the members were Georgia Briscoe, Patricia Callahan, Janet Ann Hedin, LaJean Humphries, Richard Jost, Tim Knight, Keiko Okuhara and Step Schmitt. Each of them deserves our appreciation. Their good efforts lead the membership to adopt the plan at our business meeting on July 10, 2006.

Because it is important and because I know that many of you have not read the plan (despite your best intentions) here is the OBS mission:

The Online Bibliographic Services Special Interest Section (OBS) of the American Association of Law Libraries (AALL) supports and serves its members by providing leadership, education, networking opportunities, and advocacy in the areas of online bibliographic services and automated library systems. Emphasis on all aspects of bibliographic services makes OBS resources valuable to all librarians, regardless of position or function. OBS also supports the vision and strategic directions of AALL.

The entire plan is available on our website at <http://www.aallnet.org/sis/obssis/about/strategicplan.htm>. It calls for three strategic directions: *OBS Communicates!*, *OBS Educates!*, and, *OBS Connects!*

OBS communication takes a number of forms. We used a variety of means to publicize the new strategic plan, including posting it on the website, and on the OBS discussion list, and distributing it at the OBS board meeting, and discussing it in this column. Later this year it will be part of the OBS column in *AALL Spectrum*. By the time you read this, you will probably have received this year's survey from Andrea Rabbia, vice chair. Please take a few moments to fill it out. I strongly encourage you to consider volunteering for a committee or running for an office. The survey is the board's primary means of hearing from our membership and is relied upon to inform our decisions. Last year's survey results are available on our website and excerpts were included in one of the four columns I submitted to *AALL Spectrum* so far this year. Of course, the OBS discussion list is used routinely to inform our membership of activities and opportunities. From time to time it is also used to get answers from our peers to bibliographic utility and local system questions. We all learn from these exchanges, so do not be afraid to post a question.

Some communication activities are still in the works. Improvements need to be made to our website including an FAQ section for members. Please contact Shannon Burchard, our webmaster, if you have suggestions for the website. On another front, Corinne Jacox is working with AALL headquarters to produce a new brochure for us. Along with using it at our table at the annual meeting and at CONELL, we will investigate the possibility of sending it to new AALL members. Stay tuned for more about these activities. In these ways, OBS Communicates!

Much that OBS does is designed to educate both formally and informally. The 2007 OBS Education Committee submitted seven proposals to AMPC this year, as well as cosponsoring two submitted by TS-SIS. Please thank the committee members who crafted our proposals: Jack Bissett, Kevin Butterfield, Janet Ann Hedin, Yumin Jiang, Andrea Rabbia, Caitlin Robinson, and Paddy Satzer. While we were disappointed that more were not selected, we are pleased to announce the following programs that will be presented at AALL in New Orleans:

- "Collection Analysis Made Easy: OCLC's WorldCat Collection Analysis Service" (cosponsored by TS-SIS)
- "OCLC's WorldCat: Our Collections at the World's Fingertips"

-
- “Bringing the Library to the User: the Theory” (TS-SIS program that we cosponsored)
 - “Bringing the Library to the User: the Practice” (TS-SIS program that we cosponsored)

In addition to these official programs, both the OCLC/RLIN Committee and the Local Systems Committee have unofficial programs planned for New Orleans. You will hear more about these as plans solidify in the spring. In line with AALL’s push to offer educational programs outside of the annual meeting, I asked the Education Committee, the OCLC/RLIN Committee, and the Local Systems Committee to suggest to the board specific educational projects for us to pursue. There is funding available from AALL for projects like this, so we are not limited by the state of our finances. If you have specific suggestions, please tell me or one of the committee chairs.

The publications that we read contribute greatly to our education. We are so fortunate to have the wonderful publication that we share with TS-SIS, *TSLL*. Now that it has lost the restraints imposed by producing and mailing physical pages, it is growing into an even richer educational tool. I encourage each of you to consider contributing articles to *TSLL* and to other publications, such as *AALL Spectrum*, and *Law Library Journal*. No other group will write articles about our subjects, so we (OBS members) need to take on that responsibility.

A great deal of education is more informal than those already mentioned. We are expanding the number of roundtables offered at the annual meeting. In addition to the OCLC/RLIN Roundtable, the Local Systems Roundtable, and a Research Roundtable (with TS) we have scheduled a Technology Jam Roundtable and a Heads of Systems Roundtable. In addition, we offered local system users group a room and slot in our schedule for New Orleans. ALEPH users, Innovative users, and SIRSI users will each hold a roundtable on Tuesday morning. For Innovative, this will be in addition to their normal programming on Saturday. There is so much we can learn from each other, and it is our hope that these expanded opportunities will facilitate that learning. In these ways, OBS Educates!

The third strategic direction for OBS is making connections. We do this during AALL annual meetings through our roundtables, at our activities area, and during CONELL. We are committed to connecting to newer law librarians by offering them positions on our committees and on our board. However, it is very difficult for us to include you in our leadership if we do not know of your interest. Let me repeat what I said earlier in this column, please fill out the membership survey and when you do, indicate the areas where you would have an interest in serving OBS. Please do not feel that you do not have enough experience or anything to offer the group. The OBS-SIS is a great place to gain experience. Your contributions will be your perspective on our issues and the energy that you are willing to commit to us. If everyone participated, just think how wise we would be and how much we could accomplish. In these ways, OBS Connects!

March Update

Annual Meeting Update

I hope that most of you are starting to make plans to attend AALL in New Orleans this summer. Below is a recap of the programs and roundtables that OBS will offer. All OBS activities are listed on our website at: <http://www.aallnet.org/sis/obssis/meetings/2007/index.htm>. More details will appear there in the next few months.

AALL’s Preliminary Program is available at: http://www.aallnet.org/events/07_PreProgram.pdf. Make sure you look three places for OBS activities: in the official programs (starts on page 4), in the SIS educational opportunities (starts on p. 32), and in the meetings and events index (page 55).

This year’s AALL meeting will be packed with programs, both formal (AMPC-selected) and informal. These include two OBS programs plus two we co-sponsored with TS-SIS, three informal programs, seven roundtables, and six meetings. We will all have to wear our roller skates, because everything will take place during the new, one-day-shorter, AALL meeting schedule.

Both of our formal programs deal with OCLC services. They are: A-2: *Collection Analysis Made Easy: OCLC’s WorldCat Collection Analysis Service* and J-3: *OCLC’s WorldCat: Our Collections at the World’s Fingertips*. During the first, we will learn about OCLC’s collection analysis software from an OCLC staffer and from three law libraries that have used it. ‘During the second program, we will learn about OCLC’s venture into the land of Google, both now and in the future. It is interesting that both of the programs selected by AMPC are geared toward public services along with technical services.

Two programs that we are co-sponsoring with TS-SIS are also on the agenda. They present two aspects of the same issue: *Bringing the Library to the User: The Practice* (A-4) and *The Theory* (B-3). For *The Theory*, we will hear from an RLG/OCLC spokesman about their plans for incorporating Web 2.0 ideas into future information search and discovery practices. *The Practice* will be presented by three non-law librarians whose libraries have created cutting-edge OPACs that seek to

overcome the problems found in most OPACs today.

The three informal programs presented by OBS will mirror programs presented last year. On Sunday afternoon, our Local Systems Committee will present a two-part *Vendor Showcase*. This year's important topic is *Federated Searching*. Four vendors will present their products and answer our questions. The showcases will be followed by the Committee's *Roundtable on Federated Searching* (Monday afternoon), where we will have an opportunity to share our experiences, both good and bad. Another program, on Monday morning, is presented by our OCLC/RLIN Committees. It will give us an update on the OCLC/RLG merger and other important OCLC developments. OCLC staff will be able to answer our questions during the *OCLC Roundtable* which follows the program.

OBS is presenting a handful of new roundtables this year. On Tuesday morning, three different library systems users groups will have an opportunity to meet, following their own agendas. They are ALEPH, SIRSI, and Innovative. (This will be in addition to Innovative's normal Saturday meeting.) The other new roundtables will bring together different groups of us to share our common problems, solutions and visions. They are the *Technology Jam Roundtable* (Monday morning) and the *Heads of Systems Roundtable* (Tuesday morning).

Elections

Election of new officers is taking place during the month of April. We owe a huge thank you to each and every person who is running this year. And, of course, we must thank the wonderful committee that came up with the slate of officers: Georgia Briscoe, chair; and members Ismael Gullon, and Hollie White.

Susan Goldner
University of Arkansas at Little Rock, Bowen School of Law
UALR/Pulaski County Law Library

OBS-SIS Officer Candidates for 2007-2008

On behalf of the OBS-SIS Nominating Committee, Susan Goldner, OBS chair, presents the following slate of excellent candidates.

For Vice Chair/Chair-Elect:

Michael M. Maben Cataloging Librarian Indiana University School of Law Library at Bloomington	Patricia Sayre-McCoy Head of Law Cataloging and Reserves University of Chicago D'Angelo Law Library
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Secretary/Treasurer:

Elaine B. Bradshaw Catalog/Computer Services Librarian University of Oklahoma Law Library	Mary M. Strouse Associate Director and Head of Technical Services Catholic University of America
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For Member-at-Large:

Susan Karpuk Catalog Librarian Yale Law School	Barbara Plante Catalog Section Supervisor University of Connecticut School of Law Library
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We owe a huge "thank you" to each and every person who has agreed to be on the ballot this year. And, of course, we must thank the wonderful committee that came up with the slate of officers: Georgia Briscoe, chair; and members, Ismael Gullon, and Hollie White.

OBS-SIS 2007 Membership Survey Results

The 2007 OBS-SIS Membership survey was conducted in February 2007. Of our 303 active OBS members, 69 took part in the 2007 OBS Membership Survey. Although, a 23% return rate seems low, it is the same number of respondents that we had last year. The full survey results can be viewed on the OBS website, <http://www.aallnet.org/sis/obssis/about/communication.htm>, but here are some interesting trends, worth noting:

- 77% of respondents (53) say that at least 10% of their work time is spent Cataloging.
- 51% of respondents (35) say that at least 10% of their time at work is spent in Administration.
- 46% of respondents (32) say that at least 10% of their time at work is spent in Serials Management.
- 39% of respondents (27) have been law librarians for 20+ years.
- 86% of respondents (59) are law school librarians.
- 66% attended the 2006 AALL Annual Meeting.
- 69% attended the OBS-sponsored “OCLC WorldCat: Changes, Collection Analysis, and MARC Holdings” program, and 72% rated this program as Very Relevant
- 74% say they plan on attending the 2007 AALL Annual Meeting.
- 62% say the 2007 program “Bringing the Library to the User: the Practice” (A4, co-sponsored with TS-SIS), is Very Relevant and 59% say the 2007 program “OCLC/RLIN Update” is Very Relevant.
- 85% say the potential 2008 program “The Good, The Bad, the Ugly: Rethinking Bibliographic Services” where the recommendations outlined in *Rethinking Bib Services at University of California*, the *Calhoun report*, and Karen Markey’s paper will be discussed, has them Very Interested.
- 92% say *Technical Services Law Librarian* (publication) is Worthwhile.
- 77% say the quality of *TSLL* is Excellent.
- 81% say the Feature Articles are great!
- 42% say they read 70-89% of *TSLL*.
- 87% say OBS Programs at AALL Annual Meeting are Worthwhile.
- 75% say OBS Committee Discussions (Roundtables) at AALL Annual Meeting are Worthwhile.
- 88% say that the OCLC and RLIN Committees should be combined, at some point.

Comments regarding how OBS can serve its members better include:

- ClassWeb and Catalogers' Desktop are LC products, but it would be good if we can have a program or a speaker from LC showing us the effective use of these two products, especially for new users.
- OBS is doing a good job, but more communication via the OBS discussion list would be nice. Especially since *TSLL* is so off schedule. Perhaps a monthly “From the Chair” on the e-list and/or website would make sense.
- You are doing a great job. During the first few years of my career, the group became mentor, educator and friend; then I contributed whatever I could; now I enjoy keeping up by reading *TSLL*, keeping up the special friends and attending the occasional meeting.
- OBS does a great job. Thanks for the legal website of the month.

*Compiled by
Andrea Rabbia, OBS-SIS Vice Chair/Chair-Elect*

T

echnical Services Special Interest Section

From the Chair

Live Dangerously — Volunteer

By the time you read this column, Alan Keely, the TS-SIS vice chair/chair-elect, will have recruited volunteers to serve as TS-SIS committee chairs, or committee members, or to work on *TSLL*, or our website, or a program. Most of us find it difficult to make this type of commitment; there is always too much to do at work and home; our children, spouses, significant others, and older parents to take care of, all of whom need our time and attention. Perhaps we feel too tired, burned out, bored, or too frightened.

Frightened? Yes, too afraid to take risks, to venture into unknown territory, to make a commitment we fear we cannot master. We worry we might make fools of ourselves by doing or saying the wrong thing in a public arena surrounded by colleagues we respect. Well, as someone who has suffered from life-long hoof-and-mouth disease, I can assure you that you won't die from a size ten shoe inserted between your incisors. Maybe you'll experience a few uncomfortable moments now and then when you realize— *Oh. My. God. What did I just say?*— but most people are far too busy to pay as much attention to your faux pas as you think they are.

Our profession demands that we keep up with the latest technology, changes in cataloging and metadata structures, the latest publishing developments and merges, the latest last best thing. And one excellent technique for staying current is to be active in this Section. When you are really involved in a committee project, or reviewing drafts of new cataloging code, or developing a program on new online catalogs, or helping new librarians learn acquisitions techniques, you discover that you have learned far more than any member of the audience ever will. Your professional involvement enhances your expertise, your knowledge, and yes, your status among your peers as you become known as a “go-to” person on that topic.

So even if you didn’t sign up in March, you will still have plenty of opportunities to get involved! Don’t be one of those people who grouse about the TS-SIS programs, the meeting schedules, the venue, and yet never does anything to make the situation better. You will take pride in your accomplishments and the contributions you have made to your profession. I guarantee it.

Great Volunteers

Okay, so who are some of those people who have given so much to our Section? Well, take Martin Wisneski, our web manager. Behind the scenes, he ceaselessly weaves web pages: updating our handbook, posting our election news, working with the chair, secretary, and other members who need announcements and forms and lists and directories and surveys posted. He answers email requests just about any time, day or night, with unfailing good humor and promptness. I have accused him of always being online.

Or, what about our own esteemed *TSL* editor, Brian Striman? Thanks to his editorial efforts and the work of the columnists and all of their predecessors, TS-SIS, and OBS-SIS publishes the most professional and authoritative section newsletter in AALL— and outside of the ALA **Association of Library Collections and Technical Services** (ALCTS), is the most professional technical services publication, period. All of this is accomplished by non-paid volunteers. Last fall Brian managed to handle both the conference issue of the newsletter and the chapter presidency of the Mid-America Association of Law Libraries.

Okay, so maybe you are not ready to sign up for 24/7 duty as these two have done. But you could get started by working on a standing committee, submitting a program idea, signing up for a task force or a specific job when there is a call for volunteers.

Why No Long Survey This Year?

Some of you (a very, very small group of some of you), may wonder why there is no long and tedious survey form to fill out this year. You know, the annual survey asking you to rate the 2006 programs you did, or did not, attend last July in St. Louis, requesting your feedback on the air conditioning (yes, we know, there wasn’t any), soliciting your suggestions for programs to offer in New Orleans in 2007, and for Portland in 2008, including a question if there is anything else can we do for you. Well, we decided not to conduct it this year because we (“we” being the last few incoming vice chairs who have had to construct, and tally the survey) got tired of a response rate percentage somewhere around Bush’s current approval ratings, despite the bribes of free chocolate and bookstore gift certificates. It just seemed like you most of you didn’t want to tell us what you thought.

So now we are not asking. Well, at least not every year. Besides, we cannot really take your suggestions now for programs in New Orleans, since those all had to be submitted by August 2006. It’s also getting increasingly difficult to ask you what programs you want a year and a half down the pike, when God only knows if we will actually still have catalogs, or more than one publisher, by 2008. Okay, so I exaggerate. But you get my drift.

Instead, we are going to ask all TS-SIS program coordinators to provide attendees with evaluation forms right there at the actual meeting! And even more radical, the TS-SIS Board will ask AMPC, and AALL headquarters to share evaluations from our AMPC sponsored programs with the TS-SIS Education Committee, instead of surveying you a second time six months later to evaluate a program you can barely remember.

And you *will* have a chance to tell us what programs you want for Portland in 2008 when Alan Keely and the TS Education Committee solicit your ideas in the months ahead. We are just not going to bribe you anymore.

What *Does* the TS-SIS Board Do?

Some of you may also wonder what the TS-SIS Executive Board does between the Julys of the annual meetings. Maybe not very many of you, but *some* of you may wonder. As this Board can tell you, we exchange tons of email and make lots of conference calls. During our two-hour calls (which are tricky to schedule since we cover four time zones), we review preparations for the annual meeting, report on our committee and board assignments, evaluate the awards process, oversee

the alphabet soup reception, respond to requests by the AALL Board, help to publicize AALL activities, and discuss how and when to update the handbook and section bylaws.

If Alan Keely, vice chair, had known what he was in for this year, he might have reconsidered whether to run for election last spring! He has done lots of heavy lifting this year, including, but not limited to, creating an internal website for the Education Committee to keep track of documents, proposals and minutes; writing up instant lists of action items for both the education committee and the board so that we can actually remember what we promised to do during our phone calls. Always proactively following up before being asked, and always responding promptly and cheerfully to the chair's requests for help. Oh, and did I forget to mention his soliciting for volunteers, creating next year's committees, preparing and developing programs for the 2008 annual meeting? I could not have imagined a better vice chair.

Karen Douglas, our immediate past chair, has the unenviable job of working through the TS-SIS *Handbook*, and any bylaw amendments. Even small changes in how the TS-SIS awards are made, require rewriting procedures and information for our website. With the help of individual committee chairs, such as Ellen McGrath, chair of the Awards Committee, and our ever-present Martin Wisneski, Karen successfully steers the proposed changes and multiple drafts through to completion.

Sima Mirkin, our secretary/treasurer, prepares exhaustive minutes of our conference calls and carefully reviews our quarterly statements from AALL headquarters, making certain that all of our pennies are properly counted. To that end she has successfully mastered the art of reading double-entry bookkeeping! At the very beginning of the new board term, each standing committee chair also serves on the TS- SIS Education Committee. This task has become a very time-consuming, exhaustive, and important service. Thanks in large part to their efforts at shepherding various program proposals this year, we have a record four AMPC sponsored programs, and seven TS-SIS sponsored programs. The Acquisitions Standing Committee has been busy coordinating topics for the 2007 Acquisitions workshop—an enormous effort requiring lots of people, and Chair, Ajaye Bloomstone, has also been keeping on top of ACQWEB developments, and coordinating with Pamela Bluh, our esteemed law library colleague who just happens to be **president-elect of ALCTS**. Congratulations, Pamela!

Carol Avery Nicholson, chair of the Serials Standing Committee, has established several subcommittees; one that focuses on future serial programs, one that follows developments in the ABA statistics questionnaire, and another that investigates COUNTER (Counting Online Usage of NeTworked Electronic Resources) including potential application in law libraries. She also serves as our diplomatic envoy— her sensitive radar is quick to detect political landmines, and she does her best to steer us clear. Pat Turpening has retired from law librarianship, but continues as chair of the Preservation Committee while working on our TS-SIS sponsored Katrina program. The Cataloging and Classification Standing Committee has been particularly busy this year as Jean Pajerek, chair, at my request, established three working groups on descriptive cataloging, subjects and classification, and standards for vendor records. Oh, and she also oversaw a task force on series practice that has made its report to the Board.

Our two members-at large, Janice Anderson and Marie Whited, may have the best jobs. Their invaluable experience, insight, and political savvy help us to resolve issues and ensure that all of our functional areas receive proper attention. Janice has the fun of planning the annual “alphabet soup reception,” and Marie oversees the TS-SIS activities table at the annual meeting.

Election

The 2007-08 election is now underway, and we want you all to vote. We are indebted to the Nominations Committee, Reggie Wallen, Chair, and members Calmer Chattoo, and Phoebe Ruiz-Valera for developing such a wonderful slate of officers.

Grants and Awards

Ellen McGrath, Chair of the Awards Committee, has announced that this year's recipient of the Renee D. Chapman Memorial Award for Outstanding Contributions in Technical Services Law Librarianship is Mary Jane Kelsey, Associate Director for Technical Services at the Lillian Goldman Law Library, Yale Law School. Congratulations to Mary Jane, and we thank her for her many important contributions to our profession!

*Rhonda K. Lawrence
Hugh & Hazel Darling Law Library UCLA School of Law*

TS-SIS Officer Candidates for 2007-2008

On behalf of the TS-SIS Nominating Committee, Rhonda Lawrence presented the following slate of excellent candidates for 2007/08.

For Vice Chair/Chair-Elect:

Ismael Gullon
Associate Law Librarian for Collections and Technical
Services
Mercer University Law Library

Linda Tesar
Technical Services/Systems Librarian
Alyne Queener Massey Law Library, Vanderbilt
University

For Member-at-Large:

Carmen Brigandi
Head of Acquisitions & Serials Control
California Western School of Law Library

Lorna Tang
Associate Law Librarian for Technical Services
University of Chicago D'Angelo Law Library

Sima Mirkin will be continuing in 2007/08 as our Secretary /Treasurer for the second year of her two-year term.

We owe a big thank you to all the candidates for agreeing to run, as well as a debt of gratitude to the Nominating Committee: Chair, Regina T. Wallen, Assistant Director for Technical Services, Stanford University; committee members Calmer Chattoo, Serials/E-Resources/ Special Formats Cataloger at the University of Miami School of Law; and, Phoebe Ruiz-Valera, Technical Services Librarian, Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton LLP.

TS Annual Survey

The annual membership volunteer survey for 2007 was conducted in early March. The Membership Committee, chaired by Jeffrey Bowen, did an excellent job putting the survey together. Martin Wisneski did his usual terrific job of getting the form up on the TS-SIS website. To those of you who responded, I thank you very much for taking time to complete the survey. The TS-SIS Executive Board and the standing committee chairs have the results and you may be contacted soon.

... And now, (drum roll please!)—the results. Of the 612 TS-SIS members, 204 people, or 33.33% of the membership, responded. This represents a huge increase over recent years. It is difficult to summarize the results of a survey of this type, but I think a look at the demographics is enlightening:

Respondents by Type of Library and Years of Librarianship

Court	6	2.94%
Federal	2	0.98%
Firm	24	11.76%
Law School	158	77.45%
Other	3	1.47%
Retired	1	0.49%
State/County	10	4.90%
	204	100.00%
0 to 5 years	39	19.12%
5 to 10 years	35	17.16%
10 to 15 years	33	16.18%
15 to 20 years	30	14.71%
20+ years	67	32.84%
	204	100.00%

A great deal was learned about what worked with this survey and what did not. I particularly want to thank those who responded to me directly with comments about the survey.

*Alan Keely, Vice Chair/Chair-Elect
Wake Forest University*

Member News

Mary Rose, Cataloging Librarian at Bryan Cave LLP in St. Louis has resigned as the co-columnist of the Private Law Libraries *TSLL* column. She is leaving Bryan Cave to go to Lovejoy Library at Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville (SIUE). We wish Mary Rose all the best in her new library job.

Regina (Reggie) Wallen, Assistant Director for Technical Services, is leaving law libraries. Reggie was the Renee Chapman Award recipient for 2001. She was offered the position in the university library of Interim Head of Access Services. Her last day in law was April 11th. In her TS-SIS discussion list posting she said it's hard to say good-bye after 35 years, but she could not turn down one last chance for a new challenge before retirement in early 2008. She also said she has been honored to have spent her career as a technical services law librarian. Her best memories will always be of moments shared with her colleagues in law. Her email address will remain the same, rwallen@stanford.edu and her new address is: Stanford University Libraries and Academic Information Resources, SULAIR, 152 B Green East, 557 Escondido Mall, Stanford, CA 94305-6063

Elizabeth (Beth) Geesey Holmes, Cataloging Services Librarian, is leaving her warmer climes at the University of Georgia in Athens, to move to Rhode Island in early June. Beth is going to be leaving Law Libraries for uncharted waters, and she doesn't know if she will be in law library cataloging in the future. In her TS-SIS discussion list posting, she said her official "good-bye" and thanked all the terrific professional colleagues over the past 13 years that she has spent in law library technical services. She said she learned a lot from everyone and has enjoyed giving back to the SIS and to the profession. Her husband has been offered, and taken his dream job as a full professor at the Naval War College in Newport. She was columnist of the Classification column in *TSLL*. Marie Whited will be interim columnist.

The Renee D. Chapman Memorial Award

The TS-SIS Awards Committee is pleased to announce that the recipient of the Renee D. Chapman Memorial Award for Outstanding Contributions in Technical Services Law Librarianship for 2007 is Mary Jane Kelsey.

Mary Jane is Associate Director for Technical Services at the Lillian Goldman Law Library, Yale Law School. Her many contributions to the field of technical services law librarianship include:

- 16 program presentations delivered since 1994 at AALL annual conference and at various Innovative user group meetings, as well as at other venues
- 9 publications (articles and book chapters, some of which reside in the category "Humor" on her c.v.)
- Service on AALL Special Committee to Develop Performance Standards for Law Librarians, AALL Price Index Advisory Committee, and on various SIS, chapter, and Innovative user groups

Congratulations Mary Jane!

The Renee D. Chapman Memorial Award for Outstanding Contributions in Technical Services Law Librarianship is presented to an individual or group in recognition of extended and sustained distinguished service to technical services law librarianship and to AALL. Honorees may be recognized for achievement in a particular area of technical services (acquisitions, cataloging and classification, materials processing, preservation, automation, or technical services administration), for service to AALL, or for outstanding contributions to the professional literature. These achievements may include the publishing, presenting, or sharing of innovative techniques or research, analysis or commentary; the development of software, hardware, or other mechanisms that significantly enhance access to law library materials and collections; and the contribution of service to the Technical Services SIS as a whole.

<http://www.aallnet.org/sis/tssis/awards/chapman/>

TS-SIS Awards Committee

Ellen McGrath, Chair

Kevin Butterfield

Larry Dershem

Leanne Hillery

Marvin Lewis

Technical Services Grants to Attend AALL

Would you like some financial assistance to attend the AALL conference and/or CONELL in New Orleans this July? If so, read on ...

TS-SIS grants will be awarded to support attendance at AALL sponsored educational events related to technical services, including cataloging, preservation, acquisitions, collection development, serials, and management. Grants will not be awarded for non-AALL affiliated programs.

The Marla Schwartz grant is a special educational grant intended for newer law librarians and graduate students in library/information studies programs. This grant was established to honor Marla's memory and achievements. It may be awarded to support attendance at any of the events listed above, and/or, it may be used to support attendance at CONELL. While an applicant for the Schwartz grant need not be a member of AALL or TS-SIS, the Awards Committee will give preference to those who plan careers in technical services law librarianship.

For more details, visit the TS website at: <http://www.aallnet.org/sis/tssis/grants/educational/>

There is one application form for all TS grants. It must be printed out from the TS website, completed, and sent to the TS Awards Committee Chair (contact information at end of form). Application form at: <http://www.aallnet.org/sis/tssis/grants/educational/edgrantapp.htm>

Deadline: April 20, 2007

Questions?

Contact: Ellen McGrath

Chair, TS-SIS Awards Committee

emcgrath@buffalo.edu

716-645-2254

TS-SIS Awards Committee:

Kevin Butterfield

Larry Dershem

Leanne Hillery

Marvin Lewis

Ellen McGrath

Letter to the Editor

What to Do About the Library of Congress

by
Publius Bibliothecarius

Dear Colleagues,

During 2006 there was much discussion among librarians of radical changes the Library of Congress is considering in how it goes about cataloging. The changes could reduce the cost of cataloging, but will have a profound negative impact on the law library community. While this oversimplifies the situation, the Library of Congress appears to be moving in the direction of replacing its traditional high quality (and expensive) cataloging with what amounts to "minimal level cataloging."

Last spring, LC suddenly ordered its catalogers to stop making series authority records and to no longer attempt to link the series name as published in a book with the form of name in the series authority record. The Program for Cooperative Cataloging did not accept these changes, leading to the ironic situation that cataloging produced by the Library of Congress is currently coded as being inferior to the PCC libraries that still follow the traditional LC standards. LC catalogers still record most series information in the field for uncontrolled series data, so in most situations there is only a limited impact on users, provided one has the capacity to search uncontrolled series data through keyword searching (LC's OPAC can but many can't). If a series changes its name or if a series has multiple names, which is common in multilingual countries, users are no longer able to retrieve all works based on knowledge of the series name. A similar change applied to name authorities would be problematic in looking for works by a personal author (a "natural person") who has written under different forms

of name, and would be devastating in looking for works by corporate authors (“juristic persons”) since corporate bodies frequently change their names and are frequently known by multiple names.

Various reports emanating from LC suggest that LC is seriously considering abolishing controlled subject vocabulary (LCSH), and is increasingly shelving books other than by classification. Presumably, users could locate materials based on keyword access to as much of the book that the publishers allowed to be searched (and due to the “for profit” nature of legal publishing, it is doubtful that much would ever be available for searching). Since that legal terminology varies even between states, not to mention between countries, the loss of controlled vocabulary and subject analysis would be devastating for law libraries. While the LC classification (the “K” schedules) are powerful retrieval tools in the hands of skilled researchers, they are primarily designed as a tool for shelving books, and if LC no longer uses its classification for shelving, one might ask how much longer LC might still bother to assign numbers solely for “outside” libraries. Furthermore, subject cataloging and classification involve much time spent on book analysis, a small amount of time assigning the subject headings, and very little time assigning class numbers since the latter are derived from the primary subject heading. If LC abandons one aspect of subject cataloging the other may become prohibitively expensive.

Fortunately, running these ideas up the flagpole has generated the equivalent of “Bronx cheers” rather than salutes. However, we need to be wary. Cataloging is expensive. Arguably, many types of materials do not require “full” cataloging. Even if legal materials are exempted from the switch to “dumbed down” cataloging, copy cataloging allows for the possibility of a library with high professional standards adopting a “low quality” record containing unacceptable shortcuts; this is true even if one is copying a record from the Library of Congress.

It is important for the law cataloging community to insist on maintaining high standards. Ideally, we should convince LC to maintain (and in some cases, restore) the traditional high standards of cataloging. Certainly, that is what AALL should lobby for. However, minimized cataloging is radically cheaper than high quality cataloging, and we should probably be ready to adopt a “Plan B” involving convincing the Library of Congress to support a high standard of cataloging for legal materials regardless of how non-legal materials are processed. An important element is to make sure that the current LC Law cataloging team, as well as the Law Library of Congress (which at present works with but does not control the Law cataloging team) are “on board” when it comes to maintaining high professional standards for law cataloging. LC has a history of being responsive to the needs of law libraries, so there is room for optimism. If law cataloging is forced to become independent of the rest of library cataloging, it will become necessary for us (presumably through AALL, perhaps working directly with the Law Library of Congress and the Law cataloging team at LC) to establish our own equivalents of LC’s policy office and our own program for cooperative cataloging. It might require adopting our own descriptive cataloging standards. It probably will require law catalogers throughout the world to work cooperatively on developing LCSH’s legal terminology and the K schedules, rather than depend on LC to update these tools. It should involve some form of quality assurance of bibliographic records destined for being copy cataloged by law libraries to guarantee that they meet our specific needs (which perhaps might be a good idea in any event).

The message that technical service librarians need to send out is that we will maintain traditional high standards of descriptive and subject analysis regardless of what the Library of Congress does. If LC wants to lead us on the road to minimal level cataloging, we choose not to follow.

AALL Spectrum Article of the Year Award Winner

As posted on the March 9, 2007 OBS discussion list.

“Congratulations to Georgia Briscoe and Barbara Bintliff, whose article “The Ethics of Record Sharing,” was just named the 2006 “Spectrum Article of the Year.” This article had its genesis from the OBS-sponsored program “Nabbing vs. Sharing,” presented at the 2005 AALL Annual Meeting in San Antonio. The AALL Spectrum Article of the Year Award honors outstanding achievement in writing an article that contributes to topics relating to librarianship, law librarianship, and practical applications for library work.”

The New Catalogers' Roundtable will be meeting at AALL in New Orleans this July

Are you a new law cataloger? Would you like a forum for addressing your questions and concerns in your new role? Our discussion list and website are currently under development, so if you'd like to be added to the list, or added to a current membership roster *please contact me directly* at: mkaupp@law.columbia.edu.

In planning this event it would also be useful to hear what topics, issues, and interests you would like addressed or discussed at our meeting in July.

Many thanks! Looking forward to hearing from you!

Monica Kauppi
Facilitator New Cataloger's Roundtable

ACQUISITIONS

Is it Ever Out-of-Print?

Kevin Butterfield
The Wolf Law Library,
College of William & Mary

We can all agree that the nature of acquisitions has changed with the arrival of the web. Anecdotally, we also know that we can find easily, and often, reasonably priced monographs that, in the past, were difficult to replace. Robert Holley and Kalyani Aiken of Wayne State University used a Library Collections Acquisitions and Technical Services Research Award to the study how the Internet has impacted the definition of "out-of-print." Holley and Aiken set out to prove these anecdotal observations empirically.

The authors analyzed the offers of out-of-print dealers to buy and sell items in *AB Bookman's Weekly* during two periods (1982 and 1992) as compared with availability and prices in 2004, in the AddALL website, a metasearch site for out-of-print materials, at: <http://used.addall.com>. The authors state that the efficiencies of Internet commerce have rationalized the process of buying and selling out-of-print materials. They note that very high percentages of materials that libraries, especially academic libraries, would wish to buy are available at significantly reduced prices from the earlier inefficient offline market. Their research uncovered four important implications for libraries.

The distinction between in print and out-of-print in regards to availability has disappeared.

The authors discovered an online availability rate of about 95% for items in their study. In their view, this removes the distinctions between in-print and out-of-print. They point to Amazon.com and Barnes&Noble.com offering new and used books at the same ordering point as an indication of this. Users can comparison shop amongst dealers, editions, hard versus soft cover editions, etc. In addition they note that many books offered in the online out-of-print market are not actually used but rather new books from various remainder stocks or books that have been so slightly used that they could pass for new. High availability rates also lessen the pressure to make "just in case" purchases. If abundant copies are available, one can always get the title when needed. This is, however, not always a secure assumption depending upon the field or topic you are searching for. Bestsellers may be abundantly available, but that treatise on promissory estoppel may not hang around the market as long, if at all.

Materials in the out-of-print market are often less expensive than when published.

This would seem to be a logical conclusion though not one that would hold true for rare and/or special collection types of titles. The increased number of sellers online and the ease with which transactions can occur creates greater competition and drives down prices. The authors point to an additional study suggesting that libraries would save significant amounts of money by briefly deferring some new purchases and then buying those same titles on the used/out-of-print market. There are some caveats. Assessing the actual condition of an out-of-print book via the web can be tricky. One seller's subjective judgment of "very good" might be another seller's "acceptable." Also, with a few exceptions, metasearch sites cannot consolidate shipping. Multiple shipping costs can, over time, eat into savings.

Retrospective buying projects are feasible.

Retrospective collection development and replacement copies for missing titles are more readily available for purchase.

Although, with large digital collections such as the Making of Modern Law, LLMC-Digital and Hein's Legal Classics Library make retrospective collection of 19th century and earlier print imprints a more discriminating process. In that case, we may purchase the title more for its value as an artifact than for its content. The authors do note that the out-of-print market could be a source for preservation copies, however, privately held volumes are subject to many of the same paper degradation issues as those volumes held by libraries.

For monographs, purchase may be a reasonable substitute for Inter-Library Loan.

Our library reviews annually the list of items requested via inter library loan. We purchase those requested items that fit our collection development goals. The online book market makes acquiring these titles much simpler. Holley and Ankem cite a 1979 Kent study for establishing the truism that past use is the best predictor of future use. With this in mind there may be instances where buying a used copy of a title and expediting the shipping would serve both the short term needs of the user and the long term goals of the library. Cataloging and acquisition costs may exceed the cost of a traditional interlibrary loan, but, in the long run, the library gets to keep the book.

Reading through Holley and Ankem's research, I am, on the one hand, not surprised by the results. It has become much easier to find non-rare materials, either out-of-print or used, via sites such as Amazon, ABE books, Alibris and Addall. Prices have dropped, and, at the same time, sales have increased as stocks become accessible to a larger pool of buyers. An aspect of this phenomenon not addressed by Holley and Ankem, and one that impacts law libraries considering retrospective collections purchases, would be the rise of large e-book monograph collections. The focus of their study is on purchasing of print materials. Additional research looking at the impact of licensing large e-book collections on the purchase of print by academic libraries, and law libraries in particular is needed. It may show that while the out-of-print market is still active for 20th and 21st century imprints, 19th century and earlier imprints purchases are lagging due to both current e-book licenses and earlier microform purchases.

In addition, one can assume that if it is so much easier for libraries to purchase out-of-print materials, the same would hold true for our patrons as well. Is it easier for them to just buy a used copy of the book they seek for \$2.95 than come into the library? It is a trend worth considering in light of announcement in 2005 that Alibris has made access to their entire inventory of 50 million new, used, and hard-to-find books available for purchase through the OCLC WorldCat Resource Sharing service.

Holley and Ankem have laid a good foundation with their research. I look forward to further exploration of the questions they pose and how their results reflect, or not reflect, the art of acquisitions in law libraries.

Resources

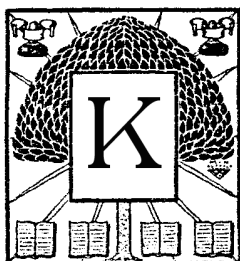
Holley, Robert P. and Kalyani Ankem. "The Effect of the Internet on the Out-of-Print Book Market: Implications for Libraries" *Library Collections, Acquisitions, & Technical Services*, 29 (2005), 118-139.

Alibris Offers Access to Books For Sale Through OCLC WorldCat Resource Sharing Service, http://www.alibris.com/about/press_releases/011705.cfm.

AcqWeb Call For Volunteers

Recently, a survey was circulated to all TS-SIS members regarding the status of AcqWeb and *ACQNET-L*. According to Eleanor Cook, Chief Editor of *ACQNET-L*, based on initial survey results, there is interest in continuing the web resource page— AcqWeb (<http://www.acqweb.org/acqnet.html>). However, since maintaining the site as it was before is neither tenable nor advisable, the ACQNET Editorial Board is considering a wiki and/or background database at this stage. In the near future, once it has been decided on the direction that AcqWeb will be taking, there will be a call for volunteers to assist with the development and maintenance of the site, and already several Acquisitions Committee members have expressed an interest in assisting with legal vendor information. If you have not already expressed an interest in taking part in this venture and would like to do so, please contact Ajaye Bloomstone, Acquisitions Committee chair (llajaye@lsu.edu), or chairs of a new AcqWeb subcommittee, Lisa Arm (larm@bu.edu) and Anne Robbins (aerobbin@law.uiuc.edu)

—Ajaye Bloomstone



CLASSIFICATION

Elizabeth Geesey Holmes
Alexander Campbell King Law Library
University of Georgia Law School

There are a few new and noteworthy things to report in classification. First, early in January 2007 the Library of Congress launched a new Cataloging and Acquisitions website which provides a single source for all cataloging and acquisitions-related material available from the Library of Congress. This replaces three existing websites: Cataloging and Policy Support Office, Cataloging, and Acquisitions, and serves as the homepage for the Library's Acquisitions and Bibliographic Access Directorate. According to LC this new website offers a more modern look and feel, easier navigation, improved organization, and better integration with other parts of the Library of Congress website. This new site "will also include links to cataloging and acquisitions-related material on other web sites maintained by the Library, such as the Program for Cooperative Cataloging, MARC Standards, Cataloging Distribution Service, etc." Under the Classification section are links to the Weekly Lists, the LC classification outline, and a form to submit a classification proposal. There is also a link to CDS for Classification Web. I'm looking forward to checking out this new site. Visit the new site at: <http://www.loc.gov/aba/>.

Second, as of December 6, 2006 (list 49) the CPSO's classification weekly lists got a new look. They are using a new automated system to produce the lists. You will notice the absence of italicized "anchor" numbers and lines, which used to indicate the location of the caption in context. Another important change to note is that the order of newly approved numbers has changed. All new numbers that are in a table will now appear at the end of the list, following the approved numbers from the schedule. In the old format numbers from a table immediately followed the new numbers in the corresponding schedule. For examples and comparisons see at: <http://www.loc.gov/catdir/cps/wklstchg.pdf>.

Lastly, I read an excellent, though long and meaty, article by Jolande Goldberg which I ran across in an issue of *Cataloging and Classification Quarterly* from 2003 when I was sorting through my reading pile. It is in volume 35, no 3-4 and is entitled: "Development of a Universal Law Classification: A Retrospective on Library of Congress Class K." It was a fascinating and useful journey through the development of Class K, including heated debates between sections at LC and between different factions in the law cataloging world. We are presently reclassifying our foreign law materials, and I found the background information in this article very helpful in understanding how our collection was arranged and where other libraries might have classified these materials before the foreign law classes were completed. I highly recommend it.

This is my final column, as I'm moving to Rhode Island. If you are interested in being a guest columnist for this column please contact Brian Striman, *TSLL* editor.

Special Guest Author

OCLC/RLIN

OCLC: WorldCat Collection Analysis Service and the Desert States Law Library Consortium

Michelle Rigual
University of New Mexico Law Library

In November 2005, the eight libraries of the Desert States Law Library Consortium (University of New Mexico, University of Arizona, Arizona State University, University of Colorado, University of Denver, University of Utah, Brigham Young, and University of Nevada Las Vegas) licensed OCLC's WorldCat Collection Analysis Service (WCA). Each library was curious to see what the WCA would tell them about their collection's strengths and weaknesses compared to other libraries. As a consortium, we sought to identify our collection gaps by benchmarking the combined consortial holdings against large individual libraries and other consortia. Further, we hoped to maximize each library's unique holdings within the consortium, limiting the amount of money and effort spent on purchasing, processing, and preserving duplicate materials.

WCA is designed to provide objective information concerning the makeup of a library's collection, including subject coverage, age of materials, languages of publication and material types and audience level. Multi-institution comparisons

provide detail and summary views of how two or more collections overlap or differently specialize, subdivided by subject areas, languages of publication, material types and dates of publication. Desert States librarians who worked with the service considered it a wonderful concept and promising tool, but discovered that it had significant limitations.

Topical analysis within WCA is based on the OCLC Conspectus which includes 32 broad *divisions* such as 'Law.' The Conspectus subdivides further by approximately 500 *categories* such as 'United States, Federal' and 'Public International Law.' At its narrowest are approximately 7,000 *subjects* such as 'Intellectual Property' and 'Public Land Law.' The information is displayed in a chart, clicking on the numbers in the chart allows you to drill down to the title level and see a list of short records. This list can be exported to Excel for graphing or other manipulation.

Using WCA, we were able to see both the number and percent of unique holdings of each consortial library broken down by subject and time. Similarly, we were able to view how much our holdings overlapped with each other. It is easy to use WCA to obtain some interesting, but mostly superficial, data; it is quite a bit more complicated to get meaningful information. Most librarians did not learn to use the service very well because it takes a lot of time and initiative to turn your searches into information that you can act upon. Even after substantial time working with the training materials and the service itself, our most ambitious users still did not feel that they were able to make good use of the data export features. Those investing in this product should budget additional funds and time for training in order to get the most out of it. At the time we purchased there were few active training options, but OCLC and regional providers now offer web seminars and workshops.

Data Categorization Problems

To me, the most frustrating aspect of the WCA is that the Conspectus *divisions*, *categories*, and *subjects* are based on LC call number and divided up in ways that are not useful. Some *subjects* are far too narrow and should be combined with others. For example, no library has more than a handful of titles in the *subjects* of 'Indian Lands,' 'Computers—Law & Legislation,' 'Engineering Law,' 'Manufacturing,' 'Public Property—Public Restraints on Private Property,' and 'Roads and Bridges.' On the other hand, some *subjects* are so broad that meaningful comparisons cannot be made. The most notorious *subject* is 'Law—United States, Federal' (not to be confused with the *category* of the same name). Some topics are not broken out, making them very hard to find. Examples include: 'Supreme Court,' which is hidden in the *subject* of 'Courts, Procedure.' Similarly, 'Human Rights' is safely nestled away from view in the *subject* of 'Comparative Law, International Uniform Law.'

A fellow librarian in the Desert States Consortium has suggested that a good deal of the existing subject organization difficulty could be alleviated by adding a feature that allows the searcher to customize subjects according to call number range. His example is that he would like to be able to search just for "military law" contained in call numbers KF 7201-7749. Currently, this is not possible.

My biggest wish for WCA is different, but related. I would like the service to provide the ability to compare topics that are meaningful in the context of my law school's areas of expertise. Unfortunately, these are topics that do not match up with the Conspectus. For instance, I would like to assess our collection's relative strength in the area of Indian Law. University of New Mexico's Indian collection contains holdings that fall throughout the LC classification, from BL to Z but WCA includes only KF 5660-5662 in Indian Lands and KF 8201-8228 in Indian Law. The Indian Law materials outside this narrow definition cannot be included in comparisons. However, a search on subject headings (FirstSearch's descriptors) would neatly allow comparative analysis of these materials.

Data Integrity Problems

A more serious shortcoming of WCA is the debatable integrity of the data it produces. OCLC provides a WCA users' list that was recently the site of a thoughtful, well-documented report from a librarian who calls into question the trustworthiness of the numbers provided by the service. In five tests over a period of months, the exported records included numerous blank entries. When compared against their corresponding display records on FirstSearch, some of these matched up to entries labeled "No Title Available" while others matched up to perfectly visible records. The first few times these blank records were reported to OCLC, the library received a reply email stating simply that the problem was resolved, though it was not. A similar report was made to OCLC in mid-September, OCLC indicated that it would respond within a few days but still has not done so. The blank entries also create problems down the road. Because Excel cannot process the exported blanks, a manual search and removal of blanks is necessary before any data manipulation can occur.

I also experienced blank entries but was not nearly so conscientious about tracking down the source of the blanks or reporting them to OCLC so cannot comment on the record from which the blanks originate or on OCLC's response to problem reports.

An obvious limitation of the data is that only items entered into OCLC can be compared, and it is up to each library individually to ensure that the records of its holdings are as complete, clean, and up to date as possible. Of course, there are all sorts of holdings that are not reported to OCLC. One law library encountered problems because, at the behest of their University, their policy was to add a holdings symbol to an OCLC record only if it was unique to their collection. If the title was already in the University's collection, they only added an item record to the OPAC. More commonly, serial holdings reporting is only possible at the title level and exempts large numbers of volumes from possible consideration even though subscriptions represent the majority of the library expenditures.

Data Manipulation Problems

The final source of problems with WCA is the display and export of information. In its current format, only numerical reports are available. This is fine for purely numerical comparisons but more detail is available if you link from the number in the chart to the list of short titles. Unfortunately, access to this detail is lost when running comparisons. The best improvement OCLC could make in this area would be to provide a means to display title-by-title comparisons without complex and time-consuming manipulation of data exported to large and unwieldy spreadsheets.

For example, when running comparisons such as overlap and uniqueness you cannot easily determine specifically which titles are owned by whom. Your own library's records are marked but to find out who holds the records that are not marked, or other libraries holding the same title, you have to open a longer record then enter that information, title by title, into the title list that you will have already exported to Excel. An improvement would be to have the system produce a title list that indicates who holds what. A less acceptable solution, but still an improvement, would be to indicate in the short title list which libraries hold each title.

Similarly, there is no mechanism for comparing conspectuses. It can be done by merging two or more Excel spreadsheets, making sure to create some indicator of which library has which title, such as bolding, underlining, or using a different font. In the merge, you will be able to determine how many titles are owned in common by having multiple entries of the same title (each in a different font which indicates the source library). Even more manipulation is required to produce a desiderata list - you need to delete all titles you own from the comparison spreadsheet, which you produced as above.

Practical Applications

Despite the problems listed above, WCA has been a useful tool to numerous libraries. It is very easy to use the system to get a general idea of where your library falls in comparison to others. In a recent ALL-SIS list posting one library reported that it produces data the deans and law faculty can understand and pointed to another library that used it to compare holdings to the five Google libraries and discovered that something like 35% of the collection was unique (and would not be on Google). This caught the attention of the university administrators and helped counter perceptions that everything will be digitized.

OCLC makes frequent enhancements to the system in response to the needs identified by subscribers. Many of the features that the Desert States Consortium wished for when we first subscribed over a year ago have since been added. A significant recent enhancement is creation of a list of libraries who have given blanket permission for their collections to be used in one-to-one comparisons and no longer have to be contacted directly. OCLC also recently created two predefined peer groups for benchmarking purposes that are particularly useful for law libraries: (1) Top 10 Law Schools and (2) Google 9 (the nine institutions currently participating in the Google Book Project). An interesting recent enhancement is the addition of more subject breakdowns for the Conspectus *category* 'Law, General' and narrowing down the *subject* 'Comparative Law, International Uniform Law.' I applaud the recognition that the law topics are insufficient but also suspect that this means that they are more interested in tinkering with the topics rather than upgrading the search capabilities.

Since collections are unlikely to change in a significant manner relative to peer institutions over short periods of time, this tool will likely be useful only infrequently and there is no need to purchase it on a continuing basis. The subscribing institution would be best served to run this type of analysis every few years or in preparation for reaccreditation.

A Beautiful Catalog for Preservation

PRESERVATION

Sally Wambold
University of Richmond Law Library

Preservation catalogs can be an education. The *University Products Archival Catalog*, for an example, is a work of art and examining its pages is a joy. Serendipity will reveal products the librarian might not have imagined to be in its pages. For example, Glaze Padding Compound enables the librarian to create notepads or pads of forms by brushing on the product and waiting for it to dry. This padding compound is not a product I personally would have expected to find in a preservation catalog.

Then there are products that are not surprising at all, for example, seal weights. They keep materials flat while drying. And they could certainly be used in conjunction with the Glaze Padding Compound. The Insta-Mend Mending Tissue Kit is not a surprise either. This product is equally useful for museums and libraries. The catalog says that it will give a strong mend and that instructions are included.

As the mending product indicates, the catalog is for museums as well as libraries. Just to give an overview of the catalog, it includes the following categories: acid-free boxes and folders, photos including presentation, textiles, display, natural history, books on conservation, scrap booking, collectibles, equipment, racks/cabinets, disaster planning, paper and film and board, museum mounting, tapes and adhesives, framing, polyester enclosures, storage of electronic media, public records storage, tools, cleaning and deacidification, cutters and trimmers, and book arts and maintenance. The reader will no doubt see areas of personal as well as professional interest.

One category in particular which piqued my interest was “cleaning and deacidification.” Archival Mist deacidification spray uses magnesium oxide to neutralize acids. The catalog describes it as virtually odorless and non-toxic. It is over \$50.00 for 5.3 oz. Bookkeeper Deacidification Spray is described as very similar to Archival Mist, but it is significantly less expensive, 16 oz. for roughly the same price. The customer in this case would appreciate more information to distinguish between the two products.

The tools category also attracted my interest and includes the subcategories of magnifiers, book and art conservation tools, brushes, light boxes, weights, and gloves. Under the book and art conservation tools subcategory, I found a tool, a brayer, which was a new term to me. The Wikipedia defined it as “a small hand roller, typically used in printmaking techniques to spread ink.” The brushes category was also educational; there were three pages of brushes. A few examples include Round Bridled Glue brush, Bamboo Handled Hake brush, Hake Rempitsu White Wash brush, and Hake Flat Wash brush with Metal Ferrule. I beg the understanding of those who are brush experts, but I was not familiar with a Hake brush. I learned that Hake brushes are flat and wide and made of sheep hair; they are described as giving excellent control according to Yasutomo Hake Brushes at <http://www.nicetoys.com/yasutomohakebrushes.html>.

I hope I have whetted your appetite for preservation catalogs by this brief description. The products are intriguing and can be educational. University Products can be viewed online at <http://www.archivalsuppliers.com/default.asp>.

Other catalogs can be seen at:

<http://www.metaledgeinc.com/>

<http://www.archival.com/>

<http://www.iconusa.com/online/index.html?gclid=CO1-6Ch61gCFQ0SUA0dj0a0gw>

Gaylord also offers archival products at <http://www.gaylord.com/>

A search on the Demco website yields over 100 hits, check it out at: <http://demco.com>

Highsmith has some archival items at: <http://highsmith.com>

This is not exhaustive, but it does provide a starting point for those who have not experienced the pleasure of archival products catalogs. I hope you find these items useful and interesting.

Digital Resource Projects

*Donna M. Rosinski-Kauz
Cassidy Cataloguing Services, Inc.*

Most libraries deal with digital resources on a daily basis, and librarians lead the charge to assess, acquire and maintain access to these resources. Digital resources can be digitized versions of items in other formats, such as an e-book with a print predecessor, or they can be “born-digital” objects, which have been created as electronic resources. Providing access to these resources usually involves creating metadata to describe and show the location of the resources.

Metadata means “data about data.” Cataloged bibliographic records are examples of metadata. MARC21 provides a systematic method for encoding metadata, as do the MARCXML and MODS schemata. There are also other metadata schemata designed for various types of digital resources and projects. Choosing the metadata schema to follow depends largely on the scope of the project, choice of computer software, and staffing issues.

To determine the scope of the project, the project leader will need to define the mission. He or she will need to present the idea to the management level of the organization and get immediate and long-term support for the project. The project leader will also need to determine staffing and training requirements, which may mean bringing in a consultant if present staffing and skill levels are not adequate to perform the project tasks. If possible, the project leader should include current staff in the planning phase. The people who work in the library should have a sense of how the project will fit into the library’s overall mission, in both the short-term and the long-term. Since digital files of information are dependent on hardware and software in order to be utilized, the project manager must determine how to keep the project viable into the future. If the project does not require a long-term commitment, the project manager can leap for joy. However, such projects are usually very expensive to prepare, so planning for long-term viability is necessary. Assessing future staffing and funding needs is fundamental to providing long-term viability for a digital resource project.

Determining what types of software will be used to access the digital resources can impact the choices that are made concerning metadata creation. At the point of determining what metadata schema to use, the project manager will need to assess what types of record formats are loadable into the software that will display the metadata records. If the digital resources will be accessible through a MARC-format based library catalog, then using a standard such as MARC21 will provide very detailed records for the project. If the library system can make use of MARCXML records, then the library could also use that metadata schema. The beauty of the different schemata for creating metadata is that many of them are at least partially portable to another schema format. If the library is purchasing records from another institution that has already created metadata for digital resources, then the project manager should be able to take the existing metadata records and port the information into the schema that the library will need.

When facing the creation of a digital resource project for the first time, ask similar libraries and information professionals about their experiences with digital resource projects. Ask to see the finished product and also to discuss the process that the library followed to conceptualize, create and maintain the digital resource project. Library users expect to access digital resources for many different purposes, and providing the users with relatively seamless methods of accessing the resources will keep them coming back for more!

Announcement From the Library of Congress Cataloging and Acquisitions Homepage

RSS Feeds for LCSH and LCC Weekly Lists, 2/13/07

“Beginning with Weekly List 1 for 2007, the Library of Congress Subject Headings Weekly Lists and Library of Congress Classification Weekly Lists are now available as free RSS feeds. Users may subscribe to the feeds by clicking on the RSS link in the lower left corner of this page and selecting “Library of Congress Subject Headings Weekly Lists” and/or “Library of Congress Classification Weekly Lists.”

This service is available for free to users outside the Library of Congress. Details are available at: <http://www.loc.gov/catdir/cpsso/rsslcsch.html>.

Source: Jolande E. Goldberg, Senior Cataloging Policy Specialist/Law Classification, Library of Congress



SERIAL ISSUES

Richard Paone
The Dickinson School of Law, The Pennsylvania State University

Serials were on the front burner for the Serials Section of ALCTS at the 2006 ALA Midwinter Meeting, January 20–25, in San Antonio. The Continuing Resources Cataloging Committee discussed logistics relating to their Task Force for the Review of *RDA-Resource Description and Access (RDA)* documents, discussed the ALCTS strategic plan 2006-2011, and began discussing possible speakers for the update forum at Annual 2006 in New Orleans.

The Monday update forum had a very ambitious and interesting agenda. The first topic was *RDA*. Jennifer Bowen and Marjorie Bloss gave an update on *RDA*, and Kevin Randall gave a CC:DA report, which was primarily about *RDA*. The next speaker was Les Hawkins, who gave a CONSER report, and also discussed a proposal to authenticate OCLC e-serial records which were created as part of the OCLC E-holdings pilot. Regina Reynolds gave the LC report, the ISSN/NSDP report, and a report on the developing access level record for serials. The final speaker was Andrew Shroyer, who shared the results of an informal opinion survey about access to serials across title changes.

The *Serials Acquisitions Glossary*, third edition, revised, has been mounted as a PDF file available on the ALCTS home page. The Serials Section/Acquisitions Committee would also like to see it listed on the Serials Section portion of the site. The list of Serials Section publications for review was discussed. A better way to track publications is needed, including information on a publication's current status, date of last review, when it should next be reviewed, etc. Jill Emery visited the table and reported that the Education Committee's plans to replace the "Syllabus for Serials Collection Management, Records Systems, and Preservations Units" with two new ones. A copy of the review form for "Guidelines for Handling Library Orders," dated 2004, will be forwarded to the Education Committee.

The Serials Standards Committee continued with preparation for the Serials Standards Update Forum, which took place at Annual 2006. A program subcommittee chair was chosen to lead preparations for the update forum for Annual 2007. A subcommittee chair was chosen to provide leadership during the revision of the web document, "Serials Standards Bibliography." It also discussed the ALCTS strategic plan for 2006-2011, and prepared comments to forward to the Planning Committee chair.

Myrtle Myers of OCLC presented an update on OCLC's retirement of Passport for Union List and the enhancement of the Connexion browser to support local holdings maintenance. The discussion included: OCLC's use of MARC 21 Format for Holdings, including setting the defaults for the 008 byte 20 (Lending Policy) and byte 21 (Reproduction Policy) for serial records as 'won't lend' but 'will copy'; the conversion of OCLC's holdings records; MFHD file output; printable files of holdings output; and the import/export of holdings by libraries. The update was followed by a discussion of the role the Committee should play in promoting the efficient and effective use of union listing.

The Union List of Serials Committee will develop a resource page which includes an explanation of the importance of union listing, a description of an ideal union listing world, and links to resources for and about union listing and "MARC 21 Format for Holdings." It also considered how its efforts could be refocused and recruitment of new members. These efforts all support ALCTS efforts to promote the development and use of both standards and best practices.

A good source for finding out about annual price increases of serials is Swets Information Services. Their "Serials Price Increase Report" may be found in their website at: <http://informationservices.swets.com/web/show/id=52169>. It promotes itself as a comprehensive survey of annual serial price increases and thus a budgeting tool for libraries. The 2007 report concentrates on publisher price increases for 2007 over 2006 in 12 "country" areas (i.e., country of publication), including, of course, the United States. Five general subject groupings are used: Humanities, Medicine, Science, Social Sciences and Technology. Exchange rate variations are another reason for serial price fluctuations, and are also illustrated. The report is published monthly from September, with the final report appearing in January.

E-journals were on the agenda for NASIG, the North American Serials Interest Group. In the "NASIG Newsletter" for September 2006, Patrick L. Carr reports that for a sixth year, NASIG's Continuing Education Committee joined with Mississippi State University Libraries and EBSCO Subscription Services to cosponsor an e-journal workshop for information professionals in the southern U.S. Held at Mississippi State University (MSU) on July 14, 2006, the workshop, entitled "Head 'em Up, Move 'em Out! Corraling the E-Journal Stampede," explored issues related to the role and management of

e-resources in libraries. In attendance were over ninety information professionals from states across the southeast. Keynote speaker T. Scott Plutchak, Director of the University of Alabama at Birmingham's Lister Hill Library of the Health Sciences, got the workshop off to a thought-provoking start with his presentation "After the E-Journal: Now It *Really* Gets Interesting." Arguing that now is the greatest time in the last five hundred years to be a librarian, Plutchak's presentation explored the trends that are currently reshaping the distribution of information and the role of libraries. From the Open Access movement to libraries' imperative to preserve information regardless of its format, Plutchak summarized the myriad of challenges facing information professionals today. His ultimate message was that, although the challenges of managing and providing access to e-resources can seem overwhelming, they present outstanding opportunities for innovation and enhanced services to information seekers.

The workshop's second speaker, Michael Stephens, Instructor at Dominican University's Graduate School of Library and Information Science, discussed emerging technologies that are revolutionizing the means by which libraries meet their users' information needs. Placing special emphasis on accessing e-journal content, Stephens advocated that information professionals employ proactive strategies for utilizing the technologies that users are embracing. From blogs to instant messaging and from wikis to iPods, Stephens charted out the technologies that are shaping users' lives and discussed ways that libraries can use these technologies to reshape their services to users.

The workshop's third presentation, "Evolving Concepts and Business Models for Acquiring Electronic Resources: An Agent and Publisher's Perspectives," was co-presented by Andrea Cernichiari, Manager of Journal Business Development at Cambridge University Press, and Rebecca Day, Manager of E-Resource Services Development at EBSCO Subscription Services. Cernichiari and Day's presentation described the forces that are transforming models for acquiring e-journal content from subscriptions to individual titles to "big deal" packages and consortia partnerships. Using a presentation format that allowed the attendees to readily contribute their views and questions about e-resource acquisition, Cernichiari and Day shared their perspectives on how libraries can partner with publishers and subscription agents in order to thrive in this evolving landscape.

The workshop concluded with two presentations which were held concurrently. In her presentation "The FRBR Frontier: Applying a New Bibliographic Model to E-Resources," Kristen Antelman, Associate Director for the Digital Library at North Carolina State University, provided an overview of how the principles of the FRBR model have the potential to enhance the means through which users search a library's information retrieval system in order to locate and access e-resources. Antelman discussed current perspectives on the applicability of FRBR to continuing resources and explored some of the concepts associated with seriality in FRBR, including aggregates and the "superwork."

Held concurrently with Antelman's presentation was "Happy Trails: Building a User-Centered Online Library," which was presented by Eric Novotny, Humanities Librarian at Pennsylvania State University. Drawing upon the results of usability studies conducted with students at Penn State, Novotny's presentation examined how users navigate library websites and search for journals using the online catalog. Novotny incorporated audio clips of students as they describe their (frequently unsuccessful) attempts to search the online catalog in order to locate records for major scholarly journals. Through his analysis of these clips, Novotny enabled the attendees to envision ways in which libraries can offer online resources that match users' expectations and searching strategies.

Based on the positive evaluations submitted by the attendees, this year's e-journal workshop can be deemed a success. While Plutchak's presentation inspired the attendees to contemplate the larger philosophical questions related to the management of e-resources, the presentations of Stephens, Cernichiari and Day, Antelman, and Novotny all brought to light specific tools and trends that promise to shape the future of e-resources. Although only one attendee was lucky enough to bring home as a door prize an autographed copy of a bestseller by MSU alumnus John Grisham, all of the attendees left the workshop with increased enthusiasm and valuable insights that may allow them to solve the many mysteries that continue to surround the role and management of e-resources in libraries.



SERIALS

Christina Tarr
University of California, Berkeley

Margaret McDonald
University of San Diego

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

African-American law & policy report
Vol. 1, no. 1 (fall 1994)-v. 7, no. 1 (2005)

(OCoLC) 32642435

Changed to:

Berkeley journal of African-American law & policy

Vol. 8, no. 1 (2006)-
(OCoLC) 70902031

Apex court expressions

Vol. 1, pt. 1 (Jan. 14, 2003)-v. 6 (Oct.-Nov. 2004)

(OCoLC 51729386)

Changed to:

Supreme Court journal (Hyderabad, India)

1 (6th Jan. 2005)-

(OCoLC 60605262)

Asian law journal (Berkeley, Calif.)

Vol. 1, no. 1 (May 1994)-v. 12, no. 1 (Apr. 2005)

(OCoLC 29553504)

Changed to:

Asian American law journal

Vol. 13, no. 1 (Nov. 2006)-

(OCoLC 78268567)

Bulletin of legal developments

No. 1 (Jan. 21, 1966)-2006, issue no. 17 (13 Sept. 2006)

(OCoLC 1537759)

Changed to:

Bulletin of international legal developments

2006, issue no. 18 (29 Sept. 2006)-

(OCoLC 75492650)

California international practitioner

Vol. 1, no. 1 (1989/90)-v. 14, no. 1 (2005)

(OCoLC 21277937)

Changed to:

California international law journal

Vol. 14, no. 2 (2006)-

(OCoLC) 74837969

Another member of the bibliographic "undead" is: California Supreme Court Historical Society.

The California Supreme Court Historical Society yearbook

Vol. 1 (1994)-v. 4 (1999)

(OCoLC 30880807)

Changed to:

California legal history

Vol. 1 (2006)-

(OCoLC 64548902)

EMP

Roc. (rij. 1991)-roc. 14 (2005)

Changed to:

Jurisprudence (Brno, Czech Republic)

Roc. 15, cislo 1 (2006)

Foreign tax law bulletin

Vol. 2004, no. 1 (Mar. 9, 2004)-
Ceased in 2005?

(OCoLC 54721735)

Changed to:

RIA worldwide tax law bulletin

Vol. 2005, no. 1 (May 26, 2005)-

(OCoLC 61243445)

Southern California review of law and women's studies

Vol. 1, no. 1 (winter 1992)-v. 15, no. 2 (fall 2005)

(OCoLC) 26920568

Changed to:

Southern California review of law and social justice

Vol. 15, no. 2 (spring 2006)-

(OCoLC) 70252219

Stockholm arbitration report

Vol. 1999:1-v. 2004:2

(OCoLC 45267167)

Changed to:

Stockholm international arbitration review

Vol. 2005:1-

(OCoLC) 62414153

The Transnational lawyer

Vol. 1, no. 1 (spring 1988)-v. 18, no. 2 (2005)

(OCoLC 16752042)

Changed to:

Pacific McGeorge global business & development law journal

Vol. 19, no. 1 (2006)-

(OCoLC 76874669)

Washington University law quarterly

Vol. 22, no. 1 (Dec. 1936)-v. 83, no. 6 (2005)

(OCoLC 1587560)

Changed to:

Washington University law review

Vol. 84, no. 1 (2006)-

(OCoLC) 71827741

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:

Bimonthly review of law books

Ceased in 2006 with completion of vol. 17

(OCoLC) 21074409

Bulletin of the European Union

Ceased in print with: 2005, 12

(OCoLC) 30675516

Continued by online version, 2006-

with Bulletin 1/2 - 2006, at: <http://europa.eu/bulletin/en/welcome.htm>

(OCoLC) 38402599

Drug enforcement report (New York, N.Y.)

Ceased with: Aug. 2006
(OCoLC 11652169)

Graven images (Madison, Wis.)

Ceased with: v. 5 (2002)
(OCoLC) 31056273

New Zealand students' law journal

Ceased with: v. 2 (2003)
(OCoLC 60322674)

Ethics, law, and aging review

Ceased with: v. 11 (2005)
(OCoLC 44854442)

Massachusetts legal history

Ceased with: v. 10 (2004)
(OCoLC) 36313545

SUBJECT HEADINGS

Headings that need to be explained

Aaron Wolfe Kuperman

Ideally, a subject heading should be “obvious.” A heading should reflect terms that are readily understood and confuse neither scholars nor laymen. That isn’t always the case. Some require explanation, and due to their need for explanation, they are often misused and abused, even by law catalogers and especially by users and non-law catalogers.

Civil law as defined by LCSH refers to specific areas of law in systems based on Roman law. The areas are those included in Justinian’s code, i.e. domestic relations, obligations including torts and contracts, property, and some aspects of commercial law. Many people use “civil law” to mean the entire legal system of countries using a system derived from Roman law, as opposed to the Anglo-American common law system, which in LCSH is the heading **Civil law systems**.

In the United States, “civil law” is usually understood to be the opposite of “criminal law.” Thus to most Americans, anything not criminal is “civil.” Among those who study canon law, as well as, in many cases, Jewish, Islamic and other “theocratic” religious systems, “civil law” refers to secular law external to the canon (or other theocratic) legal system. Therefore a book on the Islamic “civil law” might refer to the narrow range of private law topics (based on Justinian’s definition), or it might mean any aspects of Islamic law excluding criminal law, or it might mean the whole of Islamic law excluding those matters that are so “religious” as not to be relevant to a western legal scholar.

The only real solution would be to “ban” the words “civil law” from LCSH, and substitute “Private law” (currently a UF reference).

Assistance in emergencies was originally an inherently legal heading referring to the duty, or lack of duty, depending on legal system, of a bystander to render assistance in an emergency situation. The heading has been “borrowed” by non-law catalogers for works on how to render assistance in emergencies, such as how to give first aid. The easy solution would be to add a legal qualifier or subdivision to “our” heading.

Data protection is a relatively modern term, and another heading that has been “borrowed” and abused by non-law catalogers. Even before there were computerized information systems, there were privacy concerns, especially in Germany, about abuse of data files. The German *datenschutz* was translated as “data protection” in Britain well before the term became known in North America. It was a legal heading. When computers came along, the computer science catalogers “borrowed” it to refer to ways of protecting the integrity of computer files, e.g. make backups, don’t spill coffee on the keyboard, and pick sneaky passwords. It then became necessary to add “—**Law and legislation**,” but with a reference structure that shows that “our” “data protection” has nothing to do with their “data protection.”

—**Law and legislation** became the standard legal subdivision only in the late 20th century replacing many variants. Its apparent origins are much older, and probably refer to a time when “Law” meant the “common law” and “Legislation” meant statutory law, and the two added together indicate the whole of the legal system. To contemporary Anglo-American scholars, the distinction between common and statutory law is often befuddled. To a “civilian” (from a civil law tradition, *supra*), all law is based on legislation. (To them, if it isn’t based on legislation, it isn’t law.) In addition, many people assume that the subdivision —**Law and legislation** indicates that the book consists exclusively of texts of statutes. And of course, OPACs get very annoyed when you keyword search on “and.” An alternative formulation might be less confusing, e.g. —**Legal aspects**.

Church and state, Freedom of religion, Canon law and Ecclesiastical law. To someone familiar with traditional Anglo-American law (especially if they are at least 250 years old), these terms are easily understood. **Church and state** referred

to the status of the established church, whether officially established, as the Church of England was in most states until the late 18th century, or a de facto relationship existing in the absence of official establishment. If there is an established church, the government supports the church through tax revenue, the clergy are government employees, the leaders are appointed politically, etc. The internal regulations of the church, including doctrinal and theological matters (e.g., which prayer book to use, the nature of the deity, etc.) are governed by secular law, i.e., **Ecclesiastical law**. If a church is not established (i.e. is a voluntary organization, as is the case in the United States at present), its beliefs and dogmas are no concern of the government, and its internal procedures are a matter of contract or corporation law, which for some churches are codified as part of a system of “canon law.” Since, by definition, there can no longer be **Ecclesiastical law** in the United States, there shouldn’t be any books with the heading. It has been used, rarely, for books on the law governing religious bodies, though perhaps the subject heading **Religious institutions—Law and legislation** (which recently became a valid LCSH heading) would be preferable. There is a heading for **Corporations, Religious—Law and legislation**, but that sounds a bit too narrow and confusing, since many religious bodies and movements are deliberately unincorporated.

For “non-Christian” countries, the heading **Religious law and legislation** is used rather than **Ecclesiastical law**. There is also a heading for **Religious minorities—Legal status, laws, etc.** One might ask if the “ecclesiastical law” governing a “religious minority” in a Christian country is an example of **Religious law and legislation**. One might ask what a “Christian country” is (established state church, cultural heritage of most citizens, degree of piety among the populace, etc.) Probably the heading **Ecclesiastical law** should be abolished, and replaced with a non-sectarian form that sounds reasonable in all situations, or at least limited to government laws controlling established churches. A more generic heading, combined with a second heading such as **Christians—Legal status, laws, etc.** might allow greater precision. It might also be helpful to authorize a legal subdivision to be used after a corporate body to indicate the legal status of the body (e.g. [**Name of church**]**—Legal status, laws, etc.**)

Church and state poses a similar problem. If a government agency wants to put a Christmas tree in its lobby, that is an issue of “Church and state,” but what if it wants to put a Hanukkah menorah next to it? Under American legal theory, they are both issues of “establishment,” but it sounds weird to say that government “support” for a non-Christian religious practice is an issue of “Church and state.” A better change would be to use “Religion and state” for all countries, not worry which countries are really Christian, and add a secondary heading to bring out the religious group (something easy to do as long as there is a class of persons heading for the group). For **Freedom of religion** (individuals observing their religion in spite of the government), this is what we do, and it works well and never seems ridiculous or confusing. *If anyone has a question on these, feel free to email me at: akup@loc.gov.*



TECHSCANS

Corinne Jacox, column editor

Contributing Authors: Marlene Bubrick, Elizabeth Geesey Holmes, Ellen McGrath, Andrea Rabbia

Acquisitions

Acquisitions Book Review

Schmidt, Kari. “Selecting and Managing Electronic Resources: A How-To-Do-It Manual for Librarians (review).” *portal: Libraries and the Academy* 6, no. 3 (July 2006). [Editor’s note: *portal* is lowercased for the proper name of the journal. Names of professional weblogs, and discussion lists are italicized, treated like journal titles.]
http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/portal_libraries_and_the_academy/v006/6.3schmidt.pdf

Cataloging

New LC Cataloging and Acquisitions Website

<http://www.loc.gov/catdir/cpso/newsite.html>

During the first week of January 2007, the Library of Congress launched a new Cataloging and Acquisitions website. Check it out.

Library of Congress SARS Decision

Strait, Connie. “SARs: Going, Going, Gone: Coping Strategies for Libraries Regarding New Directions for Series Authority Records.” *TechKNOW* 12, no. 3 (September 2006): 9.

http://www.library.kent.edu/files/September_2006_TechKNOW.pdf

On April 20, 2006, the Library of Congress announced its decision to stop creating series authority records (SARs) as part of LC cataloging. Many libraries will be forced to decide on a local level how much series authority control they can continue to provide. In June, 2006, OCLC responded to LC’s decision in an effort to ease the effects of this decision.

The announcement can be seen at <http://www.oclc.org/news/announcements/announcement191.htm>. An excellent website, <http://mulibraries.missouri.edu/TechSvc/catalog/catpro-seriesChangesAdd.htm>, is referenced as providing a compilation of national information and local responses to this decision by LC. See in particular the document "Report of the UC Shared Cataloging Program Advisory Committee Series Subgroup."

Working Group on the Future of Bibliographic Control
"Library of Congress LC Working Group on the Future of Bibliographic Control Established." *ALCTS Newsletter Online* 17, no. 6 (December 2006).

<http://www.ala.org/ala/alcts/alctspubs/alctsnewsletter/v17n6/17n6news/17n6prof/17n6prof.htm>

Advances in search-engine technology, the popularity of the Internet and the influx of electronic information resources have greatly changed the way libraries do their work. To address those changes, the Library of Congress has convened a Working Group on the Future of Bibliographic Control to examine the future of bibliographic description in the twenty-first century. Among the working group's members is AALL's very own Richard Amelung. Visit <http://www.loc.gov/bibliographic-future/> for more information.

Library of Congress Tables of Contents Projects

Byrum, John D., and David W. Williamson. "Enriching Traditional Cataloging for Improved Access to Information: Library of Congress Tables of Contents Projects." *Information Technology and Libraries* 25, no. 1 (March 2006).

<http://www.lita.org/ala/lita/litapublications/ital/252006/2501mar/byrum.htm>

An article about LC's Bibliographic Enrichment Advisory Team's (BEAT) table of contents project. (NGC4LIB e-list)

NSDL Registry Project

<http://arxiv.org/ftp/cs/papers/0605/0605111.pdf>

"A Metadata Registry from Vocabularies Up: The NSDL Registry Project" by Diane Hillmann, Stuart Sutton, Jon Phipps, and Ryan Laundry. (Catalogablog)

Review of "Rethinking How We Provide Bibliographic Services for the University of California"

<http://eprints.rclis.org/archive/00007244/>

"Good Enough Is Good Enough: Cataloging Lessons from the University of California Libraries" by Norm Medeiros. (Catalogablog)

Joint Steering Committee for Revision of AACR

<http://www.collectionscanada.ca/jsc/0610out.html>

Outcomes of the October 2006 meeting of the Joint Steering Committee for Revision of AACR. (Catalogablog)

RDA Scope and Structure

<http://www.collectionscanada.ca/jsc/rda.html#scope>

RDA Scope and Structure document. (Catalogablog)

RDA Prototype

<http://www.rdaonline.org/>

RDA: Resource Description and Access prototype demonstration. (Catalogablog)

Editorial on RLG/OCLC Merger

Wilson, Elizabeth, James G. Neal, and Jay Jordan. "Guest Editorial: RLG and OCLC: Combining for the Future." *portal: Libraries and the Academy* 6, no. 4 (Oct. 2006).

http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/portal_libraries_and_the_academy/v006/6.4wilson.html

Cataloging Book Review

Roper, Jennifer O'Brien. "Metadata: A Cataloger's Primer (review)." *portal: Libraries and the Academy* 6, no. 3 (July 2006).

http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/portal_libraries_and_the_academy/v006/6.3roper.pdf

Government Documents

GPO Cataloging Guidelines

http://www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs/fdlp/cip/proposal_access_level_dec06.pdf

The U.S. Government Printing Office (GPO), Library Services & Content Management (LSCM) would like to inform libraries in the Federal Depository Library Program (FDLP) and other interested parties of several cataloging policy changes to be implemented on February 1, 2007. (AUTOCAT)

Information Technology

Open URLs

Tennant, Roy. "Evolving the Resolving." *Library Journal* 131, no. 12 (July 1, 2006): 28.

Tenpir, Carol. "Thinking About Linking." *Library Journal* 131, no. 12 (July 1, 2006): 29.

Roy Tennant's column *Digital Libraries* has an excellent, clear and understandable explanation of Open URLs and how they work. Also in this issue is Carol Tenpir's column *Online Databases* where she talks about Open URLs and how Google Scholar and Microsoft are using them.

Internal Web Logs

Barton, Emily. "Ref Logs Now." *Library Journal* 131, no. 16 (October 1, 2006): 28-30.

Ref logs use web logs as the internal memory for reference. This article discusses a particular project, but their experience, tips and comparison of free blogging software would be useful to any library considering using a blog to track a project or for other communication purposes.

Keeping Current with Technological Developments

Gordon, Rachel Singer, and Michael Stephens. "Keeping Up with Keeping Up." *Computers in Libraries* 26, no. 9 (October 2006): 52-53.

This *TechTips for Every Librarian* column discusses "keeping

up with keeping up” on tech issues using various tools such as: webcasts, podcasts, blogs, and other journal alternatives. It also discusses how to create a professional development plan.

New Title on Using Google Products

“Books to Check Out.” *Computers in Libraries* 26, no. 9 (October 2006): 50.

Mini-review of the book *Libraries and Google*, edited by William Miller and Rita Peiler (Haworth Press). This “book presents possibilities of using Google products as tools in the library.”

WorldCat Selection Service

<http://www.oclc.org/news/releases/200645.htm>

“OCLC partnered with Cornell University Library to implement WorldCat Selection ... the new service allows library material selectors to view records from multiple material vendors in one central comprehensive system, instead of using systems from each material vendor. Libraries are also able to get WorldCat records for newly purchased materials into their integrated library systems early in the technical services process.” (OCLC Abstracts)

LISZEN

<http://www.techsource.ala.org/blog/2006/12/custom-zen-enlightened-information-retrieval.html>

Interview with Garrett Hungerford, creator of LISZEN (Library & Information Science Search Engine) and its various offshoots. (ALA TechSource)

Google Apps for Education

<http://www.google.com/a/edu/?hl=en>

Google Apps for Education (ALA TechSource)

Google Book Search

Baksik, Corinna. “Fair Use or Exploitation? The Google Book Search Controversy.” *portal: Libraries and the Academy* 6, no. 4 (Oct. 2006).

http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/portal_libraries_and_the_academy/v006/6.4baksik.html

The Google Book Search Library Project, in which millions of books from libraries will be scanned and made searchable on the web, has led to controversy and legal action. Publishers are suing Google for copyright infringement, while Google claims their use falls under the fair use privilege of the Copyright Act. An overview of the library project is followed by an examination of the controversy and a look at the beta program in practice.

Digiblog

<http://blogs.ala.org/digiblog.php>

Digiblog is a new blog from ALCTS (Association for Library Collections & Technical Services). (ALCTS Newsletter Online)

Citizendium

<http://citizendium.org/>

An alternative to Wikipedia, the Citizendium will become “... a citizens’ compendium of everything ... an experimental new wiki project that combines public participation with gentle expert guidance.” (Smart Libraries)

Institute for the Future of the Book

<http://www.futureofthebook.org/>

The Institute for the Future of the Book is working toward a vision of what books can be. (Library Journal)

Hectic Pace

<http://blogs.ala.org/pace.php>

Hectic Pace is a new weekly blog about “the library business in the business of libraries.” It is an online companion to Andrew K. Pace’s monthly “Technically Speaking” column in *American Libraries*. (American Libraries)

Future of the Internet II

http://www.pewinternet.org/PPF/r/188/report_display.asp

The Future of the Internet II, by Janna Quitney Anderson and Lee Rainie, published by the Pew Internet & American Life Project. (D-Lib)

Zotero

<http://www.zotero.org/>

“Zotero is a free, easy to use Firefox extension to help you collect, manage, and cite your research sources. It lives right where you do your work—in the web browser itself.” (Lorcan Dempsey’s Weblog)

OCLC Acquires DiMeMa

<http://www.oclc.org/news/releases/200633.htm>

“DiMeMa (Digital Media Management), the organization that developed and supports CONTENTdm, the leading digital management software for libraries distributed by OCLC, is now a part of the OCLC cooperative.” (OCLC Abstracts)

Library Tourguide to Technology

<http://www.librarytourguide.blogspot.com/>

A blog called *Library Tourguide to Technology*. (Neat New Stuff I Found)

Library Geeks

<http://onebiglibrary.net/geeks>

“*Library Geeks* is a new podcast covering tech stuff in libraries.” (Catalogablog)

WorldCat on the Web

<http://www.worldcat.org/>

OCLC opens WorldCat searching to the world. (Catalogablog)

Moving to the Network Level

Storey, Tom. “Moving to the Network Level.” *NextSpace: The OCLC Newsletter* 1, no. 4 (2006).

<http://www.oclc.org/nextspace/004/1.htm>

The architecture of the web is transforming the way systems are built and services delivered. Functionality that was once installed and run on a local computer in a single application is now performed on the network inside workflows that involve many applications. Today, hundreds of new businesses and websites are launching new services and functionality by building on and integrating web-based applications across the network. Using the web as a platform boosts creativity and speeds application development by removing redundancy in the coding process, and also reduces costs.

Amazon was one of the first companies to use the web as a development platform. In the 1970s, libraries moved cataloging and interlibrary loan to the network level with OCLC online services. Many of the issues facing libraries are about working in pre-network environments where things are done many times, redundantly and in fragmented ways. Workflow must be moved to the network level, allowing libraries to concentrate on creating local value for their students and scholars rather than redundantly working on everyone's problems.

Open WorldCat is a good example of delivering library resources on the web, where most users are these days, and then guiding them to their local libraries. In this new computing environment librarians and the resources that they provide to their users must go to the user, not wait for the user to come to them.

Local Systems

RSS Feeds

Corrado, Edward M., and Heather L. Moulaison. "Integrating RSS Feeds of New Books into the Campus Course Management System." *Computers in Libraries* 26, no. 9 (October 2006): 6-9.

Article on using RSS feeds from OPAC/ILS data to course pages and other University web pages to promote library materials. For example one library used RSS feeds to promote new books on a particular subject.

Ex Libris and Endeavor Merge

http://blogs.ala.org/pace.php?title=ex_libris_and_endeavor_merge

"Francisco Partners, the company that bought Ex Libris Corporation ... has announced that it will also purchase Endeavor Information Systems from Reed Elsevier. The two companies will be merged and run under the Ex Libris name and senior management, led by Matti Shem Tov." (Hectic Pace)

WPopac

<http://maisonbisson.com/blog/post/11133/>

"WPopac doesn't attempt to replace the integrated library system (ILS)—just complement and extend it." (ALA TechSource)

Vaporware/Lemon Award to the Library OPAC

<http://www.charlestonco.com/features.cfm?id=209&type=me>

The Sixth Annual Readers Choice Awards in the October 2006 issue of *The Charleston Advisor* gave the Vaporware/Lemon Award to the Library OPAC! "The traditional library catalog has never seemed so constrained and old fashioned. It is the most expensive piece of software typically licensed by a library and yet is shackled in its frequent limitations." (*LITA-L* discussion list)

PINES

<http://www.georgialibraries.org/public/pines.html>

"One of the largest shared library-automation systems in the U.S. has migrated from a vendor-developed ILS to an open source model—Georgia PINES (Public Information Network for Electronic Services)." (Smart Libraries)

Next Gen Catalog

<http://www.techsource.ala.org/blog/2006/10/toward-the-next-gen-catalog.html>

"A trend loosely called 'NGC,' for NextGenCatalog ... is the set of future services we as a profession will provide for information discovery." This includes an electronic discussion list (NGC4Lib: Next Generation Catalogs for Libraries) established by Eric Lease Morgan. (ALA TechSource)

North Carolina State University Catalog

<http://www.lib.ncsu.edu/catalog/>

North Carolina State University, Raleigh has implemented a new catalog powered by Endeca software. (Library Link of the Day)

Antelman, Kristin, Emily Lynema, and Andrew K. Pace. "Toward a 21st Century Library Catalog." *Information Technology and Libraries* 25, no. 3 (September 2006): 128-139.

<http://eprints.rclis.org/archive/00007332/>

This article discusses North Carolina State University Library's use of Endeca with its catalog and the new functionality that has been enabled, the implementation process and system architecture, assessment of the new catalog's performance, and future directions. (Catalogablog)

Preservation

Managing and Preserving E-Mails

<http://www.resourceshelf.com/2006/11/13/preprint-managing-and-preserving-e-mails/>

"Managing and Preserving E-Mails" by Maureen Pennock. (ResourceShelf)

Digital Collections

Manoff, Marlene. "The Materiality of Digital Collections: Theoretical and Historical Perspectives." *portal: Libraries and the Academy* 6, no. 3 (July 2006).

http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/portal_libraries_and_the_academy/v006/6.3manoff.html

Digital and textual objects are coming under a new kind of scrutiny as scholars are becoming more interested in physical artifacts and their relation to their social and cultural environment. This study of material culture suggests a need to explore the nature of digital materiality, as well as the broader historical context in which electronic objects and collections are created. This essay analyzes the implications of this work and related research into the ways in which knowledge is shaped by the technologies used to produce and distribute it. Understanding the materiality of digital and textual objects will be crucial for charting the future of libraries.

Role of Academic Libraries in the Digital Data Universe

<http://www.arl.org/info/events/digdatarpt.pdf>

“To Stand the Test of Time: Long-Term Stewardship of Digital Data Sets in Science and Engineering,” a report to the National Science Foundation from the ARL Workshop on New Collaborative Relationships: The Role of Academic Libraries in the Digital Data Universe. (D-Lib)

Preservation and Archiving Projects

<http://www.resourceshelf.com/2006/09/30/european-archive-foundation-launches-free-digital-library-list-of-other-web-archives/>

A selected list of web page preservation and archiving projects. (D-Lib)

Library of Congress's Web Capture

<http://www.loc.gov/webcapture/>

“The Library of Congress ... launched a website devoted to information about its program to capture and preserve

historically important websites so that they can be accessed by future generations of users.” (D-Lib)

Serials

Wiley Acquires Blackwell

http://blogs.ala.org/pace.php?title=wiley_acquires_blackwell

“John Wiley & Sons has entered into a definitive agreement to acquire the outstanding shares of Blackwell Publishing (Holdings), Ltd. (Blackwell, Ltd., the library book vendor and retailer, remains a separate entity and is not part of the acquisition).” (Hectic Pace)

Links to Series Documentation

<http://www.loc.gov/acq/conser/consln28.html#ops>

Great links to series documentation.

Access Level Record for Serials

<http://www.loc.gov/acq/conser/consln28.html#ISSN>

Updates to the Access Level Record for Serials pilot, which began in February 2006, are available through *CONSERline*.

SCCTP Integrating Resources Cataloging Workshop goes Online

<http://www.loc.gov/acq/conser/consln28.html#scctp>

The SCCTP Integrating Resources Cataloging Workshop has been converted for online learning by the workshop's original creator, Steven J. Miller, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Libraries and School of Information Studies and with content redesigned and supplemented by Lisa Furubotten, Texas A&M University.

ISO International Standard 2108 (The ISBN)

Sally Wambold
University of Richmond Law Library

The *ISBN Users' Manual*, discussed below, is an official document and it can be quite interesting to read, but it is not a substitute for *Technical Bulletin 253* at <http://www.oclc.org/support/documentation/worldcat/tb/253/default.htm> which every cataloger may have read multiple times by now.

TB253 has a link to a NISO FAQ page, which in turn links to a specific librarians FAQ page: <http://www.niso.org/standards/resources/ISBN.html#FAQ>. If the direct link does not work, click on ISBN.html and that will lead you to the FAQ page. This is a different set of FAQs from the *ISBN Users' Manual*, and it is much more helpful to librarians. There are planning statements from the Library of Congress, HARRASSOWITZ, OCLC, RLG, and others. There are also more links related to the transition to the 13-digit ISBN. Additionally, librarians are invited to submit additional questions to: nisohq@niso.org. NISO will reply directly to the person making the query and will add the question to the FAQ.

Before installing the changes for the 13-digit ISBN, OCLC sent out a lengthy message to the *OCLC-CAT* discussion list. I am including the parts for both Connexion Browser and Client here. OCLC users get much useful information from this discussion list, although it can get quite busy. Users can subscribe at: <http://www.oclc.org/oclc/forms/listserv.htm>.

1. Connexion browser

The following changes impact users of the Connexion browser, which is OCLC's web-based interface to the Connexion service.

ISBN-13

OCLC fully supports the new 13-digit ISBN. WorldCat records will include both the 10- and 13-digit ISBN's in 020 fields. If you enter one format, Connexion automatically adds the other format when you take a final action on your record.

OCLC number expansion (9-digit number)

- To accommodate the ongoing growth of the WorldCat database, OCLC will change the format of the 001 in OCLC MARC bibliographic records starting with OCLC record number 100 million. As of November 12, 2006, all OCLC systems, products, and services were ready to handle the new format. View <Watch WorldCat grow> at <http://www.oclc.org/worldcat/grow.htm> to see how close WorldCat is to reaching 100 million!
- For bibliographic records up to and including OCLC number 99999999, the 001 continues to use the three character prefix (ocm), followed by an eight digit number, and a trailing space (e.g., ocm99999999). Starting with record number 100000000, the prefix will be ocn, and the number will be 9 digits in length and have no trailing space (e.g., ocn100000000).
- Beginning November 12, records exported from Connexion browser include the OCLC control number in the 035 field.
- A sample file of bibliographic records is available for download from Product Services Web (your authorization and password required).
- See Technical Bulletin 253 at <http://www.oclc.org/support/documentation/worldcat/tb/253/default.htm> for more information.

2. Connexion client

The following changes impact users of the Connexion client, which is OCLC's Windows-based interface to the Connexion service. These changes were made at the OCLC host and are automatically available to you; you do not need to install software on your workstations. Additional changes were included in the new release of the client software, version 1.70, in December. For more information about Connexion client 1.70 and higher, see at: <http://www.oclc.org/connexion/interface/client/enhancements/recent.htm>.

ISBN-13

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- To accommodate the ongoing growth of the WorldCat database, OCLC will change the format of the 001 in OCLC MARC bibliographic records starting with OCLC record number 100 million. As of November 12, 2006, all OCLC systems, products, and services were ready to handle the new format. View <Watch WorldCat grow> at <http://www.oclc.org/worldcat/grow.htm> to see how close WorldCat is to reaching 100 million!
- For bibliographic records up to and including OCLC number 99999999, the 001 continues to use the three character prefix (ocm), followed by an eight digit number, and a trailing space (e.g., ocm99999999). Starting with record number 100000000, the prefix will be ocn, the number will be 9 digits in length and have no trailing space (e.g., ocn100000000).
- Records exported from Connexion client 1.60 do not include the OCLC control number in the 035 field. This was implemented with client 1.70 in December 2006.
- A sample file of bibliographic records is available for download from Product Services Web (your authorization and password required).
- See Technical Bulletin 253 for more information.

As the world, not just libraries, prepares to transition to the 13-digit ISBN, an interesting document to examine is the *ISBN Users' Manual* at: <http://www.isbn-international.org/en/manual.html>. This manual was "prepared by a number of ISBN agencies, and includes much input from the international representatives on the ISO 2108 revision working group, under the able coordination of Stella Griffiths, UK ISBN Agency; the contributors deserve the thanks of the whole ISBN community." —Preface. Most of my colleagues are probably aware that the ISBN is ISO International Standard 2108; the preface to the Manual refreshed my memory and gave some interesting historical facts about the ISBN. The preface also claims that the 2005 Manual will probably be useful for ten years with some small changes. It officially comments on the standard and is designed to help the transition to the 13-digit ISBN.

The Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) are of course designed to be aids to the transition. These FAQs are not exceptionally pertinent to libraries. The *Extracts from Guidelines for the Implementation of 13-Digit ISBNs* (p. 42-43) have some specific

guidelines for libraries. It is encouraging that the guidelines do not insist on retrospective conversion of 10-digit ISBNs to 13-digit ISBNs. Instead, they state that both forms of the ISBN, 10-digit and 13-digit, must coexist for quite some time. The two prime areas addressed by the guidelines are searching between systems and ordering books. It goes without saying that provision must be made for searching 13-digit ISBNs and for ordering using the new, longer ISBN. The NISO page discussed above addresses this more fully. Here is the link to the ISBN-13 converter at: <http://www.isbn-international.org/converter/converter.html>.

Librarians are, and will be, living in interesting times again. There have been queries about scanners and exporting on the *OCLC-CAT* discussion list. Stay tuned to and in touch with your colleagues as we assist each other through this new library challenge.

Rare Book Catalogers of the World, Unite!

Sarah Yates
University of Minnesota Law Library

By “world,” of course, I mean AALL ... specifically, law librarians who plan to attend the AALL Annual Meeting in New Orleans this summer; and by “unite,” I mean “gather for an hour of amiable discussion on rare book cataloging topics.”

The Technical Services SIS will host a Rare Book Cataloging Roundtable at the 2007 AALL Annual Meeting. Watch for an official announcement in this newsletter, and on the LH&RB and TS discussion lists as the date of the conference approaches.

The purpose of the Rare Book Cataloging Roundtable is to serve as a forum for the discussion of issues associated with the cataloging of rare materials and special collections, including national cataloging standards and their application to legal materials, as well as specific concerns of participants relating to the cataloging of their institutions’ rare and special collections.

An agenda has not yet been set. I would be delighted to hear from anyone who might attend and who has ideas for topics they would like to discuss. Or even if you can’t attend but have a great idea anyway, I would like to hear from you! Please e-mail me at: yates006@umn.edu.

The 2007 Rare Book Cataloging Roundtable is not completely unprecedented. Last summer, rare book catalogers gathered in Saint Louis at the Renaissance Grand Hotel’s Capri Restaurant for a Rare Book Catalogers’ Breakfast Get-Together.

The get-together was envisioned as an informal discussion group, where rare book catalogers, along with anyone else interested in rare book cataloging issues, could get to know one another and discuss issues of common interest. While the event’s informality had at least one big pro, it also had a few cons.

In the “pro” column goes the lack of red tape for the organizers, namely, my boss and me. This was a huge advantage, not because the red tape itself is all that onerous (I’m discovering that it’s not), but because we didn’t start organizing early enough to be included in any of the official schedules. If we had opted for a formal meeting rather than an informal one, we would not have had *any* meeting until this year.

Now for the “con” column. As mentioned, the get-together was not listed in any of the official schedules. While we did get a good response to announcements on the TS-SIS and LH&RB-SIS discussion lists, it is possible that some people who would have been interested either weren’t subscribed to either list or didn’t notice the announcements amidst the flurry of program and meeting announcements coming out around the same time. Likewise, some potentially interested members may have been unable to attend because they had planned their schedules before our announcement came out.

But perhaps the greatest disadvantage to going it alone, rather than getting SIS backing, was that we had to fend for ourselves when it came to obtaining a meeting space. When we made reservations, the restaurant assured us they would put us in a private room, either around one table or around several tables pushed together conference-style. What they actually gave us was an alcove—set off somewhat from the main dining room, but not enough to block much of the noise—with two separate tables.

The two separate tables hampered group discussion even more than the ambient noise did. I had hoped to be able to report in this column what issues the group discussed; however, I can’t do that, since I was able to engage in meaningful

conversation with, at best, half the group. “At best” because our server was actively pushing the buffet option, so people were coming and going.

Now, the purpose of this column is not to complain about the Capri Restaurant. The people there were very friendly, and, aside from unintentionally (I assume) misleading us on the phone about their facilities, they did the best they could. But I do have two reasons for sharing the cons of the get-together’s arrangements. The first is that it would be dishonest to claim that the meeting was an unqualified success, according to the goals we had for it; in case someone else is planning a similar informal gathering during an annual meeting, that person should be aware of some of the potential pitfalls. My other reason is to explain why I’m writing about the meeting itself and not the substantive issues that were discussed there.

Despite the shortcomings of the space, the get-together *was* a success, even if not an unqualified one. If I may be permitted to jump back to the pro column, it would have been nearly impossible to schedule a formal roundtable that included breakfast!

Most importantly, a great group of rare book catalogers attended, and we all got the chance to meet one another. What we may have missed out on by not having a discussion that involved the whole group, we made up for with the quality of the conversations the smaller groups were able to hold. Not only did having small-group discussions increase the likelihood that each topic was of interest to each participant, but each person was also able to learn in some depth about at least a few other law libraries’ rare book cataloging practices.

At this summer’s roundtable, we will attempt to combine the in-depth conversations and some of the informality of last summer’s get-together with some of the undeniable advantages of being an official function.

I can’t promise that by attending the Rare Book Cataloging Roundtable you will lose your chains,* but I can promise that you will meet some interesting people and have a chance to take part in some lively discussion. I hope to see many of you there!

* Unless by “chains” you mean “bewilderment about what is going on in the world of rare book cataloging.”

An Introduction to Relevance Ranking Systems

*Scott Childers, Associate Professor
University of Nebraska-Lincoln Libraries*

To be “relevant” is to be fitting or suiting given requirements, pertinent and applicable to the given situation. In Internet search engine or database terms, a relevance ranking is an attempt to measure how closely a web page or entry fits possible search terms. Search tools that display results in a relevance ranking order place their “best match,” an entry with the highest relevance ranking on the top of the list, instead of using an alphabetical, date modified, or other more concrete sorting method.

Relevance ranking is usually best for searches that are not “either/or” types of searches. For example, in most traditional title searches, the result is either the library has the book, or it does not. The relevance program would either show the entry for the book, or an alphabetical list that has a statement in the appropriate place that says, “Your search would be here.” This is a very good place for this concrete, well-known sorting method.

Keyword searches, on the other hand, introduce vagueness and subjectivity into what constitutes acceptable entries as opposed to “either/or” types of searches. Presenting results in an alphabetical list could bury the best results deep in the list, preventing the searcher from finding something useful in an efficient manner. Sorting results by relevance gives users some hope of coming up with that proverbial needle in the haystack by doing some of the preliminary work for them.

Discussions about relevance ranking systems are nothing new in the library field. Paul Metz, Principal Bibliographer, Virginia Tech University Libraries, mentioned relevance rankings in computerized search results as early as 1989, in his article “Subject Searching in Libraries: Present and Future, Part 2,” *Journal of Academic Librarianship* 14 (1989):2. However, more people are becoming more familiar with the Internet search style of finding items on the web (keyword searches and relevance-ranked results lists) rather than the “traditional” OPAC choices of exact title or subject headings with an alphabetically sorted result list. This is creating more interest in relevance ranking systems for searching library holdings.

To better understand relevance rankings, a very simplified description of the typical process for assigning a relevance ranking to a web page is in order. In this example, the program that is being used examines the contents of the page, going through the text and counting how many times a word appears on that page. The ranking program then takes that information and uses that word count as the relevance value. This value is an attempt to measure how relevant the page is if that word appears in a search query. It stores the word, the relevance value generated, and the URL of the page in the search engine's index. This process is repeated over and over as more pages are found. Again, this is a very simplified example of the process.

Now that it has an index created, a search engine can use these relevance values to present the pages in some sort of order in an attempt to have the best results come up to the top of the list.

Below, I continue the oversimplified example using three pieces of information, with two lists and a declarative statement. We are assuming that the more times a word is in a set, the more relevant that page is to searches containing that word.

Sample data:

Set 1: apple, apple, orange, pear, apple, grape, grape

Set 2: orange, apple, grape

Set 3: An apple is not an orange.

Our index would look something like this:

Word:	Value:	Set:
an	2	Set 3
apple	3	Set 1
	1	Set 2
	1	Set 3
grape	2	Set 1
	1	Set 2
is	1	Set 3
not	1	Set 3
orange	1	Set 1
	1	Set 2
	1	Set 3
pear	1	Set 1

Now we can search for terms and get results in some sort of order by displaying the results in descending order based on the relevance value. If "grape" is searched, the result list would be Set 1 first, Set 2 second, and Set 3 would be filtered out.

This example also shows that there are some flaws in this simple method. A set that would have arguably the most definitive information about apples (Set 3) would show up under a list that merely repeated the word multiple times (Set 1). Our simple method did not take into account any type of context for the term being indexed.

Relevance rankings could be created simply by using counts of how often a search term is used on the page in question, as shown in our example above; however, most systems use methods that are much more complex to avoid the problem mentioned above and to provide more meaningful results. Some algorithms give more weight to terms that are in the title section of the page or that are emphasized in some way, such as being used as a section heading, or in a different font than the rest of the page. Even the position of the word on the page may come into play. Many systems also examine embedded metadata.

Another trend in relevance ranking systems for web pages is the use of information about what other pages link to the page being examined. What terms are being used to point to the page in question can also be used to determine how other sources see how relevant a page is to a search term. Some sites, such as Google, will use a recursive formula based on how popular the linking page is to help determine the relevance of the linked page.

Because relevance ranking is created automatically, it is possible to artificially inflate a page's ranking by placing terms either in the metadata section of the page's code or throughout the page itself. Early on in web history, unscrupulous webmasters would add many lines of unrelated text to the bottoms of their pages to increase the number of hits they would receive. Frequently the terms were synonyms, misspellings, or other variants of common words. Even terms that had nothing to do

with the content on the page were used, such as the words “sex,” “mp3,” or celebrity names, in the hopes that this would inflate their rank in search engine results.

There are many different algorithms in place that attempt to prevent artificial inflation of a page’s relevance ranking. They are usually closely guarded “trade secrets” and are often tweaked or changed when it is discovered that some entity is trying to “game” the system by finding ways to make its pages rise in the rankings as mention above. On the other hand, some search engines have a policy of allowing companies to purchase the top positions in their listings. In both cases there is skewing of the results lists in favor of someone’s financial gain, instead of helping the information gatherer.

In our example above you may have noticed that a search term that could be used, “fruit,” would find nothing relevant in this list and would result in no results being presented because that term was not listed in the set itself. If no page has been indexed with a particular search term, then there will be no results for that term. Human indexing could have identified synonyms or other types of appropriate access points, but the focus is often to process items quickly and cheaply, not necessarily with an eye toward accuracy, and certainly with no concern for authority controls that are typical of traditional cataloging.

Another problem with relevance ranking is determining when to say that there are no closely relevant hits available. Some systems now show some sort of “confidence” measure next to the result, using percentage of certainty (e.g. 90%), color coding (e.g. green for very certain, yellow for somewhat certain, and red for not certain at all), or iconic symbols (e.g. 5 out of 5 stars, or bars like a cell phone’s signal strength) in order to convey just how relevant the result is to the initial search.

Determining context and meaning of terms in a source is also problematic. Ambiguous search terms such as “football” can leave the engine guessing if the user means the European meaning of football (soccer to Americans) or the American meaning of football (gridiron or American Rules Football to many in the rest of the world) and often creating muddled result lists.

Search engines are attempting to personalize their relevance rankings to individual users, collecting data on where they click and where they do not, adjusting the rankings accordingly and creating a system more closely resembling a recommendation system. Google’s Personalized Search beta is an example of this idea: <http://www.google.com/psearch>.

As more searchers depend on the system to do their preliminary sorting and filtering, libraries must think about their own data creation methods to assist these searchers. Expanding a record with a table of contents, synonyms of subject headings, and the like will help create a more accurate relevance value. Embedding some of the authority control information directly may also help. For example, records with the text string “Twain, Mark, 1835-1910” could include “Samuel Clemens” as searchable words as well.

Relevance rankings, when implemented sensibly, can benefit researchers by doing some preliminary sorting of results into a potentially helpful order, but they are not a replacement for a human’s ability to determine what might be useful and what is garbage. While the algorithms and programs are constantly being updated, tinkered with, and otherwise made “better,” there is something we can do to help the searcher who uses keyword/relevance ranking systems. That “something” is to provide improved and expanded records.

TS-SIS Serials Committee Report

*Carol Nicholson
Chair TS-SIS Serials Committee*

The Technical Services SIS Serials Committee has formed three subcommittees to work on projects this year. The Serials Committee’s ABA Questionnaire Subcommittee is involved with developing recommended changes to the American Bar Association’s (ABA) annual questionnaire. Last year the subcommittee worked on revised definitions for counting electronic resources which helped form the basis of new definitions that have now been submitted to the ABA Questionnaire Committee, via the ABA Law Libraries Committee. Many thanks to subcommittee members Norma Feld, Joseph Hinger, Alan Keely, Jim Mumm, Ellen Ouyang, and Paula Tejada for their invaluable input.

This year new members of the ABA Questionnaire Subcommittee will focus on drafting FAQs in anticipation of the approval of the revised definitions. The approval process involves acceptance by the ABA Questionnaire Committee and final approval by the ABA Section on Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar. Volunteers for the new subcommittee include Nancy Cowden, Ellen McGrath, Patricia Satzer, Paula Tejada and Sally Wambold.

A new Project Counter Subcommittee has been formed and will be chaired by June Liptay. Other subcommittee members are Shyama Agrawal, Pam Deemer, Patricia Sayre McCoy, and Lorna Tang. Project Counter (Counting Online Usage of

NeTworked Electronic Resources) is an “international set of standards and protocols governing the recording and exchange of online usage data.” Details of the project are at: <http://www.projectcounter.org>. The Project Counter Subcommittee is charged with encouraging legal and law-related vendors to be Counter-compliant. The subcommittee also will be involved in educating members about Project Counter and other statistics gathering models.

The TS-SIS Serials Committee also will be looking to members to participate in the development of educational programs for the 2008 AALL Annual Meeting. If you have serials-related program ideas and/or are willing to coordinate a program proposal, please send them to me for the TS-SIS Serials Committee’s Program Planning Subcommittee (Calmer Chattoo, Patricia Sayre McCoy, and Hollie White).

Task Group on Standards for Vendor-Supplied Bibliographic Records: Update

*Terri Saye, Chair
University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill*

This Task Group was assigned the following charges:

1. Develop guidelines for vendors to assist them in following PCC’s *MARC Record Guide for Monograph Aggregator Vendors* at: <http://www.loc.gov/catdir/pcc/vendorguiderevised.pdf>
2. Offer to assist vendors who wish to produce cataloging metadata, by a) encouraging them to provide sample bibliographic records for evaluation; b) assisting them in the preparation of specifications for contract cataloging; and c) recommending changes and revisions as appropriate (list illustrative, not prescriptive).
3. Develop ways to encourage vendors to make arrangements with authority control vendors, e.g. MARCIVE, to supply current authority data for the cataloging produced.
4. Develop evaluations/reviews of the cataloging data and disseminate to TS-SIS members.

At the current time, we have two subgroups working on Charges 1 and 2, with the understanding that charges 3 and 4 will develop for the most part from the previous charges. We have had one conference call with one vendor after viewing sample bibliographic records and recommended changes that they needed to make for their records to be more acceptable to the cataloging community. That same vendor is still considering options internally.

The TS-SIS Executive Board also recommended that the group consider cataloging contractors when talking about vendors.

Other vendors who are attempting to produce cataloging for libraries are also being identified. So far, that list consists of LexisNexis Academic and Library Solutions, Serials Solutions, West, William S. Hein, BNA, and Cassidy Cataloguing Services, Inc.

LC’s Working Group on the Future of Bibliographic Control

*Richard Amelung
St. Louis University Law Library*

In September 2006 the Library of Congress announced the formation of a Working Group on the Future of Bibliographic Control. The Group is composed of representatives from the major stakeholders: three from ALA, three from ARL, one from SLA, two At-Large members, Google, Microsoft, one from the Program for Cooperative Cataloging (PCC), and one from AALL. I accepted the request to represent our organization to the Working Group. Additionally, Yahoo was asked to send a representative, but they declined to participate at this time. The two at-large representatives are Lorcan Dempsey from OCLC and Clifford Lynch, Executive Director of the Coalition for Networked Information. Other appropriate organizations may be tapped to provide input as the work of the Group moves forward.

On November 2-3, 2006 the Working Group held its first meeting under the chairmanship of Jose-Marie Griffiths, Dean of the School of Library and Information Science, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill. During these sessions, the Group reviewed the draft charge proposed by the Library of Congress, made some minor changes to clarify the expectations and approved the final version. The Group has three basic tasks:

- Present findings on how bibliographic control and other descriptive practices can effectively support management of and access to library materials in the evolving information and technology environment

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- Recommend ways in which the library community can collectively move toward achieving this vision
 - Advise the Library of Congress on its role and priorities.

To fulfill these expectations, the Group has opted for a model based on regional hearings, each with a different, but related, topic. It is the Group's intent to hold these hearings during the spring and summer of 2007 and deliver a final report to the Library of Congress by November 1, 2007. In order to ensure that the entire library community is kept abreast of the Group's activities, the Library of Congress has established a webpage to chronicle our progress. For further information, please consult at: <http://www.loc.gov/bibliographic-future/>.

One of the main functions of representation on such committees is to bring information from the represented organization back to the Working Group. Consequently, if you have opinions or topics that you would like me to put forward, please do not hesitate to get in touch with me at the contact information listed below.

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Cataloging and Classification Standing Committee Establishes Two New Advisory Working Groups

Jean Pajerek
Cornell University

Most members of the TS-SIS Cataloging and Classification Standing Committee are aware that AALL has representatives that serve as liaisons between AALL and certain specific committees of ALA's Association for Library Collections and Technical Services (ALCTS) Cataloging and Classification Section. One of the committees is the Committee on Cataloging: Description and Access (commonly referred to as CC:DA) and another is the Subject Analysis Committee.

AALL's representatives advocate for the interests of law libraries in the formation of policies and standards being developed by these committees. To facilitate the effective representation of the law library community's perspective, the TS-SIS Cataloging and Classification Standing Committee established two new advisory working groups in August and September 2006.

The Descriptive Cataloging Policy Advisory Working Group mission is to:

1. Advise and make informal and official recommendations to the TS-SIS Executive Board regarding AALL positions on national descriptive cataloging policies and standards, including development and revision of cataloging and metadata codes.
2. Advise and make informal recommendations to the AALL Representative to CC:DA on national descriptive cataloging policies and standards, including development and revision of cataloging and metadata codes.
3. Advise and make informal recommendations to the Law Library of Congress catalog liaison and to the Library of Congress/Cataloging Policy and Support Office representative to AALL regarding descriptive cataloging policies and practices.

This group is heavily involved in reviewing draft sections of *RDA (Resource Description and Access)* and formulating responses from the law library perspective. The current chair of this group is Ann Sitkin of Harvard.

The Classification and Subject Cataloging Policy Advisory Working Group mission is to:

1. Advise and make both informal and official recommendations as required to the TS-SIS Executive Board regarding AALL positions on Library of Congress classification schedules and subject cataloging policies and standards, including development and revision of classification schedules, and subject cataloging policies and practices.
2. Advise and make informal recommendations to the AALL Representative to the ALA Subject Analysis Committee (SAC) on subject cataloging policies and standards.
3. Advise and make informal recommendations to the Law Library of Congress catalog liaison and to the Library of Congress/Cataloging Policy and Support Office representative to AALL regarding subject cataloging and classification policies and issues.

This group is presently in the process of reviewing Bill Benemann's 2nd ed. of *Genre Terms for Law Materials: a Thesaurus*, in anticipation of LC's eventual implementation of these terms in bibliographic and authority records. The current chair of this group is Robert Rendall of Columbia.

For further information about these groups, including membership lists, please go to <http://www.aallnet.org/sis/tssis/committees/cataloging/> and click on the links under "Advisory Working Groups."

Descriptive Cataloging Policy Advisory Working Group: Update

*Ann Sitkin, Chair
Harvard*

The Descriptive Cataloging Policy Advisory Working Group had extensive discussions from August through November 2006 on issues raised by the current drafts of *Resource Description and Access* (RDA), to help inform Kathy Winzer's comments to the Committee on Cataloging: Description and Access (commonly known as CC:DA), ALA and the Joint Steering Committee.

Topics discussed were: JSC's position paper on mode of issuance, law examples in chapters 6-7, primary access points for annotated editions and commentaries of laws and administrative regulations, LC's position on entering Treaties, and "Laws, etc." as a uniform title.

We are currently awaiting the release of the next version of the draft, in June, to again pick up our discussions.

The Group has reserved a meeting time at the 2007 AALL Annual Meeting in New Orleans (July 16 at 11:45). There will also be a program and roundtable on RDA on July 17, at 12:00. Please come if you wish to hear more.

Classification and Subject Cataloging Policy Advisory Working Group: Update

*Robert Rendall, Chair
Columbia University*

The Classification and Subject Cataloging Policy Advisory Working Group was formed after the 2006 Annual Meeting in Saint Louis and includes four ex-officio members and nine volunteers from the Cataloging and Classification Standing Committee. Our first activities have been in response to a request from Yael Mandelstam, AALL's representative to the ALA Subject Analysis Committee, who asked the group to start work on a list of legal genre terms to submit as a contribution to LC's project to establish genre terms in LCSH. Work has already begun on music and moving images terms, and we are hoping that legal terms can be added next.

At Yael's suggestion, our group is basing its work on the new 2006 edition of Bill Benemann's *Genre Terms for Law Materials: A Thesaurus*. We are currently completing an initial survey and discussing the modifications that will be required to incorporate this list of terms, designed for use in a specifically legal context, into a general thesaurus like LCSH. Bill has kindly agreed to discuss our results with us, and we hope to have a completed list of genre terms ready to submit to the Cataloging and Classification Standing Committee for their comments before the 2007 Annual Meeting in New Orleans.

2006 AALL Conference Report

RLIN/OCLC Merger Meeting, July 9

*Reported by
Ming Lu
Cochair, OCLC/RLIN Committee*

The RLIN/OCLC merger meeting was held on July 9, 2006 at the AALL annual conference in St. Louis. The merger meeting lasted for one and a half hours. There were around 50 people from both RLIN and OCLC user groups in attendance. Glenn Patton, the director of WorldCat Quality Management Division at OCLC, gave a presentation on combining OCLC and RLG in the merger meeting. Currently, Glenn is working on the OCLC/RLIN Technical Service Transition Team.

RLIN and OCLC are the two biggest databases for library bibliographical information. Last May, when the merger of RLIN and OCLC was announced, a lot of concerns were raised, especially from RLIN users. During the past two months, we have all been eagerly awaiting more information about this merger. The 2006 AALL conference provided a great opportunity for us to discover and discuss RLIN/OCLC merger issues.

At the beginning of the presentation, Glenn briefly outlined the current state of the merger. There are two important components of the merger. One is the creation of the RLG-Programs. Effective July 1, 2006, RLG became a new division of OCLC Programs and Research. Two is the integration of services. RLG's online products and services will be integrated with OCLC products and services. Glenn then explained why, when and how the merge would be completed. He also discussed some issues of concern, including the RLG-Programs agenda, digital databases, Eureka databases, RedLightGreen, Resource sharing, and RLG Union Catalog.

Glenn's presentation was followed by a Q & A session, with a lot of questions being answered. Another RLIN committee meeting was held on July 12, 2006. Glenn was also present at that meeting in order to continue answering lingering questions.

2006 AALL Conference Report

OBS SIS OCLC Committee Discussion, July 11-12, 2006

*Reported by
Pam Deemer
Emory University Law Library*

July 11th Report

Glenn Patton, Director, WorldCat Quality Management, informed our very overcrowded group about OCLC's newest implementations in Connexion and WorldCat, and a new service.

Catalogers were very happy to hear that OCLC has finally begun the implementation of integrating resources in WorldCat. It has implemented BLvl : i, which is utilized with the continuing resources workflow (formerly serials). Existing WorldCat records will be converted where safe. Conversion should start in a few months. There are new search limiters: 'cnnr' for both serials and integrating resources, 'int' for integrating resources only, and 'ser' for serials only. As far as searching goes, in brief lists look for [INTEGRATING RESOURCES]. The group lists column heading will read 'Textual Integrating Resource'. OCLC is still waiting for multiple 260s approval from CONSER. Technical Bulletin 252 should be consulted for more information on integrating resources as well as for other implementations such as character set changes and additions.

MARC Holdings: Starting in January 2006 work began to migrate local holdings data from the proprietary local data to the MARC21 Format for Holdings. Options for future data input may be either through batch load or manual input. In WorldCat Resource Sharing, the new LHR Update Button launches the Connexion browser in a separate window. Cataloging authorization is needed. People can also update their library's holding in the Connexion client 1.60.

The WorldCat Collection Analysis is available through an annual subscription and enables libraries to not only analyze subject content of their own collections, but also compare their collections to other OCLC member libraries and analyze group/consortium collections for overlap, uniqueness, and cooperative collection development. OCLC loaded over 115 million records into the WorldCat Collection Analysis database. The service uses subject headings in standard lists and pre-defined groups to compare and analyze a library's collection as well as a FRBR algorithm.

The handouts from the meeting will be put on the OBS SIS website.

This coming year the OBS RLIN Committee will merge into the OCLC Committee and have two co-chairs, Ming Lu, the former RLIN Committee Chair, and Pam Deemer, the current OCLC Committee Chair.

Because of the questions former users of RLIN may have due to the merger with OCLC, the OBS SIS Chair, Susan Goldner, agreed to ask that two discussion lists be created, one for former RLIN users and one for all OCLC users. Ming Lu will moderate the RLIN list, and Pam Deemer, the OCLC list. Those at the official Committee business meetings who signed up were automatically signed on. Anyone who was not present or did not sign up for one of the lists, but wishes to do so now, should contact Ming at: ming@lalaw.lib.ca.us or Pam, at: libped@law.emory.edu

July 12th Report

We had two visitors from OCLC, Glenn Patton, Director, WorldCat Quality Management Division, and Eric R. Childress, Consulting Project Manager in OCLC research. They discussed new products and answered questions.

One such question was how the local holdings on WorldCat were to be kept up to date. No decisions have been made yet but better integration of holdings into the Connexion client and local systems is desired. More information on local holdings in WorldCat is at: <http://www.oclc.org/localholdings/default.htm>.

They announced that OCLC Terminology Service is now available. This is a web service that provides mappings from a term in one vocabulary to one or more terms in another vocabulary. Right now thirteen vocabularies are mapped that can be searched and used with any metadata editor. This service is free if a library is a bibliographic services subscriber. OCLC terms for RLG ones are now needed. More information and the list of vocabularies are at: <http://www.oclc.org/research/projects/termservices/default.htm>.

Because this is the last year for pricing by transaction and everyone will have to use the subscription pricing in the future, librarians present had questions and complaints. The OCLC representatives reassured us that there will not be an automatic increase every year and that any increase could be from 0% to 4%. It will depend on the flat rate from year to year. OCLC will also look at extenuating circumstances like a big project, because if a library starts at a high load, they will pay more than they have to in the future. On the other hand, if the starting load for the year was low, they will be in luck. It is hoped this pricing method will cut down on convoluted workflows to avoid high search charges.

Law Books Recommended for Libraries has been added to the WorldCat Collection Analysis service, which has pre-developed groups of law topics to be used in the analysis and comparison process. Law firm librarians emphasized that they would like law broken down even more.

OCLC is also working on an e-serials holdings project and is gathering information from major e-serial aggregators/providers such as EBSCO, Serials Solutions, TDNet, and so on. There would be monthly updates on a library's holding from the vendors on the availability of titles. In WorldCat just a library's symbol would show. The service would be a part of the cataloging subscription fee. ILL requests would be deflected if the title is not allowed to be sent as an interlibrary loan. In the future, bibliographic records could be loaded into a local catalog for a fee.

Translating the RLIN holdings format into to OCLC's needs investigation, and OCLC is also looking into parsing out old formats.

Because of the interest expressed in recording holdings, OBS SIS will be submitting a proposal for a workshop on MARC holdings.

2006 AALL Conference Report

Workshop: Serials Cataloging Cooperative Training Program (SCCTP) Electronic Serials Cataloging

*Reported by
Keiko Okuhara
William S. Richardson School of Law Library
University of Hawai'i at Manoa*

The workshop was presented by Joseph P. Hinger, Director for Technical Services of St. John's University School of Law Library. Topics in the workshop included an overview of web-based serials, steps in original cataloging, the basics of cataloging online serials, bundled aggregation packages, and the creation of access points established by CONSER practices. Also covered was a discussion on single versus separate records. The presentation was based on the SCCTP trainee manual, which was newly revised in December 2005. The manual was distributed to each participant to be used as a self-study aid, as well as being a useful reference guide.

Joe began his presentation by articulating the definitions of an online serial and an integrating resource, presenting guidelines for cataloging online serials, and discussing its challenges. After explaining how to identify online serials, the presentation proceeded to cover the basic steps for selecting the chief source of information, applicable codes in the fixed fields, and essential tags for online serials bibliographic description.

The arrival of online serials has required new rules for creating bibliographic record, including proper methods for access points. Catalogers must determine how records for titles in aggregations and packages will display in library OPACs. Although various ways of access can be provided, the first question to be answered is, "How are you providing access to electronic journal packages in your library?" Then the rest of the process can be done, given the cataloger's willingness to venture through judgment calls by factoring in the types of packages involved and the functionality and capability of the local integrated library system (ILS). While, in the interest of simplicity, aggregator-neutral bibliographic records are often favored over separate records for each aggregator, the purchase of aggregator-specific MARC records from a vendor has the advantages of easing cataloger workload and ensuring timely access to "tutti-frutti surprise" (i.e., unstable) aggregations. The emergence of OpenURL may alleviate some of the problems of coping with aggregators and packages, but it could be a costly alternative.

Discussion points for which there are no clear answers are typical in online serials cataloging, especially the debate over the single-record versus the separate-record approach. The decision on which to choose will depend on institutional needs and the library's clientele. The practice of cloning an electronic serial record from the serial's print record is another option. In this way records for large scale scanning projects and unfamiliar language titles can be created quickly.

One characteristic of web-based serials is the potential for changes in their URL locations. Keeping up with such changes requires tenacity in ongoing verification and maintenance of the catalog records to ensure continuing access. Catalogers can identify broken URL links by automated or manual link-checking, or by relying on error reports from catalog users or publishers. GPO uses Persistent Uniform Resource Locators (PURLs) to point to an intermediate resolution service that redirects the browser to the resource's current URL. PURL allows one modification to correct the rest of the URL locations, which are linked to the intermediate resolution service. Regardless of the method used, it is the library staff who make any online location corrections happen.

As a rule of thumb, the principles of cataloging online serials closely align with print serials, since they are cataloged based on the entire run of a title and not a single issue or set of issues, and fitting the definition of a serial, that is, a publication having no predetermined conclusion, remaining in discrete parts, and having issue and/or volume enumeration. There is one exception for online serials: If the earlier title of the online serial disappears, the title is treated as an integrating resource, in which case the former title is transcribed in the 247 field.

In any type of electronic format, choosing the title proper can be a challenge because different title expressions can appear in multiple locations, such as the home page, the HTML header, the publisher's web page, or a title screen. Since the resource itself is the chief source of information, choice of title proper is within the cataloger's judgment, taking into account any possible hidden data from the publisher's web site or other sources, and evaluating all available information. Added title access points can be expressed in the 246 field with appropriate indicators.

The discussions on cataloging electronic serials were ably led by Joe's excellent sense of humor, extensive knowledge, and in-depth understanding of seriality. Joe also made a point that cataloging rules related to replacement volumes, pocket parts, and advance sheets are not covered by AACR2, which is important for new law catalogers to know. Participants appreciated that Joe paid great attention to how questions were answered and understood by the entire class. As the participants exchanged ideas, it opened up lively discussions to garner various points of view. Joe's quick wit and great explanations helped resolve questions with various possible solutions. By the end of the workshop, I am certain that every participant was more confident in cataloging electronic serials. Last but not least, I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to the AALL, OBS-SIS, Joseph Hinger, and all attendees for making this workshop a great success.

Continued from page 1

acquisitions workshops held during AALL Annual Meetings. In 1995 she coordinated and moderated, along with James Mumm, a basic acquisitions pre-conference workshop, and an advanced acquisitions post-conference workshop, both all-day programs. In 1996 Cynthia directed and moderated another full-day acquisitions workshop during AALL. At AALL in 1997, she was a speaker at a program called "The A to Z of E-Journals: Their Selection, Acquisition, Cataloging and Maintenance." In 2001, Cynthia developed, in collaboration with the Acquisitions Committee of the Technical Services SIS, "New Perspectives on Law Library Acquisitions and Collection Development," a two day workshop offered in Washington, DC, apart from the Annual Meeting. This workshop was part of the AALL Professional Development Program. This year, for the first time in six years, an Acquisitions Workshop will be held at the AALL Annual Meeting.

Cynthia Aninao was also a mentor. She was one of the first people to reach out to me when I attended AALL meetings early in my career. As chair of the TS-SIS Acquisitions Committee, she encouraged me to become active when I was a new law librarian. When her term was up, she encouraged me to volunteer to be chair of the Acquisitions Committee. I was scared, but I agreed to do it. She was there to cheer me on as I chaired my first meeting. It's probably because of her encouragement that I continued to be active in TS-SIS and reached the point where I am today as immediate past chair of the SIS.

Cynthia Aninao's contributions have not just touched me personally, but all of us who have to deal with the ever changing, often frustrating world of law library acquisitions. In addition to her professional contributions, her outgoing personality and great sense of humor are traits I'll always remember. She helped educate a great number of acquisitions librarians and offered us a place to exchange ideas and gripes when needed.

Cynthia's enthusiasm and energy were mirrored at her "day job" at the Robert S. Marx Law Library at the University of Cincinnati. In the words of her colleagues in the library and the students and faculty she served, Cynthia was known as a

“can do” person who would “always go the extra mile” to help you. The words of Virginia C. Thomas, Director of the Law Library & Information Technology, sum up the person that Cynthia was: “an invaluable member of the library staff who called things as she saw them, full of good humor and good will. Cynthia was the rarest of colleagues, one you could go to for any project and then sleep well, knowing it would be accomplished on time.”

I will greatly miss Cynthia and I know many others will as well. However, she has left as her legacy the *LAW-ACQ-L* discussion list, and large numbers of law acquisitions librarians, including myself, who are very proficient and confident in performing their jobs, and taking an active role in shaping their profession because of her mentorship and encouragement.

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