Minutes of the Cataloguing and Authorities Users’ Group Meeting
March 9, 2009, Robarts Library Room 4049

Present: Lisa Andrews-Attwater (Rotman), Alastair Boyd [Chair] (Robarts), Anne Dondertman (Fisher), Heng Ge (Canada Hong Kong Library), Barbara Geiger (St. Augustine’s), Anna Golodnitsky (Knox), Monica Hypher (CIRHR), Mary Jaques (Regis), Connie Lewin (St. Michaels), Joan Links (Media Commons), James Mason (Music), Sian Meikle (ITS), Suzanne Meyers Sawa (Music), Stephen Qiao (East Asian Library), H. Rashid (Law), Sirpa Ruotsalainen (Trinity), Mary Ruscillo (Robarts), Sherry Smugler (Robarts Gov Pubs), Carmen Socknat (Victoria), Eva Spevak (Robarts), Elisa Sze (Inforum), Marlene van Ballegooie (Robarts), Pui-Ying Wong (Bloorview)

Regrets: Stephanie Swift (OISE)

1. Minutes, November 24 Meeting
Minutes approved as written.

2. Business arising
Alastair Boyd (Robarts) reported that:
- the problem with adding and/or editing 006 control fields is now fixed;
- to clarify the previous discussion on the obsolete 440 field, 490 fields with first indicator 1 are required even when they are identical to the corresponding 830 field.

3. Introduction of new Metadata Librarian
Alastair was pleased to introduce Marlene van Ballegooie, who was appointed as Metadata Librarian at the beginning of March. Marlene will take over many of the tasks that the Campus Database Coordinator (now retired) used to handle.

4. Genre/form headings (655 versus 650)
There is a link on the Library of Congress website to information on the implementation of authority records for Genre/form headings, including timelines, progress so far, FAQs, etc: <http://www.loc.gov/catdir/cpso/genreformgeneral.html>. Alastair explained that authority records for these headings are being loaded into our authority file already, along with the topical subject authorities, but as yet there is no way to search for or display them, except by LCCN. Sirsi needs to be configured so that these authorities can be searched, and so that they will be included in authority validation.

The records so far created and loaded are chiefly for motion picture and television genres, but genre/form heading projects for cartography, law, and music are already underway. The distinction between topical headings applied to books about Symphonies versus form headings on records for scores or recordings of symphonies will be useful, especially for Endeca users trying to do more precise searches.

5. Endeca update
Sian Meikle (ITS) reported on the current situation with the new Endeca-based public catalogue, which went live as the default interface in January. Every night Endeca is updated with MARC records and holdings from Sirsi. Throughout the day, availability is updated every 15 minutes. So while the circulation status should be current within 15 minutes, new records don’t appear in Endeca until the day after they are visible in Sirsi. There is a similar delay for the arrival of updates or changes to records, which won’t appear immediately in Endeca, except in the MARC view, which is created on demand by a call-out to Sirsi. When Endeca 6.1 is
installed, updates could be done almost in real time—perhaps as frequently as every three
minutes. As for removing deleted records, Sian asked the group to consider whether a weekly
update would be sufficient, or whether it would be preferable to do this every night.
Work has been completed on mapping 50 more missing MARC fields into Endeca (these are
obscure, and little-used in our catalogue). The problem with the non-Latin-1 character set is
still being worked on, so that diacritic and non-diacritic forms of letters are treated as
equivalent for searching. This will enlarge the index, so is tied to the Endeca 6.1 upgrade.
Also coming soon: (a) integration of external “enrichment data” such as linked tables of
contents, to be indexed as if actually in the record; (b) virtual shelf browse using cover images
(when they exist; they will be created for books lacking the Syndetics cover art). Question:
could we scan and use the actual dust-jackets? Answer: there are copyright difficulties with
reproducing and displaying cover art without licensing agreements with publishers.
There was much discussion about the pros and cons of the new catalogue. Other questions:
- Is the uniform title display going to be improved? This is being investigated as part of
revamping the display of individual records.
- Can the display of On Order items be changed so they don’t just appear as
unavailable? This is on the to-do list.
- How much “enrichment” data can we add? Reviews and biographical information are
also available under license (Syndetics).
- How about having the Format facet open by default? This could easily be done.
Other fixes in the works include the display of MARC holdings for monographs, and (further
down the list) the creation of a Browse search. This is not part of the Endeca toolkit, and so
will have to developed by ITS.

6. Other business
This was deferred to the next meeting because of lack of time.

The next CAUG meeting will probably be in May. Precise date to be announced.

The meeting adjourned at 11:30.