

Minutes of the Cataloguing and Authorities Users' Group Meeting November 24, 2008, Robarts Library Room 4049

Present: Lisa Andrews-Attwater (*Rotman*), Alastair Boyd (*Robarts – Chair*), Michael Bramah (*SMC*), Anne Dondertman (*Fisher*), Anna Golodnitsky (*Knox*), Monica Hypher (*CIRHR*), Mary Jaques (*Regis*), Wendy Li (*Hong Kong*), Joan Links (*Media Commons*), James Mason (*Music*), Nadia Moro (*FIS Inforum*), Felicity Pickup (*Robarts Ref.*), H. Rashid (*Law*), Mary Reynolds (*Regis*), Fabiano Rocha (*Robarts*), Sirpa Ruotsalainen (*Trinity*), Mary Ruscillo (*Robarts*), Anna Slawek (*Robarts*), Sherry Smugler (*Robarts Gov Docs*), Carmen Socknat (*Victoria College*), Eva Spevak (*Robarts*), Elisa Sze (*FIS Inforum*)

1. Minutes and Business arising, September 15 Meeting

Minutes approved as written.

Business arising: Alastair Boyd (*Robarts*) had a couple of updates on the known problems with the Workflows Java Client discussed at the previous meeting.

- Because there is no longer a keyboard shortcut for inputting the soft sign (used when romanizing Cyrillic), Maks Okrasa (*Robarts*) is working on a homemade macro to automate the insertion of this special character. Opening the symbol table to insert this manually is laborious, and it is tempting just to use an apostrophe instead; but doing this will interfere with any future scheme to re-generate Cyrillic “vernacular” script fields based on the romanization. Alastair will notify any interested cataloguers when the macro is ready.
- The problem with adding and/or editing 007 control fields is now fixed. Instead, there is a problem with 006 fields: if present in a record they can be edited, but it is currently not possible to add a 006 field if it is not present. You just get an error message saying “Add/edit is disabled” for this field. Alastair will consult Thomas Chan (*ITS*) about this.

2. Election of Chair

In the absence of any other nominations or volunteers, Alastair agreed to serve as Chair for another year.

3. Recent changes to MARC fields for monographic series

Alastair summarized the decisions of the MARBI (Machine-Readable Bibliographic Information) committee at their June 2008 meeting concerning MARC format changes for series fields. The 440 field, for recording the series when the transcribed and the traced forms are the same, has been made obsolete. In new records, series statements as they appear on the item in hand are now always to be transcribed in a 490 field. If the series is traced (i.e. is to be validated against an authority record representing a standardized form of the heading), then the 490 will have 1st indicator "1"; and an 830 field is then added so that the heading can be authorized. This is the case even if the authorized heading in the 830 and the transcribed form in the 490 are identical. If the series is not controlled (which is rare except for LC) then the 490 1st indicator has the value "0" and no 830 is necessary.

The decision to separate the transcription of a series from its controlled heading (somewhat like the 100 versus the 245 subfield |c for authors) is designed to simplify the automated updating of authorized headings in catalogues. For instance, if it becomes necessary to add a qualifier (e.g. publisher or place) to the name of a series to distinguish it from another, this change can be applied directly to the 830 field, leaving the 490 field alone. With the previous method, if the established form started out being the same as the transcribed form but then had to be

changed, the existing 440 field would have to be changed to a 490, and an 830 would have to be inserted, which is more complex to do as an automated batch process.

OCLC has committed to implementing this new policy some time in 2009. LAC has already announced it will implement these changes for new records before the new year. This means that over the course of the next year the 440 field will gradually start to disappear. For UTL original cataloguing, Alastair proposed to the group that we might as well stop using the 440 field effective immediately, and start using the 490 1 plus 830 combination instead. For deriving imported records, we can continue to accept 440 fields in records just as they are. Since the Sirsi web catalogue and the forthcoming Endeca-based catalogue will continue to index and display 440 fields, it is not necessary either to modify incoming records, or retroactively change all the previous records. At some point OCLC may globally flip WorldCat records with 440s so they contain 490 1 plus 830 fields instead; when or if that happens ITS might do the same here. We'll have plenty of warning in both cases.

4. Handling of e-journal cataloguing outside the Central Library

The situation where different libraries have access to the same e-journals through different vendors is already becoming more frequent, especially now that more of the hospital libraries have moved in to Sirsi. In an ideal world this would pose no problems: you could either add multiple 856 fields to a single record, and use the subfield |z note to identify which library linked to which source; or even better, use separate MARC holdings records to hold the 856s for each library. However, any e-journal listed in EIR, with an 856 link pointing to the EIR "More info" page for the journal, currently needs to have its own record—and a separate record for each such 856 link, when there are multiple sources/vendors for any given resource available through EIR. This is because of technical constraints to do with ITS's automated creation and deletion of bib records in Sirsi when e-journal titles are added/updated/deleted from EIR.

One day, when the serials concatenation project gets moving again, we may reach the desirable position of having a single record for each journal title, with multiple MARC holdings for each library's print *and* online holdings. At that point, we could start a new method of creating Sirsi and EIR records, modelled on the current technique used for e-book records. That is, we could download MARC records for various journals, and submit them to ITS, who would derive an EIR listing, then load the bib record into Sirsi with the link to EIR embedded.

5. Other business

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

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

The meeting adjourned at 11:30.