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Newsletter of the Technical Services Special Interest Section and On-Line Bibliographic Services Special Interest Section of the American Association of Law Libraries

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DEADLINES

Volume 21:

Sept. 1995, #1 .... 30 July 1995


June 1996, #4 ..... 19 April 1996

QUESTIONS CONCERNING SUBSCRIPTIONS OR MISSING ISSUES SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO:

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ONLINE BIBLIOGRAPHIC SERVICES SIS
TECHNICAL SERVICES SIS
MEETINGS AND PROGRAMS
AALL ANNUAL MEETING
PITTSBURGH PA, JULY 1995

July 15, 1995
OBS SIS 1994-1995 Board Meeting 4:15-5:15 p.m.
TS SIS 1994-1995 Board Meeting 4:30-6:00 p.m.
TS/OBS Joint Reception 6:00-7:30 p.m.
Basic Acquisitions Workshop
LAN Technology Workshop

July 16, 1995
OBS SIS Business Meeting 4:00-5:00 p.m.
TS SIS Heads of Tech Services Roundtable 4:00-5:00 p.m.
TS SIS Roundtable on Preservation 4:00-5:00 p.m.
TS SIS Business Meeting 5:15-6:30 p.m.
New Gain: Learning to Bank on the Internet 2:45-3:45 p.m.
Integrating Access to Online and Traditional Resources 2:45-3:45 p.m.

July 17, 1995
TS SIS Binding Roundtable 7:00-8:00 a.m.
TS SIS Cataloging Heads 7:00-8:00 a.m.
Privacy and the Electronic Age 1:45-3:15 p.m.

July 18, 1995
OBS OCLC Committee 7:30-8:30 a.m.
OBS RLIN Committee 7:30-8:30 a.m.
OBS 1995-1996 Board Meeting 4:30-6:30 p.m.
OBS/TS Research Roundtable 4:30-6:00 p.m.
Technical Services Law Librarian Board 7:00-8:00 a.m.
TS SIS Serials Committee 7:00-8:00 a.m.
TS SIS Standing Committee on Preservation 4:30-6:00 p.m.
TS SIS Cataloging & Classification Committee 5:00-6:30 p.m.
TS SIS Exchange of Duplicates Standing Cmte 5:00-6:30 p.m.
TS SIS 1995-1996 Board Meeting 7:00-8:00 p.m.
Cataloging Problems: Now and Forever 10:15-11:45 a.m.
Easing into the Next Generation Library System:
Part 1 8:30-10:00 a.m.
Part 2 10:15-11:45 a.m.
Outsourcing: Boon or Bane for Law Libraries? 2:45-4:15 p.m.

July 19, 1995
OBS TS Local Systems Committee 7:30-8:30 a.m.
OBS Reference Roundtable 7:30-8:30 a.m.
OBS SIS Education Committee 12:00-1:00 p.m.
TS SIS Acquisitions Committee 7:00-8:00 a.m.
TS SIS Cataloging Issues Roundtable 7:00-8:00 a.m.
TS SIS Education Committee 12:00-1:30 p.m.

July 20, 1995
Advanced Acquisitions Workshop
1994-1995
OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS

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New York University

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TSLL EDITORIAL POLICY

Technical Services Law Librarian is an official publication of the Technical Services Special Interest Section and the Online Bibliographic Services Special Interest Section of the American Association of Law Libraries. It will carry reports or summaries of the convention meetings and other programs of the TS-SIS and OBS-SIS, act as the vehicle of communication for the SIS committee activities, and carry current awareness and short implementation reports. Prospective authors should contact the Editor for style information. Statements and opinions of the authors are theirs alone and do not necessarily reflect those of the AALL, TS-SIS, OBS-SIS, or the TSLL Editorial Board.

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EDITOR'S NOTE

In this issue: Katherine Tooley and Karin Den Bleyker discuss OCLC's PrompCat, giving both a general overview and discussing staffing implications. Melody Lemke and Rhonda Lawrence report on LC's decision to treat Shepard's citations as serials -- a idea whose time has certainly come. Jean Pajerek and Stuart Spore report on cataloging meetings held at ALA Midwinter in Philadelphia.

Special thanks to Katherine Tooley and Mary Chapman for contributing to TSL during their years as Chairs of their SISs. I'm sure we'll see their bylines in future issues.

A list of OBS and TS programs is attached to this issue. Any omissions/errors are the responsibility of the Editor.

Editors: I hope you'll be able to travel to AALL Annual Meeting. I'm a native of the Pittsburgh area and I know it as a place of wonderful historical sites (where else could the Whiskey Rebellion have happened?), great restaurants, and friendly, down to earth people. And, of course, the meetings will only enhance the place!

Lorraine and I invite you to attend the TSL Board Meeting (Tuesday, July 18, 1995, 7-8 a.m.). We plan to discuss TSL's mailing rate, which may be the reason for the late arrival of the newsletter in certain sections of the country.

I encourage you to send reports of any meetings/programs you attend for inclusion in the next issue of TSL.

See you at the Golden Triangle where the Allegheny and Monogahela rivers meet to form the Ohio River!

ONLINE BIBLIOGRAPHIC SERVICES SPECIAL INTEREST SECTION

OBS SIS MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Mary Chapman
New York University

When I began working on the column for the June issue, I realized that this is my last column as OBS Chair. The time has flown by and there is so much to be done in the next couple of months before Pittsburgh. Katherine Tooley and I have made every effort to avoid conflicts in scheduling meetings. Katherine's task was particularly hard and we all owe her thanks for the juggling effort.

Those who worked with Anne Myers have been very successful in organizing educational programs -- one for the National Conference on Legal Information Issues and three at the convention itself, including one which is in two parts. For some strange reason, the Preliminary Program for Pittsburgh does not credit the SIS sponsors and co-sponsors for each convention program, so please check the list here in TSL.

Anyone with ideas on possible programs for Indianapolis should get in touch with Anne Myers now so that preliminary work can begin. Member surveys are trickling in and Anne is compiling the results. She will try to contact people who responded to requests for program topics and who offered to work on them. Major restructuring is taking place which will give SISs a larger role in program planning for the Indianapolis convention in 1996. I know that OBS will make the most of this exciting opportunity.

The OBS Education Committee meets Wednesday, July 19, 1995 at noon. All
members interested in working on programs should make a point to attend.

Once again we will have a table in the Exhibit Hall in Pittsburgh. Stop by to pick up brochures, schmooze, and check out the surprise OBS freebies that Sally Wambold and Anne Myers are getting. OBS members are asked to volunteer to staff our table and make contacts with AALL members, new and continuing. Volunteers, please get in touch with me!

Work on the new edition of the Local Systems Directory is "swimming right along" according to Carol Avery Nicholson (congratulations as new AALL Executive Board Member!). Carol credits Linda Davis for a major contribution in getting the editorial guidelines and template prepared and sent out team members. Send in those Local System Surveys. It is not too late for your library to be listed -- the more libraries that respond, the more useful the Directory will be. If your library did not receive a form, contact Carol at 919-962-1199.

One of our goals for 1995 was to take the wildly successful Internet Workshop "On-the-Road" to Chapter and regional meetings. Some roadblocks have cropped up, but OBS members will continue to work with the Association to get things moving forward. Jim Milles deserves everyone’s thanks for carrying on this year without institutional support.

It has been an honor to serve as Vice Chair and Chair of OBS. My major goal has been to work with the membership and officers to maximize the OBS contribution to AALL’s educational function. The dedication of our members and the opportunity for all to participate have made this possible. Open participation is crucial to the effectiveness of a volunteer group such as ours and we need to continually promote active roles for both new and continuing members. I look forward to working with OBS in other capacities during the coming years -- this is a great group!

Spring and early summer greetings to all!
This is the last TSLL before the convention in Pittsburgh. That’s so hard to believe!! There’s a lot to be done before then, and your SIS Committees are working hard preparing for AALL in July.

The Acquisitions Committee, chaired by Jim Mumm, is sponsoring two (yes, two!) workshops: one on Saturday, July 15 (Basic Acquisitions); the other (Advanced Acquisitions) on Thursday, July 20. The Co-Chairs for the workshops are Jim Mumm and Cynthia Anianao. You may register for these workshops using the convention registration form and there is a separate fee for each. Please note that the deadline for registering is June 1, 1995.

Stuart Spore has been TS/SIS’s representative for the joint RS/OBS/TS reception generously underwritten by Innovative Interfaces, Inc. This year’s reception looks to be truly different, as it is being held at a restaurant called "Rosebud" in an area of Pittsburgh known for it’s nightlife and music. Please plan on joining all of us on Saturday evening, July 15, for a most convivial time. Thanks to Stuart for all his hard work! A word or two of thanks to the III attendees will go a long way, so let them know you appreciate their sponsorship.

TS/SIS’s Preservation Committee, chaired by Curt Conklin, and Katherine Hedin, AALL Preservation Committee, have recommended Maxine Sitts for sponsorship at the National Conference portion of the AALL Annual Meeting. She
will attend the Conference and the Preservation programs. Please make an effort to greet her during the meeting.

News notes:

- Congratulations to Carol Avery Nicholson for being elected to the AALL Board!! Let's give her all our support!

- Check out the AALL Store in Pittsburgh. TS/SIS will have a few items there that'll make PERFECT souvenirs for staff and faculty! Please plan on checking them out ... also check out the TS/SIS table near the registration area -- a great place to rest, meet people and get TS/SIS information.

- FYI: a cataloging institute is in the planning stages for the 1996 meeting! Watch for future bulletins!

- Change in position: Michael Petit, incoming TS/SIS Chair, is now the head of acquisitions at Georgetown Law Library. His new e-mail address is: petitm@law.georgetown.edu

- Change in e-mail address: Katherine Tooley’s new internet address is: tooleykj@centum.utulsa.edu

I am looking forward to seeing all of you in Pittsburgh! With the National Conference programs along with AALL’s, this should be a humdinger of a meeting! This is my last column for TSLL as Chair of TS/SIS. I’ve enjoyed working with all of you and making so many friends. It is especially nice to put a face and personality to the names seen on E-Mail and in the newsletters. Serving as Chair or as a committee member does take time, work and effort, but the rewards are many and long lasting.

*****

TS ELECTION RESULTS

The results are in -- new TS officers are:

Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect -- James Mumm
Member at Large -- Susan Goldner

Congratulations!

*****

AUTOMATION

Mary Chapman
New York University Law Library

PROMPTCAT -- A MISSING LINK?

During the early 1990s, a principal topic of discussion among law librarians was coping with stagnant or declining information budgets. In the mid-90s, the budget discussion is focusing on the library staff. Administrators in law schools, firms, and government are more frequently insisting that libraries show productivity increases. Outsourcing of library work, especially in the Technical Services area, is a common response to these demands. PromptCat, a new OCLC service due to be available in April 1995, may help some Technical Service departments improve both turn around time and productivity while preserving a professional commitment to quality.

PromptCat’s purpose is partially implied by its name: it is intended to speed up cataloging and improve productivity. It fills a missing link between libraries, vendors, and OCLC by tying the vendor's book fulfillment process to provision of matching bibliographic records found in the OCLC union catalog. It thereby locates the searching process with the vendor and makes it possible to move copy cataloging for many titles from Cataloging to Acquisitions.

The PromptCat Service is geared toward any type of library whose vendors can work
with OCLC in the USMARC format. PromptCat can be used for non-serial titles only, but they may be firm orders or approval plan selections. A number of major vendors are working with OCLC to offer the service, including Academic Book Center, Baker & Taylor, Blackwell North America, and Yankee Book Peddler (YBP).

Michigan State University (MSU) Library tested the PromptCat Service with its YBP approval plan and reported on the test results at ALA Midwinter in Philadelphia. MSU is a large NOTIS library which receives about 11,000 titles annually on its YBP approval plan. The MSU Acquisitions Department receives, via FTP, bibliographic records of various types: LC, CIP, and member copy. 51 percent of the records have been CIP.

At MSU record editing is done by the receiving staff in Acquisitions. They correct the title if the CIP version is inaccurate, complete the physical description by filling in pagination and size, and add or correct the series. They also search the series on the OPAC to identify series standing orders and analytics. 90 percent of the receipts on the YBP approval plan are now going to marking and the stacks from Acquisitions; ten percent or less are routed to Cataloging.

Completion of the CIP records (half of the titles involved) has proven to be time consuming. Often the title statement is inaccurate or the series is lacking. Vendors could make the service much more useful by upgrading CIP records before transmitting them to customers rather than continuing the necessity for every receiving library to either upgrade the record or backlog the book until another library does the upgrade.

MSU has found that the records received almost always have call numbers. However, the report did not address potential errors with CIP call numbers, which are sometimes inaccurate. For example, LC often assigns a common call number to monographic series, but the series statement is one of the most frequently missing elements at the point CIP records are created.

No authority work is done when these titles are added; MSU depends on headings showing up on the NOTIS new headings list. They have found that needed authority work is small for this group of materials.

In spite of the increase in Acquisitions staff time to edit records, the overall result has been a reduction in Technical Services staff time devoted to copy cataloging. One and a half FTE copy catalogers were freed up as a result of the PromptCat Service. At MSU, the staff savings did not result in staff reductions, as is so often the case in these times of stagnant or shrinking budgets. Instead, the savings were applied to cataloging the uncataloged collections -- US government documents and microforms.

MSU acquisitions are far larger than almost all law libraries and its YBP approval plan has a higher hit rate than many law libraries experience, so its personnel savings are correspondingly greater. Nevertheless, many law libraries could potentially reduce monograph cataloging turn around time and realize important, although less dramatic, improvements in productivity. The participation in PromptCat by major vendors of legal monographs would increase the benefits libraries could expect to gain. Rothman and Guant have been particularly swift in interfacing with local systems for electronic ordering, claiming, and invoicing, so we should encourage them and other law book vendors to collaborate with services such as PromptCat.

A thornier question for law libraries is what happens to potential savings in staff time. Some libraries may be able to apply savings, as MSU has, to improving services such as cataloging uncataloged collections or reallocating the time to user services.
Others, however, will be pressured by law school administrators or firm managers to cut staff, period!

*****

On Description and Entry

Melody Lembke
Los Angeles County Law Library and
Rhonda Lawrence
UCLA Law Library

SHEPARD'S SERIAL RECORDS

Thanks to Marie Whited's persistent efforts on behalf of the Law Library and the law cataloging community, the Library of Congress is now cataloging Shepard's citations as serials. This recent decision reverses LC's previous policy of cataloging Shepard's titles as monographs. Historically there had been CONSER serial records for the bound volume editions of citations, but LC cataloged each as a monograph. Several years ago those CONSER serial records for the bound volumes were "de-authenticated," monograph records were to be used. Naturally, law catalogers creatively sought to circumvent that very inconvenient LC policy to continually create monograph records for each new bound volume edition. Instead, law catalogers and CONSER libraries began fully cataloging as serials the supplements to the bound editions. That record creation then permitted many libraries to use CONSER records that had been created for the supplements as the bibliographic records for the "monograph" bound volume editions as well.

At the AALL Annual meeting last year in Seattle, when Marie asked law catalogers who were present at the Cataloging and Classification Standing Committee whether they favored changing the cataloging practice for Shepards, an overwhelming majority (it might have been unanimous) supported the proposal to catalog Shepard's citations as serials. Over the past year several LC catalogers have worked to develop new guidelines for these Shepard's citations, posting requests for comments and announcements on various listservs, such as CONSRLST. As a result of good communication between LC catalogers and law catalogers, serial records for Shepard's citations are now based on the bound volumes. All of the descriptive portions of the record flow from the bound volumes, not the peculiarities found in the pamphlet supplements. Maureen Landry of the LC Serial Record Division, estimating that more than 200 records need to be redone, has said that LC will redo the records as the new bound editions arrive. Highlights of the changes that can now be seen in several LC records for Shepard's citations include:

- To cut down on the workload of recataloging all these titles, LC is using existing CONSER serial records that were used to describe Shepard's supplements, and is updating the supplement record to now describe the bound volumes. For that reason, there may be several LC or CONSER generated numbers in the 010 field. LC has also decided to use the existing subject headings and call numbers from the cancelled monographs whenever possible.

- While the frequency that the pamphlet supplements were issued might have been on a regular basis, the bound editions are irregular. Consequently the 310 field is noted as "Irregular."

- The numbering that appears in the 362 field (or 500 Description based on note field) is based on the bound volumes, e.g., LC record 95-660682 for Shepard's Pennsylvania citations includes the note:

  362 0 4th ed. (1956):  

- The publisher Shepard/McGraw-Hill has undergone several mergers and minor name changes in the past 100 years. Rather than
record all the variations, LC includes the 500 note "Imprint varies."

Information about the various types of supplements and their numbering peculiarities is found in the 525 supplement note field. Because the publisher uses the phrase "soft-covered" instead of the word "pamphlet," LC repeats that language in the note. E.g., that same Pennsylvania record contains:

525 Kept up to date between editions by cumulative soft-covered issues and advance sheets with their own vol. numbering, that are in turn replaced by a bound permanent supplement vol. or vols.

A slight variation on that note can be found in the records for Shepard's states' citations that lack advance sheets. For instance, the record for the Delaware citations states:

525 Kept up to date between eds. by cumulative soft covered supplements, with their own volume numbering, that are in turn replaced by bound permanent supplement volumes.

Since many of the citations are issued in two parts—a statute edition and a case edition—the record will include a note in the 515 numbering peculiarities field, e.g. the Pennsylvania record includes:

515 The 4th-<5th> ed. issued in parts: Statute ed. and: Case ed.

Whether the word "ed." (edition) is used in the description depends, of course, on what appears on the chief source of information. Shepard's Arizona citations (95-645706) does not use the word "edition" nor cite an edition number, e.g.,


Shepard's citations are now also updated for some states by a relatively new phenomena known as Express citations. LC is including the following note in the record, e.g., (95-645708):

580 Cumulative supplements are updated but not replaced by: Shepard's Indiana express citations.

Additionally, while a 787 linking field will be made, those express citations titles will not be cataloged (although some of them already have separate records, so links to those records were provided).

Look at these LC records for examples of recently recataloged Shepard's Citations:

95-660682 Shepard's Pennsylvania citations
95-645693 Shepard's Alabama citations
95-645708 Shepard's Indiana citations
95-645708 Shepard's Arizona citations
95-660684 Shepard's Connecticut citations
95-647960 Shepard's Delaware citations
94-660923 Shepard's federal law citations
94-645298 Shepard's military justice citations

*****

INTERNET

Pam Perry
Boston University Law Library

MAIL THE ELECTRONIC WAY

Are you surfing the net now?

If you've found your way onto the Information Superhighway since the last issue, you may be wondering what you can do now that you're connected.

Everyone's provider supplies different applications, but the most common are E-Mail, news groups (Usenet), ftp (file transfer protocol), and telnet (interactive sessions at a remote site). Of these applications, E-Mail is probably the first one tried and the most heavily used.

E-Mail is everywhere. Friends and colleagues may no longer say, "I'll call you," when they want to be in touch. "I'll E-Mail you," or "What's your E-Mail address?" is the norm these days. E-Mail has become a verb as well as a noun and many directories and business cards now
include E-Mail as well as "snail mail" (postal) addresses.

There are many different E-Mail programs. Some of the most common are pine, mail (either UNIX or VAX, depending on your computer), and elm. The mechanics of sending a message with each is peculiar to that application, so you need to get some instruction in using your particular mail program. Check with your System Administrator (Sysadmin) for classes or look online for a tutorial you can do on your own. Often it takes very little time to be up and running. What I'm going to tell you about is what's common to all systems -- the "culture" of E-Mail.

E-Mail addresses are pretty standardized. They consist of a "who" at a "where." For example, my E-Mail address:  

paperry@acs.bu.edu

is my name (paperry); the actual computer where my account lives (acs); my institution or domain, Boston University (bu); and the type of institution, in my case, an educational institution (edu). Other institutional address elements in United States addresses are gov for government, org for organization (National Public Radio, or NPR, is an org), net for network, and com for company. Outside of the United States, addresses end with a country abbreviation. Your name may be represented by letters, numbers, or a combination of the two. It all depends on your provider.

Now that you know what E-Mail addresses look like, how do you find them? That's a hard one. The best way is to call the person with whom you want to communicate and ask the address. There is no one directory on the Internet for finding people. You can usually find people within your own domain by using your machine's directory (again, ask your Sysadmin). There are a growing number of books on the market that list a selection of addresses, but these are companies, organizations, mail lists (we'll discuss these presently), etc., but not people. For individuals you could try professional directories.

Now that you're ready to send mail, there are a few rules, or common practices you should know. It's called netiquette.

E-Mail is such an instantaneous medium for communication that many people tend to use it without thinking. They just fire off messages with little thought to content or tone. Remember, there is no easy way to indicate mood or attitude in writing, so choose your words carefully. Read over your message, then read it again before pushing the send button. Just like postal mail, it usually can't be retrieved.

Don't use all capital letters in your message. It's like shouting. To provide emphasis to words, experienced E-Mailers enclose them in asterisks or supply an underline mark before and after the word. Watch out for the length of your lines. Better to make them short than to have one or two letters spill over onto a new line -- it's very hard to read. All of these suggestions apply whether you're sending mail to a friend or to a public forum.

Besides keeping in touch with friends and colleagues, E-Mail also allows you to participate in "discussion groups" or listserv groups. There are thousands of such forums, on any subject you can imagine. You subscribe to these as you might a journal, but there aren't any articles to read except the "posts" or contributions of members. If you're so inclined, you can participate in the discussions (which change daily, or even hourly). Every group has a listowner who sets the policy for the list. Some are edited or moderated; most are not. Participants agree to abide by a few rules, but are mostly on their own to determine content and tone. Most groups frown on open "flaming" (harsh personal criticism) and prefer that personal discussions move off-list.
Subscribing to listserv groups insures that you'll probably get mail every day. And it's good practice for handling mail on your system and for learning how to send mail. I can suggest a few groups that many be of interest to readers of TSLL, but for a complete list, I would suggest looking at any one of the many introductory Internet texts. They usually list a number of available groups covering many areas of interest. There are also online lists of lists, and it's like the "chicken or the egg" quandary as to how to find them. If you don't know how to use the system, how do you find the resources that tell you how to use the system? As I wrote in my first column, get an Internet buddy! Ask where he/she found his/her groups, or ask how to find a list of them. (If you're on Usenet, there is usually a multi-part list posted in news answers. However, Usenet is a subject of a future column).

To subscribe to a listserv group, you merely send a mail message to the machine that distributes the list. In return, often in minutes, you'll receive a "welcome message" that tells you that your subscription has been activated. The message may also include a few basic commands for communicating with the list and often instructions for getting more detailed information on listserv procedure.

The message you send must be exact -- in most cases you're sending a message to a machine, not to a person, and it only knows what your say not what you mean. Leave the subject blank. The form for the command in the body of the message is:

    subscribe[listname][your first name][your last name]

Following are the addresses and descriptions of some library-related groups of interest to technical services people:

- AUTOCAT -- Discussion of cataloging issues:
  listserv@ubvm.cc.buffalo.edu

- GOVDOC-L -- Discussion of all facets of government documents:
  listserv@psuvm.psu.edu

- INNOPAC -- Discussion of Innovative Interfaces library system:
  listserv@maine.maine.edu

- LCCN -- LC cataloging newsline:
  listserv@sun7.loc.gov

- NOTIS-L -- Discussion of Notis/Dobis library systems:
  listserv@uicvm.uic.edu

- PACS-L -- Discussion of library computer systems:
  listserv@uhupvm1.uh.edu

- SERIALIST -- Discussion of all phases of serials processing:
  listserv@uvvvm.uvm.edu

- USMARC -- Moderated list on the MARC formats:
  listserv@sun7.loc.gov

To get a list of many more library lists, send the following message to
listserv@uhupvm1.uh.edu
    GET LIBRARY LISTS F=MAIL (No subject and no other text).

To get a list of commands for the listserv program, send a message containing only the word HELP to any listserv (preferably one close to you geographically). Just pick one from the above list. To get a guide to commands for all the various listserv programs, send the following message to
listserv@ubvm.cc.buffalo.edu
    GET MAILSERV CMD NETTRAIN F=MAIL.

As usual, if you have any comments or suggestions on this column, send mail to me at paperry@acs.bu.edu or to me at Pappas Law Library, 765 Commonwealth Ave., Boston, MA 02215. Try the E-Mail address - it's good practice.

See you in Cyberspace!
There is an excellent new book out called *Guide to Publishing Opportunities for Librarians* edited by Carol F. Schroeder and Gloria G. Roberson and published by Haworth Press, c1995. I had received a very interesting prepublication blurb about this title and I must say that the final product does live up to my expectations based on the blurb.

The purpose of the *Guide* "is to familiarize the reader with a comprehensive listing of library-related publications, mostly periodicals, that will serve the needs of both the novice and experienced writer." The editors state that "the medium most often selected by writers is the journal or the magazine article," thus justifying their focus on periodicals.

The brief introduction contains a number of good tips about the mechanics of dealing with these periodicals. The other sections are self-explanatory: Abstracting and indexing services abbreviations, Style manuals abbreviations, Alphabetical listing of periodicals (168), Electronic journals and newsletters (eight), Additional periodicals (a list of 15 for which detailed information is not available), State library associations, Refereed journals, and Index.

The alphabetical listing of periodicals comprises the major portion of this book as one might expect. Each periodical has a one or two page description which is based on a questionnaire the editors of this book sent to the editor of each periodical in March 1992. Each periodical description includes the following: title, acronym, affiliation, scope & content, indexed by, editor, manuscript address, student papers accepted, publication lag time, reprints, authorship restrictions, abstract required, proofs corrected by, payment, number of copies, acknowledgment, acceptance lag time, format, length, critique provided, style, refereed, reviewed by, first publication, republication, subscription address, frequency, circulation, cost, and telecommunications.

This is quite a list I know, but I hope it gives an idea of the thoroughness of this publication. Some of these categories may say "not given," meaning that the information was not supplied by the editor filling out the questionnaire, but overall the descriptions appear to be complete. Some categories especially interested me. For instance, it is essential to know if a periodical is refereed, but each of these descriptions also includes extra information on who actually reviews the articles (blind referee process, editor and appropriate staff, members of editorial board, subject experts, etc.). And the separate listing of refereed periodicals is an excellent feature for those involved with the tenure process, in which publication in a refereed journal is a must.

Knowing how long before an article is accepted as well as before it is published can be very helpful to the author(s). And the acceptance rates can be interesting. For example, the acceptance rate for *Law Library Journal* is given as 70%. Unfortunately, the *AALL Newsletter* was not included, though many other newsletters were. Obviously some of this information (especially the short list of electronic journals and newsletters) will change over time, but this book seems an excellent place to start in one's search for a periodical in which to publish. I hope the editors plan revised editions later on down the road.

On to some more research by our law technical services colleagues which deserves mention:

- "Decapitalization of Discards in a Law Library" by Rita Millican and Susan Morrison (both of Louisiana State
University) in *Law Library Journal* v. 86, no. 4 (Fall 1994), pp. 817-822.


- "Internet Resources for Law" by Corinne Jacox and Brian Striman (both of University of Nebraska) in *College & Research Libraries News* v. 56, no. 1 (Jan. 1995), pp. 18-20.


- "Permanent Paper" by Patricia Denham (University of Cincinnati) in *AALL Newsletter* v. 26, no. 6 (March 1995), p. 271.

- "Technical Services and the Internet" by Patricia Sayre McCoy (University of Chicago) in *Wilson Library Bulletin* v. 69, no. 7 (March 1995), pp. 37-40. Part of this article was included in the workshop "Internet as a Library-wide Resource" at the 1994 AALL annual meeting in Seattle.

Some current opportunities for research and publication include:

- A call for papers for *Advances in Serials Management* was posted to both AUTOCAT and LAW-LIB in March 1995. The call did not include a deadline, but one of the new editors, Cindy Hepfer, later informed me it is July 1, 1995. By the time you read this column, that date will be fast approaching, but I still wanted the readers of this column to be aware of this as an example of the variety of avenues open to them.

- The EMEDIA listserv had a call for papers for a special topics issue of *JASIS (The Journal of the American Society for Information Science)*. The deadline for consideration is Dec. 31, 1995 and the special topic is "Structured Information/Standards for Document Architectures."

- Another call for papers appeared on EMEDIA from the *MC Journal: the Journal of Academic Media Librarianship*. The deadline for the next issue is Sept. 1, 1995. I am on the editorial board of this electronic journal, so I know that some of the accepted articles to date have dealt with technical services aspects of media.

- An announcement by the School of Library Science at the University of Arizona of the publication of a new journal *The Olive Tree* appeared on the NEWJOUR listserv on March 21, 1995. It is "the first scholarly journal devoted to issues concerning library science and information management published electronically on the World Wide Web."

I want to remind everyone that the OBS TS SIS Research Roundtable will be meeting in Pittsburgh on Tuesday, July 18, 1995 from 4:30-6:00 p.m. I will post a reminder of this meeting on LAW-LIB when it gets closer. I only received my March issue of *TSLL* a few days before I am writing this column, so there has not been much time for me to have received feedback on topics you would like to discuss at the Roundtable. Please contact me if you have any ideas!

Unfortunately, there are no sessions on research at the Pittsburgh meeting, but maybe we can come up with some ideas for research programs at future conventions. I know Brian Striman mentioned that some such ideas were discussed at last year’s Roundtable. The thought just occurred to me that some sort of "research mentor" might be helpful for those who want to do research (or have to), but just do not have a clue as to where to start. How does that sound? I will also try to remember to bring my copy of the *Guide* which I discussed in the beginning of this column as well as some of the other
Please call, write, or E-Mail your comments, suggestions, etc. about this column. I would love to hear from you! Contact: Ellen McGrath, SUNY Buffalo Law Library, O’Brian Hall, Buffalo, NY 14260-1110. Phone: 716-645-2254; Fax: 716-645-3860. Bitnet: EMCGRATH@UBVM Internet: EMCGRATH@BVM.CC.BUFFALO.EDU

SERIAL ISSUES
Mary Burgos
Columbia University Law Library

The following article has been reprinted, with permission, from the April 1995 issue of Against the Grain.

GREAT EXPECTATIONS
(With Thanks to Joyce McDonough)
by Sandra K. Paul
(President, SKP Associates)

Some time ago, the folks at SISAC (the Serials Industry Systems Advisory Committee of the Book Industry Study Group for those of you new to ATG) realized that there is a major difference between what publishers consider to be their "publication patterns" and the publication patterns found in library systems which form the basis for acquisition librarians’ delivery expectations. Joyce McDonough (Columbia University Library) agreed to chair an exploration of these matters, calling it "Great Expectations" (thanks for the title, Joyce!).

An outgrowth of her concerns was a session of the ALA ALCTS Serials Section Research Libraries Discussion Group entitled "GREAT EXPECTATIONS: Predictive Check-In" during ALA Midwinter 1995 Philadelphia. Some very interesting facts were revealed in that session, among them:

▶ Sue Malawski of John Wiley reported that there is LESS likelihood of Wiley publishing the next issue of, let’s say a quarterly journal, exactly three months after the date of the last issue of the same journal than on any other date.

▶ Fritz Schwartz of Faxon noted that the Serials Holding Record patterns field has only a handful of alternatives, while Faxon’s records show hundreds. He compared the library set to a noun, whereas, when the action takes place, the verb is the publisher’s actual pattern of publication (I particularly liked that, Fritz!).

▶ Joyce McDonough and various members of the audience reported on the difficulty of getting their library systems vendors to understand the changes required for back room operations such as serial check-in.

What became clear in the course of the discussion is that publishers such as Wiley, CAN, TODAY, send subscription agents (and libraries, if they were interested) proposed publication dates for future issues of their journals. Those dates can be "ball park" guesses a year ahead, but become more and more realistic as the publication date actually approaches. Finally, once the journal content is finalized, these publishers can provide the actual dates that copies will be shipped from the printer AND the actual date that happened, after the fact. The reason that Wiley and the other publishers, which are members of the International Committee on Electronic Date Interchange for Serials (ICEDIS), are willing to provide this information is simple -- they want to stop having to research and respond to claims for journal issues which have not yet been printed and shipped. Sue made it very clear that she IS, TODAY, providing this information to those subscription agent members of ICEDIS interested in receiving it. Yet, she is not seeing a reduction in claims for unpublished issues. "Why?" she asked.
The answer is clearly that the library systems are not receiving Sue’s predictive publication dates, but are relying on the publication pattern and date of the last issue to create a claim for the next one. How can we get the systems to rely on this meaningful information rather than a less than accurate publication pattern and previous issue date? Should publishers be sending this information directly to library systems, or should the subscription agents now receiving it send it on? Or, should subscription agents’ computer systems be programmed to stop a claim before it reaches the publisher and “advise” the library system of the expected publication due date?

As was pointed out by several of those attending the ALA session, it’s much easier to program a computer system to send out information than it is to program one to receive and act appropriately upon the data it is receiving. What became clear in the course of the meeting was that if we want to fulfill 1) publishers’ great expectations that their provision of shipping dates will reduce the number of unnecessary claims they receive and 2) librarians’ great expectation that they are claiming an issue AFTER it was published AND BEFORE copies are no longer available, we have to better understand what information library systems CAN and SHOULD receive and what they should do about it once it is received! If nothing more was accomplished than having everyone in that room understand this concept, the morning was meaningful. The fact that all of you reading this column now know this, too, is even better! NOW, if we can get the library system user groups to concentrate on the information they could receive and what to do with it, we’ll fulfill EVERYONE’S great expectations! To this end, SISAC continues to work with librarians, subscription agents, publishers, and library systems vendors to obtain the benefits of standardized electronic commerce.

SERIALS

Jean M. Pajerek
Cornell University

The following serials title changes were recently identified by the Cornell Law Library acquisitions staff:

EEC competition law handbook
**Changed to:** E.C. competition law handbook. 1994-

Federal bar news & journal
**Changed to:** Federal lawyer. Vol. 42, no. 1 (Jan. 1995)-

Georgia journal of Southern legal history
**Changed to:** Journal of Southern legal history. Vol. 3 (1994)-

Harvard blackletter journal
**Changed to:** Harvard blackletter law journal. Vol. 11 (spring 1994)

Legal desk book
**Changed to:** Ontario legal desk book 1994-

Touro journal of transnational law
**Changed to:** Touro international law review. Vol. 5 (fall 1994)-

William and Mary journal of environmental law
**Changed to:** William and Mary environmental law and policy review. Vol. 19, no. 1 (fall 1994)-

SUBJECT HEADINGS

Alva T. Stone
Florida State University Law Library

Have you ever wanted to propose a new subject heading to the Library of Congress? Harriet Zook, the catalog librarian at McGeorge School of Law, recently sent me
comments about two topics that are not adequately expressed yet in LCSH. But before we talk about this process, I'd like to alert everyone to the changes to a geographic region heading and subdivision that have resulted from the Maastricht Treaty having taken effect:

**European Union countries**  (sh94-3571)
UF EU countries
BT Europe
   Here are entered works on the member countries of the European Union formed by the Maastricht treaty of 1992. Works on the member countries of the European Economic Community as a geographic region during the period 1958-1992 are entered under European Economic Community countries.

A reciprocal scope note has been added to the existing subject authority record for European Economic Community countries, sh85-45811. Note that the change also applies to this group of countries when used as a geographic subdivision. For example, the 1995 ed. of *European Union Law in a Nutshell* has been assigned the subject heading, LAW $z$ EUROPEAN UNION COUNTRIES.

Now, back to the first question. At my last ALA Midwinter Meeting, I learned that the Library of Congress is accepting proposals for new subject headings, or for revisions to current subject heading authorities, from virtually any library, provided that you follow their guidelines and policies for making proposals. If you are interested, this information can be found by accessing the LC gopher, MARVEL. At the first menu:

1. Select: Libraries and Publishers (Technical Services);

2. Select: Cataloging at the LC: Programs & Services;

3. Select: Cooperative Cataloging Programs at the LC.

At this point you will have reached a menu containing two pertinent choices. "Subject Authority Cooperative (SACO) Project Guidelines" presents LC's statement of expectations, requirements for documentation, submission of proposals and training, and a list of contacts at LC involved in this project. "Cooperative Cataloging Forms" should also be displayed; it consists of a form for the LC Subject Heading Proposal, and a help screen for LC Subject Heading Change Proposal. For more information, contact the subject cataloging liaisons by E-Mail: CSCP@mail.loc.gov (Paper forms are also available from the Cooperative Cataloging Teams at LC.)

One of the non-existent (in LCSH) headings for which Harriet had stated a need was "Inverse condemnation." I did a keyword search in my Library's catalog, and found the phrase used in five book titles. Then I executed a keyword search in OCLC, identifying many more examples, including several on LC MARC records. By examining these bibliographic records, and searching in LCSH, I determined that the concept is related to EMINENT DOMAIN (a valid heading) and to CONDEMNATION OF LAND (a "UF" line under EMINENT DOMAIN).

The next step was to check the LC Subject Cataloging Manual: Subject Headings, memo H 203, "Citation of Sources," and particularly the list under the caption "Social Sciences Reference Sources." There are a handful of law-oriented works on this list, and in two of them -- *Black's Law Dictionary* and *Current Law Index* -- I was able to find a definition or a heading for "Inverse condemnation." After reading the definition in *Black's*, I revisited LCSH, and considered that the heading ADJOINING LANDOWNERS is also related to "Inverse condemnation." Below is the proposal that will be sent to the Library of Congress.

◆ 1. Select: Libraries and Publishers (Technical Services);
◆ 2. Select: Cataloging at the LC: Programs & Services;
◆ 3. Select: Cooperative Cataloging Programs at the LC.
SUBJECT HEADING PROPOSAL FORM

008: 2 i (May Subd Geo) 25. ___ (Cat. Code
- ___ (Not Subd Geo) 29. C Coop. cat.
\_ ___ (No decision) 040: PταSU \# DLC

053:
150: Inverse condemnation
450: Condemnation of land
550 BT: Eminent domain
550 RT: Adjoining landowners

670 Work cat.: Inverse condemnation and related
government liability ... 1989.

680:
962:

LC pattern or SCM memo:

I did not see the need for adding a scope
note (field 680) in this subject authority
record. But to accompany the proposal, I
will enclose a photocopy of the Black's Law
Dictionary, which will be helpful for
understanding the selection of the proposed
cross-references, and for formulating a
scope note, should the LC catalogers
decide that one is needed. Please
remember that this is only a proposal. I will
report later on the LC response.

The other concept that Harriet mentioned
was "Insurance bad faith." In fact, the
latest edition of Black's has added a
paragraph under "Bad faith," captioned
"Insurance," to describe the frivolous or
unfounded refusal of an insurer to pay
proceeds of policy. Several works,
including CLE publications, have been
published on this topic. These are
accessed by subject through a combination
of headings, usually BAD FAITH (LAW) and
TORT LIABILITY OF INSURANCE

COMPANIES. I thought about something
like "Bad faith claims (Insurance law)," but
the topic really doesn't deal so much with
insurance law, but rather, with breach of
contract (INSURANCE POLICIES). No,
probably in this case the use of a
combination of headings is the best we can
do. However, in OPAC's that allow a
keyword subject search, the presence of
the two valid headings shown above should
result in retrieval of the relevant works
when the keywords used are "insurance,"
"bad" and "faith."

That's all for this quarter, my colleagues!

CORRECTION: In my March 1995 (TSLL
v. 20, no. 3) Subject Headings column, a
newly authorized subject subdivision was
announced, -- LEGISLATIVE HISTORIES.
Unfortunately this wording was not correct.
The new subdivision is -- LEGISLATIVE
HISTORY. The SCM instruction sheet in
which more detail about this will be found
is called, "H1715, Legal Materials:
Legislation."

I sincerely regret any confusion or
inconvenience which may been caused by
the earlier, faulty information.

TECHNICAL SERVICES
IN SMALLER LIBRARIES

Carol J. Dawe
Katten Muchin & Zavis

The Private Law Libraries SIS Technical
Services Group is pleased to announce its
annual meeting and program at the AALL
Meeting in Pittsburgh.

The PLL SIS Technical Services Meeting
will be held on Sunday, July 16, 1995,
4:00-5:15 p.m. We will be providing
information regarding a listserv for Private
Law Firm Technical Services Librarians and
other Internet resources for cataloging,
automation, and technical services. A
group discussion regarding topics of the
day such as CD-ROM, integrated systems,
vendor information, etc. will be included as
in years past.

The PLL SIS Technical Services program
will be held on Tuesday, July 18, 1995,
5:45 - 6:45 p.m. Joni Cassidy, President
of Cassidy Cataloging, will present a
program on Format Integration for Small
Systems. Joni will take the mystery out of
these new standards and make them clear
and understandable once and for all!

Please join us in Pittsburgh for both of
these meetings. We look forward to seeing
you in Pittsburgh. For further information
you can E-Mail me at kmzcjd@class.org or
call em at 312-902-5557.

*****

OBS OCLC COMMITTEE

Karin Den Bleyker
Mississippi College Law Library

There are two new services from OCLC:
IFM (OCLC ILL Fee Management) and
PromptCat (delivering cataloging
automatically). Let's begin with PromptCat
because it does not really need much
explanation; comments and opinions will
probably fill pages.

PromptCat, according to PRISM News, "... 
delivers a cataloging record for any title
having a monographic record in the OCLC
Online Union Catalog, the world's most
comprehensive database of bibliographic
information." Libraries have the following
options: choice of vendor (providing it is
one who participates in the program),
holding records set immediately or delayed,
selection of records by format, cataloging
source, or encoding level, and delivery by
EDX, PRISM PromptCat file, tape, or cards.
Vendor supplied data can be added to the
OCLC MARC record. Once the options are
set, OCLC uses vendor supplied lists to set
the library's holdings and produce an OCLC
MARC record for each title. All this will
improve productivity and timeliness in
Technical Services and speed up access to
higher quality, enriched records. Interested
libraries will have to fill out a profile form.

Overall, this service appears to speed up
the tedious task of searching and editing a
record; however, the records will still have
to be reviewed, and I wonder if opting for
one cataloging source is always wise. The
cost seems to be reasonable. COSELL
members will be interested to know the
Yankee Book Peddler was the first vendor
to send in a PromptCat list. If anyone is
using PromptCat, please let the rest of us
know how you like it.

OCLC ILL Fee Management has great
potential to alleviate bookkeeping cost and
processing time for those law libraries who
charge for ILL requests. For a detailed
overview and how-to guide, consult
Technical Bulletin 207. Please note that on
page five, "Using IFM Effectively,"
suggests that libraries discuss the IFM
billing process with finance or accounting
staff before signing up. The samples of the
report on the last two pages of the Bulletin
invite for a quick sign up -- they provide
such excellent data; however, one should
read the Bulletin and "Questions and
Answers on OCLC ILL Fee Management" on
PRISM: News first. This service may not
be a time saver for all staff members; ILL
request input has to be carefully supervised
in order to avoid charging reciprocal
libraries. To activate this service, see the

Has anyone used the new Guides for
Bibliographic Description of Interactive
Multimedia? Reviews have been very good.
Jay Weitz of OCLC provides an excellent
overview and tips on how to apply the
guidelines. He also addresses
documentation revision and future
considerations to fully utilizing the
guidelines (PRISM: News).

Now a brief word about the Committee
meeting in Pittsburgh. The business meeting
agenda will include the OCLC law library membership list and the preliminary steps to establish a law funnel group. And, of course, refreshments will be provided!

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OBS RLIN COMMITTEE
Phoebe Ruiz-Valera
Association of the Bar of the City of New York

Are you ready for connected justice? Upon reading the preliminary program for the AALL Conference in Pittsburgh this year several programs caught my eye. I saw that it features our own Win-Shin Chiang as a speaker on the program "Building the Global Law Library," Sunday July 16, 1995 at 9:15 a.m. This program will discuss the creation of inter-institutional collection development and shared partnerships in a global environment. Although not finalized yet, it should be interesting to attend and see what plans RLIN has for the coming years given the competition from the commercial sector. Also of interest with respect to RLIN is the program Coordinated by Anne Myers on "Easing Into the Next Generation Library System" in 2 parts -- Pt. 1 on Tuesday, July 18, 8:30 - 10:00 a.m. and Part 2 from 10:15 - 11:45 a.m., with the participation of Richard Boss, among others. Sooner or later we must upgrade or change our local systems and if we have depended on RLIN for our cataloging, we may find compatibility problems with a different local system. Another program of interest might be the one on "Outsourcing: boon or bane for Law Libraries?" on Tuesday, July 18, 1995, at 2:45 p.m., headed by Naomi Goodman. RLIN provides retrospective service so this could be a project to outsource. Another program of interest is "Hitting a moving target: flexible long range computer planning" at 2:45 p.m., where we might want to consider how RLIN fits into our own institutions long range plans. It appears that Tuesday is "Techies Day" beginning with our RLIN Meeting at 7:30 a.m. I am still coordinating the agenda so now is your chance to be heard. I hope to send the agenda out to you before the meeting. We invite all members of AALL to attend and share their thoughts about RLIN.

The April 13 1995, issue 13, of Focus gives more details as to RLIN’s Internet Protocol Network, a forum presented at the ALA Midwinter meeting in Philadelphia on Feb. 5, 1995. Karen Smith-Yoshimura led a general discussion on the impact on technical services. The service objectives are to integrate RLIN into local computing environments, expedite transfer of RLIN records into local systems, and expedite transfer of local records to RLIN to strengthen cooperative cataloging and resources. Methods used are FTP and PUT command, core-level standard cataloging, and increased tape loading of records. This issue also includes an index to all Focus issues from 1-13.

We can now link our classification to LC’s. Of interest is the recent RLIN survey on entering LC classification in 050 fields, including locally assigned LC call numbers. The proposal is to enter them with a second indicator "4" and local cutting. When this is done the 050 can be profiled to be prompted in the CALL field so rekeying would not be needed. This is being considered in conjunction with the "new cataloging service" to automate searching and selection of source copy. The deadline for replying is April 24 so we should know the results before our meeting in Pittsburgh.

Also, new connections are made as through a new command to be used in Eureka: the Request command. This will streamline the interlibrary loan or document delivery process. Request puts together an E-Mail message using bibliographic information from Eureka and patron information supplied by the user. The message then goes to a single E-Mail account specified by the library. Request allows users to ask for a whole item or parts of it. Users can also
include notes and give instructions regarding preferred delivery. For privacy the patron information is not stored between sessions. This is of interest to us in Technical Services when we consider how to catalog electronic text, or images in our OPACs. Perhaps all we would have to provide are indexes or a brief catalog description which would link with Request.

Finally, as previously mentioned, RLG's development of a Windows based RLIN terminal emulation program is ready for release this Spring. Users will be able to catalog on RLIN and pass records to their local systems. In the Windows environment, Catalogers can work in RLIN while consulting reference tools on CD-ROM, the Internet or their local network. An interlibrary loan request can be logged on to check local availability of materials as the request comes in. It allows ILL staff to use RLIN and Ariel at the same time. Plans call for Windows software in two releases: the first to support Roman script character displays and the second to work with and display RLG's JACKPHY-Plus scripts (all other non-roman scripts). All system requirements for the RLIN Terminal for Windows are described in the RLG publication RLIN Network Transition available from RLG Distribution Services Center at bl.dsc@rlg.stanford.edu or through WWW server at http://www-rlg.stanford.edu/netrans/nettrans.html

See you in Pittsburgh. Please stay connected!

TS ACQUISITIONS COMMITTEE

James A. Mumma
Marquette University Law Library

Plan to attend the

ACQUISITION WORKSHOPS

held in conjunction with AALL in Pittsburgh

The Profession of Acquisitions
(Basic Acquisitions Workshop)
Saturday, July 15, 1995

The Profession and Future of Acquisitions
(Advanced Acquisitions Workshop)
Thursday, July 20, 1995

Sign up with your AALL Registration or call AALL to register.

For more information contact:
Jim Mumm (414-288-5351)
or
Cynthia Aninao (513-556-0156)

* * * *

REPORT OF THE
AALL REPRESENTATIVE TO THE
ALA ALCTS/CCS SUBJECT
ANALYSIS COMMITTEE
MIDWINTER MEETING
PHILADELPHIA, FEBRUARY 1995

Jean M. Pajdsek
Cornell Law Library

The ALA ALCTS/CCS Subject Analysis Committee (SAC) met twice during the ALA Midwinter conference in Philadelphia. The effort to establish a new subfield for encoding form subdivisions in USMARC records came to fruition at last when
MARBI voted to accept Proposal No. 95-2: "Definition of Subfield $v$ for Form Subdivision in the USMARC Formats." The establishment of such a subfield was recommended by the SAC Subcommittee on the Nature and Use of Form Data, and was the topic of a discussion paper (No. 74) that was evaluated by the USMARC Advisory Group at ALA Midwinter in February 1994. A second discussion paper, D.P. 79, raised questions related to retrospective conversion, the use by online systems of the proposed form subdivision subfield, issues of authority control, implementation options, and user opinions. The issues raised in the second discussion paper were addressed by SAC and by the Subcommittee at their meetings in Miami last June. At the Philadelphia meeting, the long contemplated subfield $v$, finally emerged as MARBI Proposal No. 95-2. LC stated its intention to implement the new form subfield, although no indication was given as to the time frame involved.

Arlene Taytor (University of Pittsburgh) analyzed a sample of 567 LC records in order to determine the feasibility of identifying and recoding existing form subdivisions using a machine algorithm. She concluded that about three percent of headings would be recoded incorrectly using the algorithm stated in Proposal No. 95-2, and recommends that another study with a larger sample be undertaken.

SAC’s recommendation (made after the June 1994 meeting in Miami) that field 755 (Added Entry--Physical Characteristics) be merged with Field 655 (Index Term--Genre/Form) in the USMARC bibliographic format was considered by MARBI in Discussion Paper No. 82. MARBI did not object to merging the two fields and eliminating the 755 field.

SAC voted to support a proposal to provide authority control for genre/form terms used in field 655 (Index Term--Genre/Form). Specifically, SAC supports option one stated in Discussion Paper No. 83: "the definition of new fields 155, 455, 555, and 755 in the Authority Format to create authority records for genre/form terms." LC will prepare a proposal to be voted on by MARBI.

In response to a memo prepared by Dee Michel of the University of Wisconsin at Madison, SAC voted to draft a letter to major OPAC vendors, urging them to allow for the display of broader subject term links in their online catalogs. SAC also established a new subcommittee to study reference structures in the online environment.

SAC voted to recommend to the Cataloging and Classification Section Executive Committee that ALA not reissue the 1986 Guidelines on Subject Access to Microcomputer Software. This recommendation originated with the SAC Subcommittee on Subject Access to Computer Files, whose members believe the guidelines are too out of date to be used for current cataloging.

Lynn El-Hoshy of the Library of Congress updated the Committee on various developments at LC. Among the highlights:

- In response to lobbying by the law library community, LC has decided to allow the names of individual legislative enactments to be assigned more liberally. Look for guidelines to appear in an upcoming memo, H 1715, in the Subject Cataloging Manual. Also of interest to law catalogers, LC is establishing a new subdivision, "--Legislative history."

- LC recently launched the THOMAS World Wide Web page. THOMAS provides access to legislative information, including the full text of House and Senate bills, searchable by keyword(s) and bill number. The URL for THOMAS is: http://thomas.loc.gov/

- LC announced recently that "subject authority records that are more accurately name authority records will not be created after December 31, 1994. In addition, the
Library will initiate special projects as time permits to delete those subject authority records already created for which name authority records exist. The control number for the deleted subject authority record will be entered in field 010 §z of the name authority record.

The Cooperative Cataloging Council's Subject Authority File Task Group issued its final report in November. The Task Group made recommendations in four areas:

- Enhancements to the current SUBJECTS file;
- Creation of a validation file of LC-assigned topical heading/topical subdivision combinations, and a file of other LC-assigned heading/subdivision combinations - the records in this file are not intended to function as authority records;
- Creation and use of records for topical and form subdivisions coded to guide usage with main headings;
- Creation and use of authority records for heading/subdivision combinations.

A project is underway at LC to add authorization for geographic subdivision to existing topical headings; over 50 percent are now authorized. Authorization for geographic subdivision is also being added to topical subdivisions; approximately 52 percent of subdivisions for which geographic subdivision is possible have been authorized. Over 350 subdivisions have been discontinued, updated or replaced.

Last fall, a survey was mailed to a random sample of 400 current and former subscribers to the Subject Cataloging Manual. The purpose of the survey was to elicit information from the library community as to how the manual may be improved. The survey was also posted on AUTOCAT and COOPCAT. The results are to be posted on LC MARVEL after the responses have been analyzed.

LC's cooperative programs with the National Library of Canada and the British Library continue to make progress. Both libraries have contributed subject heading proposals which have been added to LCSH. The British Library has begun assigning Library of Congress subject headings to items in the British National Bibliography. Twenty-four LC classification schedules have been converted into machine-readable form, including the JX schedule. All other schedules are in the process of being converted.

The first in a series of regional subject cataloging institutes called "Demystifying Subject Cataloging" took place in November in California and was well received by participants. The second is planned for April 2-3 in Minneapolis, and a third institute is scheduled to take place October 24-25 in Rochester, NY. The institutes are intended to provide catalogers with a working knowledge of basic subject analysis and the application of Library of Congress subject headings.

SAC is co-sponsoring a program at the 1995 ALA annual conference on "The Crisis in Subject Cataloging and Retrieval" with Arlene Taylor as moderator. The program is scheduled for Sunday, June 25 at 2 p.m.

REPORT OF THE AALL REPRESENTATIVE TO MARBI

Stuart Sporr
New York University Law Library

MARBI had a useful, if somewhat acrimonious, meeting at ALA Midwinter, approving one major improvement to the MARC format and discussing others.

The form subject division saga reached the end of a long chapter as MARBI approved
the SAC sponsored initiative (Proposal 95-2), calling for the explicit coding of form headings in subjects. Form subdivisions will now be coded in subfield $v$ of 6xx fields and not be tossed in with topical terms in $x$ as they been up to now. The Library of Congress announced that it would begin retrospective conversion of LCSH headings within two years (when global update is available on its systems).

Since last summer, considerable work has been done on implementing $v$. Arlene Taylor of SAC reported on a conversion study she did which suggested that machine conversion could, in fact, be accomplished with an acceptable low error rate. Josephine Crawford of the University of Wisconsin did a survey of libraries, utilities, and vendors concerning costs, schedules, and intentions regarding the implementation of the proposal and an experiment on the desirability of using form subdivisions for compacting OPAC displays. Both studies are available on the USMARC list archives (available on MARVEL).

In related matters, MARBI reached a consensus to eliminate field 755 (added Entry - Physical Characteristics) in favor of 655 (Index term - Genre/Form). This will be submitted as a formal proposal to ALA this summer in Chicago. Reaching this consensus involved first determining that there was a need for non-mutually exclusive form data in both 655 and in other subject fields, in other words, that the new 6xx $v$ was not adequate for all form/genre headings. Another discussion paper broached revising the authority format to accommodate records for form/genre terms. This, too, will come before MARBI the summer meeting.

Work continued on the justly renowned 856 (Electronic format and access) field; extensions to accommodate dial access (including phone numbers, communications settings, and hours of availability) were approved. The prefix URL:, which was originally part of the definition for $u$ for Internet resources, was removed at the request of systems programmers. This change may also make the 856 field more flexible when URNs and URLs come into use. These improvements will make it possible for vendors to provide transparent hot links from the OPAC to remote resources available on Internet and via modems.

Many law library OPAC users have wished that catalogers would find a way to describe hard copy and its microform version in a single bibliographic record so that two searches would not be necessary to see the library’s holdings of the same work. Last summer a new linking method for handling versions and parts within a single bibliographic record emerged which seemed to promise a way to fulfill this wish. (See TSLL, Sept. 1994, pp 8-10). In Philadelphia MARBI considered the first proposal (95-6 “Linking Code for Reproduction Information in the USMARC Bibliographic Record) to address this issue. The proposal proved to be extremely controversial. Essentially, instead of focusing on the establishment of a standard for combined paper/reproduction bibliographic records, the proposal concentrated on marking reproduction fields mostly for the purpose of allowing local systems to optionally combine record elements (in OPAC displays, for instance). The proposal presupposed that multiple bibliographic records would still be the norm for communications purposes, which implies that combined records would not ordinarily found on utilities.

In the eyes of some observers, the proposal fell short of realizing the potential of the method. Others apparently believed that a full implementation would be too radical a change for their systems to cope with. In particular, LC was quite strongly committed to the multiple version/multiple record status quo. MARBI was unable to reach a consensus on how to proceed and will continue discussions on the topic this summer in Chicago.
MARBI approved other the proposals relating to tagging patent data, revisions to the classification format, and provisions for non-Roman data in holdings formats. In addition, music coding and addresses in the community formation format were considered. MARBI also had preliminary discussions regarding the addition of a new field for component items in the MARC bibliographic format. LC announced that by 1998 it will have to revise coding of LCCN numbers to avoid conflicts with numbers issued when LCCNs began in 1898. A number of possible schemes for this purpose will be discussed next summer.

In other work, the Character Set Task Force announced that it expected to have a formal, written report/proposal regarding mapping between the USMARC character set and UNICODE ready for the ALA summer meeting. LC is actively facilitating discussions between the MARC and SGML committees. They expect to convene meetings on MARC/SGML during the spring.

If you wish a closer look at any of the MARBI discussion papers or proposals, please contact me; they can also be retrieved from the LC MARVEL gopher.

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AALL ANNUAL MEETING
PITTSBURGH, PA
JULY 15-19, 1995

MEETINGS OF INTEREST

HEAD CATALOGERS' ROUNDTABLE

Angieina Joseph
Marquette University Law Library

The Head Catalogers's Roundtable will be held on July 17, 1995 from 7:30 - 8:30 a.m. Jolande Goldberg of the Library of Congress will demonstrate the Cataloger's Desktop and the LC Classification and Subject Headings on CD-ROM, an electronic reference product that uses the same Windows based FolioVIEWS search interface and retrieval software used for Cataloger's Desktop. LCC and LCSH links will be created by computer form data elements within the source records.

Jolande will also showcase her JZ (International Relations) and KZ (Law of Nations) schedules, which replace the JX (International Law) schedule.

If time permits, there will be discussion on getting more law libraries to participate in LC's cooperative programs, such as NACO.

Since this year's program covers broader and wider areas than past programs, even non-catalogers are encouraged to attend this session.

INNOVATIVE LAW USERS GROUP

Celeste Feather
Georgetown University Law Library

The Innovative Law Users Group is sponsoring a variety of activities in Pittsburgh. On Saturday morning, July 15,
Sandra Westall of Innovative will lead a workshop from 9:00 a.m. - noon on the topics of Statistics, New Methods of Access (including WindowPac and Z39.50), and Gateways and Customized Screen Design. The workshop is free, but pre-registration is necessary.

A luncheon for new Innovative systems users will be held from 12:15 - 1:30 p.m. Pre-registration is required. New users are defined as those who work in libraries that have recently installed an Innovative system, or those who have been employed recently by libraries with Innovative systems.

On Saturday afternoon from 2:00 - 3:00 p.m. the ILUG will hold its annual business meeting. Before the meeting, Innovative staff will make some brief presentations; small discussion groups on Acquisitions, Serials, Cataloging, OPAC, Circulation, System Management and New Users will follow the meeting. In conjunction with these afternoon sessions, there will be a documentation Swap and Shop table for libraries to display and distribute their locally created documents (training manuals, lists of systems codes, OPAC guides, etc.).

Sandra Westall will also conduct some specialized training sessions throughout the Annual Meeting, which will be listed in the final AALL program. Pre-registration forms and detailed information about Innovative sessions were included in the packets mailed in early May to the ILUG contact at each Innovative law library.

for additional information contact: Celetse Feather, ILUG Chair, Georgetown University Law Library, 111 G ST NW, Washington, DC 20001; 202-662-9133. Internet: feather@law.georgetown.edu

A COMPLETE LIST OF OBS AND TS PITTSBURGH PROGRAMS, WORKSHOPS AND MEETINGS IS ATTACHED TO THE FRONT OF THIS ISSUE.
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