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A TSSL Think Piece

READING THE PAPER AND ON MY MIND...

*Submitted (mostly for your entertainment) by Joni Lynn Cassidy
President, Cassidy Cataloguing Services, Inc.
Adjunct Professor, Queens College GLIS
Adjunct Professor, Long Island University, Palmer School of LIS*

I started college in 1971. Campus life included draft dodgers, anti-war activists and agitators. I know all the words to "Alice's restaurant" and I know what Arlo Guthrie meant when he sang about "starting a movement."

With that socio-political orientation, I felt rather sad reading *The New York Times* front page article, "In Small Town, 'Grease' Ignites a Culture War" on February 11, 2006. Fulton, MO, just 90 miles from St. Louis where we are scheduled to hold our upcoming AALL annual meeting, is the battlefield for this culture war taking place in the public high school.

The Fulton Superintendent of Schools received three letters of complaint about the production of "Grease," even though the drama teacher had carefully modified the script to avoid offense to the conservative small town of 10,000 residents. The complaints were written by members of the Callaway Christian Church, none of whom had actually seen the production. Upon receipt of the complaints, the Superintendent decided to cancel the spring play, "The Crucible," and replace it with "A Midsummer Night's Dream." He is quoted in a school district newsletter as saying he dropped the play after seeing the following summary on the Web: "17th century Salem woman accuses an ex-lover's wife of witchery in an adaptation of the Arthur Miller play." In point of fact, "The Crucible" IS the Arthur Miller play (not an adaptation) written in the 1950's in response to the McCarthy hearings meant to purge Hollywood of Communists (Miller's current-day witch hunt).

As I pushed forward through the article, I expected to read about student protests or a faculty counter-complaint. However, instead, there was this depressing little paragraph, "It's over," said Emily Swenson, 15. "We can't do anything about it. We just have to obey."

Days later, the *Times'* "Letters to the editor" page featured three letters that all expressed disappointment over the state of affairs in Fulton, MO where differing ideas are simply not presented for public debate, library books are banned with

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*A Publication of the Technical Services Special Interest Section and the
Online Bibliographic Services Special Interest Section of the American Association of Law Libraries*

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Technical Services Special Interest Section

From the Chair

Those of you who are college basketball fans know that with this month comes a “disease” known as “March Madness.” This is the time that a large number of college basketball games are played to determine the NCAA national champion. Lots of betting on brackets goes on. Fans experience “the thrill of victory and the agony of defeat.” That “madness” is especially high where I sit in the Research Triangle of North Carolina, where some of the most rabid basketball fans and greatest basketball players, including my own institution’s #1 Duke Blue Devils, reside. Go Blue Devils!!

March Madness is also evident in the Technical Services SIS. A flurry of activity, a high level of excitement and great anticipation for the many changes on the horizon in both our SIS and AALL can be felt all around us.

In April we will have our first online election of officers. Voting is now easier than ever! Be sure to visit the TS-SIS website <http://www.aallnet.org/sis/tssis/index.htm> for information about this year’s candidates. Then cast your ballot for the candidate of your choice. Thanks to AALL for facilitating the electronic election process. In May, we will have our first electronic by-laws revision vote. Be sure to participate in this process as well.

Another exciting development that has come out of last fall’s AALL Education Summit is the AALL Calendar of Professional Education Events. There is a link for it on our website. Here you can find a myriad of professional development opportunities listed from all over the country. Events are listed in order by date. You can also search by sponsor, state or year. Any AALL member can also post an event. If you are looking for educational opportunities outside of the annual meeting, this is the place to search for a one-stop listing. The list is only as good as you make it. If you know a technical services educational opportunity, be sure it’s posted to the calendar.

In fulfillment of Strategic direction 1: Broaden the leadership and active involvement of Section members and Specific action 1.3: Establish a Membership Committee to provide outreach to new TS-SIS members..., part of the 2005 TS-SIS Strategic Plan, the TS-SIS Executive Board has created a new administrative committee to improve contact with our membership. The main objectives of the Membership Committee will be to “facilitate member recruitment, outreach and involvement in the Technical Services Special Interest Section.” Jeff Bowen, Catalog Librarian at Florida International University, bowenj@fiu.edu is chair of this new committee. We look forward to getting more people involved in our activities and mentoring new tech services librarians. If you have any suggestions for the Membership Committee, please contact Jeff or me.

Let the March Madness begin! Happy Spring to all.

*Karen Douglas
Duke University Law Library*

Online Bibliographic Services Special Interest Section

From the Chair

I am teaching “Library Technology Systems” this quarter at the University of Washington Information School, a class geared to budding systems librarians and those interested in this field. Because the idea of systems librarianship is new to several of my students and many of them are close to graduating, I use their first class assignment to research the current systems librarianship marketplace. Their task is to locate three different system jobs from various libraries and prepare an analysis of the attributes of the jobs and what makes them appealing. This has proved to be an invaluable way for them to get a sense of what sort of jobs are available and what employers are looking for in potential candidates.

A common theme that my current class discovered in researching job ads this year was the almost universal requirement for three to five years experience in library systems work. In addition, the job ads also frequently mentioned experience with a particular integrated library system along with a host of other duties, both technical and managerial. At the class session where we discussed the assignment, the common question from the students was simple: “How are we supposed to get

experience being a systems librarian if no one will hire us until we have experience?"

I confess that I did not really have a good answer to this question and it made me think about how we are going to train and prepare the next generation of systems librarians. As we are all aware, there are a significant number of mature librarians that will be retiring in large numbers in the coming years, necessitating the need for a skilled group of young professionals to fill these positions. Although I do see job ads for beginning reference and circulation librarians, it is becoming rare to see an entry level position for either a technical services librarian or a systems librarian in our field. Most of the jobs that we post are looking for an experienced individual to fill them which, demographically speaking, may not be an option in the long run.

Why do so many of us write job descriptions that require experience on the part of potential applicants? I think quite a few of us would argue that the work we do, especially with library systems, is too complex and specialized to be readily grasped by a brand new professional. In many cases, this is true; the majority of us have worked with various library systems over the years and have found them to be challenging to master. It is only through long hours on the phone with the vendor, attendance at professional meetings and networking with colleagues that we finally began to understand the nuances of the system. Most of us may not have had specific courses in our graduate program that discussed library systems work, forcing us to learn most of what we know through working in the field and by the process of trial and error. Now that we have gained this precious knowledge, it does seem almost inconceivable that a new librarian could ever do the same job that we are doing.

The problem with this thinking is that we are not grooming the next generation of system librarians to take our place. Although I can give my students a glimpse of what systems work involves in my class, it is still only one class in an extensive program to prepare them to be librarians. I have found it necessary to go through the structure of library records as one of my first lectures so that they will understand what it is that they are trying to automate when we start actually looking at systems. Where their real education will take place however, is in the workplace; they will need the same experience that we have all had to succeed and fail when trying to solve systems issues. This may not be the most efficient way to learn in terms of time and money but for those of us who are essentially self-taught in this area, I think you will agree that it is often the best way to learn.

So, what is our obligation as systems librarians to this new generation? Simply put, we need to make sure that the jobs we are creating or the positions that we are trying to fill do not list so many requirements (especially the need for previous library experience) that new librarians are not eligible to apply. My students have a variety of backgrounds and life experiences that will make them outstanding systems librarians if they are only given the opportunity. The next time you have a job opening, consider hiring a shiny new graduate and becoming a mentor to them in systems work. The personal and professional rewards for both of you will be priceless.

Richard Jost
University of Washington

The 2006 Renee D. Chapman Memorial Award

The Awards Committee of the Technical Services SIS is pleased to announce that this year's winner of the Renee D. Chapman Award for Outstanding Contributions in Technical Services Law Librarianship is Georgia Briscoe.

Georgia is Associate Director and Head of Technical Services at the University of Colorado at Boulder Law Library. She has also taken an active role in AALL and the Technical Services SIS. Her notable contributions to the field include:

- AALL committees and special interest sections leadership and activities
- AALL chapter leadership and activities
- 9 AALL programs (speaker & coordinator)
- 137 publications (articles, edited works, & book reviews)

The award will be presented at the 5:30 p.m. Technical Services SIS business meeting at the AALL annual meeting, July 9, 2006. Please join the SIS in honoring Georgia Briscoe for her leadership and commitment to technical services librarianship.

Pam Deemer
Chair of the TS-SIS Awards Committee 2005-2006

Honoring Henriette D. Avram

*Sally H. McCallum
Chief, Network Development and MARC Standards Office
Library of Congress, Washington, DC*

As many of you will have heard, Henriette Avram passed away on Saturday April 22, 2006. She was the leader and the intellect behind the development of the MARC format in the late 1960s, and I want to share with you a couple of paragraphs that I wrote in an article for the IEEE Annuals of the History Computing a few years ago when they did a series on computers in libraries. They reflect the enormous good luck our community had to “lure” Henriette into the profession at such a key time, highlighting both her “extreme” computer experience and her foresight with respect to where computing might be going.

“While a general analysis of all processes was begun at the Library of Congress, fortunately, a more focused project was also undertaken by the Library in partnership with the library community: the development of a data format for the interchange of cataloging information in machine readable form for multi-purpose use. A computer expert named Henriette Avram was hired in 1964 by the Library of Congress to lead this project. She had had exceptional experience as a programmer with the National Security Agency (NSA) in the 1950s, where cutting-edge computer technology was being developed and used. Avram was the essential ingredient in the development of library automation for she had the background to understand the fundamental nature of a common data format as the springboard standard from which to build an automated environment, including the potential of a common data format for creating a community. She also recognized the importance of working with the professional librarians in the field until she understood their point of view in order to make a useful and an acceptable project and product. A rapid, but broadly consultative, development process was thus begun.

After sponsoring a 1964 study on methods for “recording of Library of Congress bibliographic data in machine form” and several exploratory meetings in 1965, an agency that assisted major foundations in channeling funding for library projects, the Council on Library Resources, became a major backer of the MARC format development work by funding a pilot project. The project, under the leadership of Avram, was to be carried out by the Library of Congress with a group of participating libraries. The pilot project’s immediate goals were to develop a standard format, set up a record input system at the Library of Congress, and start a tape-based record distribution service from the Library. Avram stated at the time that the expected use of MARC would “undoubtedly center around ... producing traditional records such as catalog cards or book catalogs or in developing new on-line systems” and she also foresaw the format stimulating research in both offline and online areas: “book catalog production, file organization, retrieval methods, and man-machine dialogues.”

As many of you who worked with her over the years will note, however, this passage does not indicate Henriette’s humanity, which made her so approachable. Many of you will want to share stories of Henriette with the community through the MARC listserv, and NDMSO will compile these for a more permanent remembrance on the MARC web site.

Messages for Henriette Avram’s family can be sent to:

Marcie Avram
139 East 35th Street
New York, NY 10016

The following message appeared in the Washington Post on 4/27/2006 about the services planned:

AVRAM, HENRIETTE D. Passed away on Saturday, April 22, 2006. She is survived by her three children, Lloyd, Marcie and Jay Avram. Formal funeral services will be held together for both Herbert M. Avram, who passed away January 15, & Henriette Davidson Avram at Fort Myer Chapel, Arlington, VA on Monday, May 1, 2006 at 1 p.m. Everyone must assemble at the Ft. Myer Chapel by 12:30 p.m. A reception will be held directly following Inurnment at the Steak House, Marriott Key Bridge, 1401 Lee Highway, Arlington, Va., 22209. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made in their names to The American Cancer Society, 113331 Amherst Avenue, Silver Spring, MD 20902. Please view and sign the family guest book at www.pumphreyfuneralhome.com. May 1, 2006 details and directions are also available at the above web address or call Pumphrey’s Colonial Funeral Home, 301-762-3939

**The Director for Acquisitions and Bibliographic Access
Announces the Library of Congress's Decision to Cease Creating
Series Authority Records as Part of Library of Congress Cataloging
April 20, 2006**

The Library of Congress has determined that it will cease to provide controlled series access in the bibliographic records that its catalogers produce. Its catalogers will cease creating series authority records (SARs). The Library considered taking this step over a decade ago, but decided against it at that time because of some of the concerns raised about the impact this would have. The environment has changed considerably since then--indexing and key word access are more powerful and can provide adequate access via series statements provided only in the 490 field of the bibliographic record. We recognize that there are still some adverse impacts, but they are mitigated when the gains in processing time are considered.

As the Library was considering introducing this change, it was heavily swayed by the number of records that included series statements. Using statistics for the most recent year with full output of records appearing in the LC Database (fiscal year 2004) gives a sense of the impact on the cataloging workload:

Total monograph records created: **344,362**

Total with series statements: **82,447**

Total SARs created: **8,770** (by LC catalogers); **9,453** (by Program for Cooperative Cataloging participants)

As a result of the Library's decision, the following explains what catalogers will and will not do, related to series.

What LC catalogers will do:

- Create a separate bibliographic record for all resources with distinctive titles published as parts of series (monographic series and multipart monographs).
- Give series statements in 490 0 fields.
- Classify separately each volume (i.e., assign call number and subject headings appropriate to the specific topic of the volume). (Imported copy cataloging records will have series access points removed and series statements changed to 490 0.)

What LC catalogers will not do:

- Create new SARs
- Modify existing SARs to update data elements or LC's treatment decisions
- Consult and follow treatment in existing SARs
- Update existing collected set records
- Change 4XX/8XX fields in completed bibliographic records when updating those records for other reasons

The Library's rationale includes:

- (1) Eliminates cost of constructing unique headings; searching to determine the existence of an SAR; creating SARs; and adjusting 8XX on existing bibliographic records.
- (2) Maintains current level of subject access.
- (3) In some instances, increases access because more titles will be classified separately
- (4) Maintains current level of descriptive access other than series. Uncontrolled series access will remain available through keyword searches.

The Library will be working with affected stakeholder organizations--OCLC, RLG, the Program for Cooperative Cataloging, and the larger library community to mitigate as much as possible the impact of this change.

The Library will implement this change on May 1, 2006. The Cataloging Policy and Support Office is revising affected documentation to be reissued to reflect these decisions.

LC News:

The Social Sciences Cataloging Division Law Team lost two catalogers to retirement in the January buyout. Margaret Loewinger, the former head of the Law Team, retired last July. She was replaced by Gabe Horchler, the former head of the Business and Economics Team of SSCD.

Name Authority Records

George A. Prager
New York University Law School Library

In this column I will discuss some Library of Congress/NACO changes in policy and other developments regarding name authority records.

1. Changes to Existing Personal Name Headings Already Coded for AACR2

(For background on this topic, see my columns in the last two issues of TSLL).

It's now official! Death dates may be added on an optional basis to established personal name headings on name authority records [NARs], whenever the headings contain only open birth dates.

Additions and changes to References on Authority Records

All references must reflect the addition of the date to the personal name heading, and all related NARs must be changed, e.g. name/title NARs, and NARs featuring the name as a "see also from reference" (MARC 21 authorities "500" field).

When the authorized form of name is revised solely to add the death date, the former heading should not be added as a cross reference (MARC21 Authorities "400") coded with subfield "\$w nne" [former heading]. (Such a cross reference, if displayed, would usually appear immediately next or very close to, the authorized heading in an OPAC author browse, and so would provide small benefit for the user. The MARC authorities format offers a subfield "w" value of "nnea" which should suppress the display of a reference for a former heading. However, this value is not used in the LC/Name authority file, as many, if not most OPACs display all references, regardless of the coding given in the subfield "w". Of course, if more OPACs could accurately follow the subfield "w" coding, such a cross reference would be useful for database maintenance purposes, but that's grist for another column!).

Personal NAR already established without dates:

Adding a birth or death date is still not allowed, however, whenever an existing heading without dates is represented by a name authority record that has already been coded "AACR2" or "AACR2 compatible, except in cases of conflict. "If such a heading needs to be changed later, add the date(s)." (RI 22.17, Dec. 2005).

Example of heading which should not be changed: Rushdie, Salman (n 80146294)

Information appears in a "670" note that he was born on June 19, 1947; heading should **not** be changed to: Rushdie, Salman, \$d 1947-

No Personal NAR exists; Name without dates on LC Bibliographic Record

Birth and date dates may be added whenever a name authority record is being established for the first time, regardless of whether or not an LC bibliographic record exists which features the same personal name heading without dates. Normally, this would occur only in pre-AACR2 records, or in current records with minimal level cataloging.

Application of New Policy by LC Catalogers

LC's Cataloging Policy and Support Office [CPSO] began a special project on Feb. 6, 2006 to add death dates to the headings of about 300 prominent persons. The project should last through the summer of this year. Examples of such headings to be changed, which still have open birth dates, [as of Mar. 6, 2006]: Asimov, Isaac, 1920- (died in 1992); Assad, Hafez, 1928- (died in 2000). The list of names may be found at <http://www.loc.gov/catdir/cpso/names.pdf>.

Aside from special projects such as the above, LC catalogers will apply the option to add death dates to existing personal name authority records with open dates only when the heading is needed on a new bibliographic record, or in the course of routine authority file maintenance.

Bibliographic File Maintenance [BFM] for NACO Catalogers

NACO catalogers may change any heading which has an open birth date, but lacks a death date. Whenever this is the only change to a record, there is no need to report BFM to their liaisons at the Library of Congress. OCLC has agreed to provide an RSS feed as an alert service for authority records to which death dates have been added. Whenever the heading requires

additional changes, then BFM should be reported as usual. Current BFM policy available at the BFM FAQ at <http://www.loc.gov/catdir/pcc/naco/bfmguide.html>.

CPSO's announcement of policy change, with related links, may be found at http://www.loc.gov/catdir/cpsolcric22_17imp.html.

OCLC's RSS feed to be available at <http://www.oclc.org/rss/default.htm>.

2. Retention of Initial Diacritical Marks on Capital Letters in French, Spanish, and Portuguese

From 1982-2005, Library of Congress policy was that accent marks should be omitted when they would be over letters which are transcribed in their capitalized form in the above languages. CPSO proposed in the summer of 2005 to cancel this policy (Library of Congress Rule Interpretation [LCRI] 1.0G). The policy was changed in January 2006. Diacritics should now be added according to the usage of the specific language. Whenever pre-existing bibliographic and authority records need to be changed for some other reason, diacritics should be added at the same time.

The LCRI (Dec. 2005) has added a section on the treatment on the use of diacritical marks with respect to acronyms and initialisms (Including single letters used in names):

- “1). For purposes of transcription, follow the usage as found in the data;
- 2). For purposes of establishing the authorized form of a corporate name, follow the usage as found on the body's own publications.”

I think this change in policy is beneficial to us all, as it's one less exception to keep in mind, or to remind one's staff about. (For more background information on this change to the LCRI's, see v. 31, no. 1; there's also a short note in v. 31, no. 2).

3. Implementation of Uniform Resource Identifiers [URIs] in authority records

Subfield “u” [URIs] was authorized for use in field “670” (Sources found field) in name authority records on February 1, 2006. Use of this field is optional, and is suggested for those cases when the source contains significant information related to the established heading that cannot be cited succinctly in the 670. URIs may only be given in subfield “u” of the 670 field. Relevant data to support the heading and references must still be given in subfields “a” and “b” of the 670 field.

Is the implementation of this field beneficial for the user? First of all, authority field “670” will need to display to the public, and subfield “u” in 670 fields will need to be hotlinked, both in national files such as the OCLC and RLIN versions of the LC/NAF, and in local catalogs. Then, these links will need to be maintained somehow. Are there any currently existing link checkers which can verify the URIs in 670 fields? If the above conditions are met, how much more useful will the hotlink be than just having the patron do a quick Google search? Slight convenience is one advantage. In cases where the URI is from a resource not easily found by a simple search using a search engine, the advantage is more significant.

See FAQ on the 670: #13-14 at <http://www.loc.gov/catdir/pcc/naco/670faq.html>.

Also: FAQ on Creating Personal Name Authority Records ... #5-6, 10, 13 at <http://www.loc.gov/catdir/pcc/naco/personnamefaq.html>.

And: *Descriptive Cataloging Manual: Section Z1*, under the “670” field, available in print or online in Cataloger's Desktop.

4. OCLC Project to Enhance Authority Records with Geographic Data

Beginning February 2006, OCLC will be enhancing between 80,000-90,000 name authority records for jurisdictions by adding “043” fields (7 digit Geographic area codes) and “781” fields (Subdivision linking entry—Geographical Subdivision). While any NACO cataloger may add this information to an individual record, there (obviously) remain many records without this most useful information. LCCN n 50004037 is an example of a record with recently added 043/781 as part of this project. The record is for: Neuchatel (Switzerland).

Text of announcement on PCCLIST, Feb. 13, 2006, 4:36:48 pm.

That's all for this time!

MORE CHANGES IN THE
TECHNICAL SERVICES
DEPARTMENT: E-JOURNALS

Marlene Bubrick
Head of Acquisitions/Electronic Information Librarian
William M. Rains Library, Loyola Law School, Los Angeles

For the March 2005 issue of *Technical Services Law Librarian*, I wrote an article on the restructuring of the Acquisitions and Serials Department in Technical Services at the William M. Rains Library of Loyola Law School Los Angeles. Although I was asked to write a follow-up article for the March 2006 issue, I realized I didn't have much to write. My staff is still handling the mail check-in and distribution in addition to their regular tasks of invoice payment, materials ordering, receiving and processing. I still oversee monograph and serials claiming, import of electronic invoices, monthly expenditures and statistics, and troubleshoot problematic shipments. The flow is smoother now; we've worked out some of the kinks in the operation, and all now gets done that needs to get done.

So, I thought I'd write about duties that I handle in performing the "other" part of my job, "Electronic Information Librarian." In 1998, my position was expanded to include the acquisition and management of the library's burgeoning electronic resource collection. I was the one everyone came running to when access to HeinOnline was slow or nonexistent, or when our access to a particular journal was in question. But in January 2006 a new position was created in the library, with the rather broad title of "Public Services Librarian/Online Systems Coordinator." While the primary purpose of this position is to support the Computer Resource Center and to provide technical support to users of Innovative's Millennium and OCLC's Connexion, I also spotted the chance to have someone share with me some of the duties involved in managing our electronic journals collection.

I am currently handling most tasks involved in managing our electronic journals by myself. This includes providing catalog access to each individual e-journal title, maintaining the currency of URLs, ensuring remote access, and maintaining the currency of our journal title A-Z list. I have also been tracking usage with Millennium's Web Access Management and other vendors' statistics sources. Each task involves several steps, and I am in the process of documenting those steps to determine the best way to reassign them.

Our new librarian is Dawn Smith (see *Technical Services Law Librarian*, v.31 no.1 at page 1, September 2005). This is Dawn's first position as a professional law librarian, and she is eager to begin her career. As I prepare to share some of my e-journal-related tasks with her, I am grateful for her enthusiasm and interest.

Because Millennium's Web Access Management is central to several aspects of e-journal management, it seems a logical place to start in my work with Dawn. Innovative Interfaces' CS Direct Web site has a tutorial that is a good starting point. Concepts to master include the forward table and the proxy rewrite URL, which control access to our licensed databases and enable usage tracking. I have mastered the basic functions of the forward table, but perhaps with Dawn's help we can utilize the "database id" field, which enables usage tracking for individual databases from the same vendor, such as "Making of Modern Law" and Legaltrac, both from Thomson Gale, or AccessUN and the U.S. Congressional Serial Set from NewsBank.

Another area in which I'd like to involve Dawn is in the maintenance of our Serials Solutions Access and Management Suite. This is the control area for our e-journal portal. It would be much easier to ensure that we are providing access to all subscribed journal titles within our many aggregators with someone to track changes with me. And, adding our print journal holdings to the journal title A to Z list would be a great service to our users, but it is a large project with which I will need help.

Finally, I would like to consult with Dawn to determine the best placement of our e-journal title list. It is currently a link on our Electronic Resources page, but perhaps it could be more prominently placed to promote maximum usage.

Ideally, Dawn's involvement will enable the library to provide an even higher level of service by making the most of functions already in place, and will allow me to spend more time on other tasks such as URL maintenance and the preparation of AcidRAINS, <http://library.lls.edu/publications/acidrains.html>.

Then maybe I can take a vacation!!!

IMPLEMENTATION OF BLVL "I" – DO WE HAVE A VICIOUS CIRCLE HERE?

OCLC

Pam Deemer
Emory University Law Library

In December, on behalf of the OBS-SIS OCLC Committee, I wrote to OCLC to ask about the status of fixed field bibliographic level code "i" (integrating resources). I received an answer on January 10 from Jay Weitz, the Senior Consulting Database Specialist in the WorldCat Quality Management Division. He stated that OCLC has been working with the Library of Congress, CONSER, RLG, and others long before the approval of MARBI Proposal 2001-05. He reminded me that Technical Bulletin 247 in November 2002 stated that the complexity and magnitude of implementing a new Bibliographic Level value required a time-consuming multi-phased approach, which was further hindered by OCLC's migrating to a new technological platform. In June of 2003, Glenn Patton, Director of OCLC's WorldCat Content Management Division announced that code "i" and multiple 260s would be deferred as far as July 2005, although other format changes relating to AACR2 rev., Chapter 12 would be implemented.

Because OCLC substantially completed the migration to the new platform in the summer of 2005, OCLC has begun to deal with the implementation of BLvl "i". During the second half of 2005 OCLC worked vigorously on this and expects to have a large OCLC-MARC Update completed by June of 2006. Mr. Weitz also said a technical bulletin with complete details is in progress. Given the slippage of other announced timeframes, I am afraid I might be a little cynical about this date.

I had another reason for some skepticism that can't be laid at OCLC's feet. To quote Mr. Weitz in his letter of January 10, 2006, "The interim coding treatment of integrating resources recommended in TB 247 was designed, in cooperation with the Library of Congress, to facilitate the conversion of existing records at the time of BLvl "i" implementation. This conversion will be a several step process and will require close coordination with LC and CONSER."

Now here's the kicker: "Our conversion schedule is also dependent on the ability of LC to deal with BLvl "i" records, an ability LC is still working on, as well."

LC ain't ready, ain't nobody ready? Will the integrating resources format be ready by June 2006?

I contacted "unnamed sources" at the Library of Congress to find out the status of LC's side of the implementation. My investigator was told, "We (LC) will implement shortly after OCLC is ready. If we need to make some changes to our system, it may take LC a little longer to implement."

Uh, oh. Do we have a vicious circle here?

It may be reassuring that on January 26, Mr. Weitz made an official update on the OCLC-CAT list about the impending implementation in June of BLvl "i" and several other new implementations. We can expect details in Technical Services Bulletin 252, the one that is supposed to be released in June 2006. Let's keep our fingers crossed that the dates won't slip.

Mr. Weitz also assured me that OCLC maintains regular communications with vendors through OCLC's Local Vendor Access Program and that ILS vendors are aware that OCLC is planning to implement BLvl "i". When OCLC has exact dates everyone will be informed and everyone will receive the upcoming technical bulletin.

TS-SIS CONELL Grant Recipients

The Awards Committee of the Technical Services SIS is pleased to award grants to three newer law librarians to attend the July 8, 2006, CONELL session in St. Louis. The three are:

Annie Chen, of the Robert Crown Law Library, Stanford University

Jill Ryder, of the New York State Office of the Attorney General

Jennifer Thomas, of the Roger Williams University School of Law Library

Please say hello and offer them congratulations when you see them in St. Louis!

Pam Deemer
Chair of the TS SIS Awards Committee

In the last Preservation column, you read about a disaster-planning institute at the upcoming SEAALL Meeting in Raleigh, NC. Here are more details about the institute:

What: SEAALL Institute

Where: Raleigh NC, Sheraton Raleigh Hotel

When: Thursday, April 6, 2006, 8:30 am – 3:00 pm

Title: *Prepare for the Worst, Hope for the Best: Disaster Preparedness and Recovery for Law Libraries*

Generously underwritten by Thomson/West

This institute was organized by Nancy Johnson, Law Librarian and Professor of Law, Georgia State University. The cost is \$65.00 for SEAALL members and \$80.00 for non-SEAALL members. The URL for the registration form for the Annual Meeting is the form to use to register for this Institute: <http://www.aallnet.org/chapter/seaall/meeting/2006/registration.htm>. (I apologize if the timing of this article does not permit folks to register.)

Speakers include Jeanne Drewes, Assistant Director for Access and Preservation, Michigan St. Univ. Libraries; Lorie Beam, Director of Information Technology, Smith, Anderson, Blount, Dorsett, Mitchell & Jernigan; Ken Hirsch, Director of Computing Services, Duke University Law Library; Jon Schultz, Professor of Law, University of Houston Law School; and Carol Billings, Director of the Law Library, Law Library of Louisiana, Louisiana Supreme Court.

Here is another reminder about the Preservation Plan Workshop in St. Louis. In Pam Reisinger's first edition email update about the 2006 Annual Meeting, the workshop is listed under Educational Programs and Workshops. Limiting the display to workshops will bring it right up. But to spare you all that clicking, here are the details:

When: Saturday, July 8, 2006

Where: St. Louis, room TBA

Time: 9 am to 5 pm

What: W2: Planning to Preserve, Writing a Plan to Add Value to Your Collections

Cost: Registration Fee: \$175.00 AALL Member Rate: \$140.00

Pat Turpening, the Chair of the TS-SIS Preservation Committee, has developed some exciting initiatives for the committee members to pursue. She is creating four subcommittees within the Preservation Committee. They are the Roundtable Subcommittee, the TechLinks Subcommittee, the Continuing Education Subcommittee, and the New Resources Subcommittee.

- The Roundtable Subcommittee will plan the Preservation and Binding Roundtable at the Annual Meetings.
- The TechLinks Subcommittee will keep the Preservation TechLinks at the TS website updated with online resources on preservation.
- The Continuing Education Subcommittee will find and list education and training opportunities in preservation around the country. The programs and workshops listed will be short-term, between one hour and two days.
- The New Resources Subcommittee will find and list new resources such as books, websites, and DVDs on preservation.

Pat has also registered for what promises to be a very useful conference, the National Archives' 20th Annual Preservation Conference, "Beyond the Numbers: Specifying and Achieving an Efficient Preservation Environment." The conference date is Thursday, March 16, 2006. She was informed with the confirmation of her registration that people could register on site and pay by cash, check or credit card. (Again, I apologize if the timing of this article makes it impossible to attend. Since this is a yearly conference, readers might be able to attend next year.) The URL for further information is <http://www.archives.gov/preservation/conferences/2006/>.

Here is an open invitation to readers of this column. Send me notice of any promising, interesting, exciting preservation programs, workshops, or institutes. I will be glad to give you credit when I mention them in this column.

Everyone, stay well-preserved!!!

**Should I stay or should I go now?
The challenges and opportunities for
private law librarians when migrating
to a new ILS product**

PRIVATE LAW LIBRARIES

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

You feel a sickening thud in your chest when your current ILS vendor tells you that they will no longer be supporting the product that you have loved, cursed, and maintained for several years or more. Or, you receive a call from your IS department telling you that your company will no longer be able to support running your current ILS system, and that you need to move to a system that they can run.

Panic ensues when you wonder what your options are, and they are vast. Do you stay with your current software vendor and migrate to their next-generation system? Your vendor certainly hopes that you will make that decision. The pros for making that decision include the fact that you will be able to negotiate a probably hefty discount in the price of the new product if you are migrating up from an older product in their software lineup. Another reason to migrate to a new product with the same software vendor is that the migration process from the old system to the new system will be set up to work relatively seamlessly.

Choices for ILS products have increased significantly over the past few years, however, and you really should investigate all options before deciding to simply migrate up to a next-generation product with the same software vendor. You might be able to purchase a product from a different vendor that is cheaper, easier to use, and has more functionality than your current vendor's new product. Some vendors are offering web-hosted ILS systems, and you might be able to buy access to a more powerful system than what you are currently using. If you have an IS department that has the time to help you make your decision, you should discuss with them what they are looking for in software products and how they would like to be able to run the software. If your IS department is too busy to spend an often considerable amount of time conveying the changing needs of your company's IS parameters, which can include their needing to speak directly with software vendors, then the web-hosted products are a very good idea to consider.

If you decide to migrate to a new product with a new software vendor, how do you get from point A to point Z? Your old software system should be able to export a file of your bibliographic records. Hopefully, the file will contain full MARC format records. If it contains a text file instead of full MARC records, you will need to convert the text file records into full MARC format. Often libraries contract with third-party vendors to perform this and other data migration steps. The third-party vendor takes the text file and massages the information into full MARC records. These records can then be loaded into your new ILS product. Item level information can be transferred using MARC fields such as the 852 and the 949. Ask your new vendor for the specific requirements regarding transferring item information. Your new software vendor should be able to import information such as patron records. Circulation information can also be transferred successfully much of the time. Serials check-in information can sometimes be transferred, but it is much more difficult to migrate successfully. Using the MFHD (MARC Format for Holdings Data) can speed up the process of creating predictive serials check-in records. Some ILS vendors and third-party vendors can take your serials information from your old system and create records in the MFHD to allow for the migration of serials check-in data. At the point of migrating from one system to another, the library might want to consider adding other third-party vendor products to the mix, such as performing authority records control or barcoding each item in the collection.

In preparing to write this column, the author interviewed a third-party vendor who performs data conversions. He stated that all conversions are different because of dealing with various ILS products on both ends of the process and each library's local policy decisions. He also stated that serials check-in information is still very difficult to transfer properly. The librarian whose library is migrating from one ILS to another should ask the new software vendor to provide contact information of other libraries who have performed similar migrations. In a perfect world, your old software vendor will work to help you migrate away from their product. However, you might face resistance from the old vendor, especially if they have a new product to which they want you to migrate. It pays for the librarian in charge of the data migration to find other libraries with similar needs and priorities that have already jumped from A to Z. These librarians probably will be happy to help ensure a successful data migration for all.

Open Access and the Author

Chris Long
Indiana University School of Law—Indianapolis

Researchers have more choices than ever before about where to submit their articles. One venue that is still in its nascent stage but is likely to develop quickly is open access (OA) publishing. This column will give a brief overview of OA publishing and some possible advantages and concerns for authors.

What is Open Access?

It is helpful to define Open Access (OA) publishing by contrasting it with traditional scholarly publishing. In the traditional model, scholars conduct research and report their findings in peer-reviewed journals that are published by commercial publishers. These journals are financed through subscription sales. Since the vast majority of subscribers tend to be libraries, only their users have access to the articles' research findings. There is sometimes a lengthy time lag between when an article is submitted for publication and when it finally comes out in print.

OA publishing is different from traditional journal publishing in a number of ways. In this model, journal articles are available online as soon as they are published, free of charge to all users and also free of many of the usage and access restrictions associated with traditional journals. The OA movement began in the 1960s but did not gain momentum until the late 1990s, when rapidly rising subscription costs forced many libraries to scale back on the number of journals they acquired. Currently, though, only about 5% of scholarly publishing is of the OA type.

Does OA Compare Favorably to Traditional Journal Publishing?

As is inevitable with any new venture, some will question whether any essential qualities are lost in the OA publishing environment. There are in fact several ways in which OA publishing is compatible with the advantages of traditional journals. One of these is peer review. Although it is possible for scholars to self-publish articles on their own web pages, peer review remains an important quality control function. Peer review of online articles, though, is just as easy to accomplish as it is with traditional ones. Another concern is professional quality. A journal's quality, however, depends on the quality of its editor, referees, and authors. None of these factors is dependent on whether the articles are online or in print.

Two Strategies for Open Access

How can we achieve open access to scholarly research? The Budapest Open Access Initiative, <http://www.soros.org/openaccess>, recommends two complementary strategies. The first is self-archiving, in which scholars place their journal articles in digital archives (also known as digital repositories or e-print archives). These repositories are often maintained by the scholar's institution, but some are discipline-specific. When these archives adhere to the Open Archives Initiative (OAI) Metadata Harvesting Protocol, then search engines can harvest the metadata from numerous archives and collect them together in a single database. Users then need not know which archives exist or where they are located in order to find and make use of their contents.

A second strategy involves creating OA journals that do not charge users for access. To ensure that journal articles can be disseminated as widely as possible, OA journals do not invoke copyright to restrict access to and use of the material they publish. Instead they seek to ensure permanent open access to all the articles they publish. Since price is often a barrier to access, OA journals do not charge subscription or access fees and cover their expenses through other means.

Advantages for Authors

Although most of the literature focuses on the advantages of open access to the user, there are several potential benefits for authors as well.

Increased visibility of their work

Articles in traditional journals are not readily available to all users. OA articles, on the other hand, are freely available to anyone who is interested.

Increased impact

Because OA articles are more accessible, studies have shown that they are cited more. Increased exposure and impact also enhances the profile of the scholar's university.

Rapid dissemination to a wider audience

The time lag between submission and publication can be substantial for traditional journals. OA publications, though, are available much faster.

Copyright

Whereas most traditional journals insist that authors transfer copyright to them, OA publishers typically leave it up to authors to decide if they want to retain copyright or transfer it to their institutions or an OA journal.

Concerns for Authors

Before choosing an OA journal for your next article, here are some issues you will need to consider.

Cost

OA articles are free to users, but that does not mean they do not cost anything to publish. There are still costs associated with editorial expenses, peer review, and setting up and running servers. One way OA journals have dealt with these costs is to charge authors a submission fee; some journals charge a fee ranging from \$525 to \$1500 per submission. Another model being developed involves institutional memberships, whereby a member university pays one price and all its scholars can submit their articles for free. OA journals are also looking at donations as a possible model.

Quality of peer review

A recent study found that many OA journals conduct in-house peer review only, and that many editors do little in the way of copy-editing for errors in grammar and style. Authors should investigate these issues and consider the tenure implications before submitting their work to an OA journal.

Prestige

Although a journal's prestige is sometimes hard to quantify, there is no question that it is important to authors. Since most OA journals are new, they cannot yet rival the prestige of their traditional counterparts. As OA publishing matures, however, one would expect the prestige of OA journals to increase as well.

Dependence on quality metadata

Articles deposited in a digital archive rely heavily on quality metadata records to make them harvestable. To ensure that their articles get disseminated as widely as possible, authors should make sure that proper metadata standards are being applied before submitting their work to a digital archive.

Long-term Retention

The financial model for OA journals is as yet unproven, so skeptics wonder whether OA journals can survive long-term. More than 41% of them report shortfalls and 24% are breaking even. Furthermore, digital archives are only in their infancy and their curators have not yet had to deal with migrating forward all the documents in their care. Peter Suber notes that paper is the only format that has proven to be a reliable, long-term (i.e., hundreds of years) preservation medium, but it is unlikely that many institutions will commit to archiving paper printouts of electronic texts. It is only logical then for authors interested in submitting their articles to OA journals or digital archives to question whether their work will be available to future generations.

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SERIAL ISSUES

Richard Paone
The Dickinson School of Law
The Pennsylvania State University

In *ALCTS Newsletter Online*, (vol. 16, no. 5, Oct. 2005), Jim Millhorn of Northern Illinois University reports on the release of the *Serials Acquisitions Glossary*, 3rd edition, revised. In 1993 the Serials Section/Acquisitions Committee, under ALCTS' auspices, published the original print *Serials Acquisitions Glossary*. There have been several subsequent attempts to revive and update the *Glossary*. Notably, Kim Maxfield (MIT) completed an electronic *Supplement to the Glossary* in March 2003 as Chair of the Committee. In the last year, Committee Chair Sandhya Srivastava (Hofstra University), appointed a subcommittee consisting of Janet Hulm (Ohio University), Marie Seymour-Green (University of Delaware), and Jim Millhorn (Northern Illinois University) and charged them with the responsibility of creating an electronic document integrating the original *Glossary* and *Supplement*. The idea was not merely to merge the two documents, but to establish a platform to enable interested readers to suggest additions and deletions to the *Glossary*. The members of the Committee are intensely aware of the need to review the entire *Glossary*. Certain terms may appear obsolete, whereas a number of recent key concepts and developments that have emerged remain absent and unresolved. The *Glossary* is currently available on the ALCTS Web site at: http://www.ala.org/ala/alctscontent/alctspubsbucket/webpublications/alctsserials/serialsacquisiti/05_serials_glossary.pdf

Les Hawkins of the Library of Congress reports in CONSERline (Nov. 27, Fall 2005) that in the summer of 2005, the Library of Congress Serial Record Division began work with other Program for Cooperative Cataloging (PCC) members to develop and test an access level record for serials. This collaborative pilot project is co-chaired by Regina Reynolds (LC) and Diane Boehr of the National Library of Medicine. The access level record pilot for serials will take advantage of the model used for non-serial e-resources developed by Dave Reser (LC), Tom Delsey, LC cataloging staff, and LC reference staff. The effort is designed to enhance the utility of catalog records, both to end users and those in the library that use catalog records for processing serials, by assuring that essential elements for user tasks are present in the record.

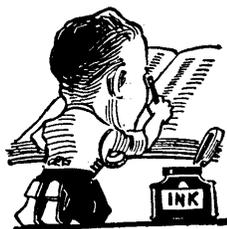
Cataloging cost savings may result by supplying only those record elements that are essential for performing user tasks. The Functional Requirements for Bibliographic Records (FRBR) play a crucial role in defining the elements of the access level record. The user tasks: find, identify, select, and obtain, as defined by FRBR, are employed to determine end user and library processing tasks. Corresponding AACR2 and MARC 21 elements that support these tasks are evaluated to determine an agreed-upon set of elements and cataloging guidelines. Exploration of the access level record for serials may lead to the development of a single standard of record elements for serials. After Reser gave an overview of the development of the access level record at the joint BIBCO/CONSER Operations meeting in May 2005, CONSER members discussed existing levels of cataloging for serials. The idea of simply using one standard for CONSER serials cataloging was raised. Under this scenario, one set of required elements would be used and additional elements could be added as deemed appropriate. The serials pilot will include creation of test records based on the essential set of AACR2 and MARC 21 elements and the cataloging guidelines. The records will be evaluated in terms of cataloging costs and how well the records meet end-user and library processing needs. If successful, a recommendation will be made to PCC to establish the access level record as the new standard for serials. The project was expected to result in a chart of essential data elements and an outline of cataloging guidelines by January 2006. A progress report, including an evaluation of the pilot, is expected by the end of April 2006. The charge for the pilot including a detailed discussion of background, methodology, and deliverables is available from: <http://www.loc.gov/acq/conser/Access-level-charge/cpccaug17.pdf>. Background information on LC's implementation of the access level record for integrating resources is available from: <http://www.loc.gov/catdir/access/accessrecord.html>.

Elizabeth Bogdanski reports (*NASIG Newsletter*, May 2005) that JSTOR, a not-for-profit organization with a dual mission to create and maintain an archive of important scholarly journals, was a hot topic at a NASIG (North American Serials Interest Group) program entitled "Serials Preservation: At a Crossroads," held March 10-11, 2005, and sponsored by NASIG. A presentation from Jeanne Drewes of Michigan State University began with an early-twentieth-century quote from Harvard advocating regional print repositories. She remarked that while librarians think print repositories are a new idea, it is a very old initiative. Drewes continued by describing why libraries are moving toward, yet weary of, print repositories. Libraries are running out of room for their serials. Off-site storage is one solution, but in terms of a regional repository, libraries must trust each other to maintain serial copies. Drewes recounted the print repository program that Michigan State University, Yale University, and the University of Illinois-Urbana initiated with the Center for Research Libraries to see if titles in JSTOR could be held in a print repository. The institutions considered the permanence of the digital copies, preservation of print

copies, and level of access. Drewes did not conclusively state that a regional or national repository is the answer to print serials preservation, but she raised the relevant issues libraries must consider as they move toward print repositories.

Mark Sandler from the University of Michigan focused on electronic serials preservation. He discussed his strong commitment to preserving digital content exemplified by the digital projects he has been involved in, including Making of America, JSTOR, and the Text Creation Partnership. Sandler remarked on his concerns regarding preservation, including deteriorating print collections, shifting to digital reformatting, and the efforts of STM (Science/Technical/Medical) publishers. Sandler discussed his fear that commercial publishers are digitizing popular material instead of important material without regard to standards or compatibility. He used *Nature* as an example, inferring publishers' costs to digitize and maintain digital titles are much smaller than the subscription cost to the library, allowing the publisher to recoup costs and make a profit very quickly. Sandler concluded by applauding Google's plan to digitize the University of Michigan's collection, which includes many journals that would not be digitized otherwise. He feels Google will digitize these journals based on accepted standards, creating a trusted repository.

The final speaker, Kristen Garlock, from JSTOR, spoke about JSTOR's current archiving practices. She began by remarking on the vast amount of literature in libraries which is being digitized, but digital archiving standards are still unsettled and evolving. Next, Garlock discussed the components of a successful archive. She remarked that while standards are very important, it is imperative that institutions have the ability to change and evolve. JSTOR's early motivations to develop a digital archive included saving space and money, preserving rare works, and completing journal runs. To ensure the integrity of the reformatted journals, JSTOR holds digital files at multiple sites on multiple servers. Today, JSTOR is moving toward a plan to preserve born-digital titles while still maintaining print archives at Harvard and the California Digital Library. Garlock concluded with a discussion of JSTOR's stewardship planning, describing the Archive Capital Fee JSTOR charges its customers. This fee funds JSTOR's preservation activities and is saved for major technological conversions, thus effectively preparing JSTOR for the future.



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:

Bulletin for international fiscal documentation

-v. 59, no. 12 (2005)

(OCoLC 1753423)

Changed to:

Bulletin for international taxation

Vol. 60, no. 1 (2006)-

(OCoLC 63117807)

Minnesota journal of global trade

Vol. 1, issue 1 (fall 1992)-v. 14, issue 2 (summer 2005)

(OCoLC 27135365)

Changed to:

Minnesota journal of international law

Vol. 15, issue 1 (winter 2006)-

(OCoLC 63048791)

With apologies to the non-OCLC users out there ...

OCLC newsletter

No. 63 (Nov. 30, 1973)-no. 268 (Apr./May/June 2005)

(OCoLC 2418671)

Changed to:

NextSpace

No. 1-

(OCoLC 62313411)

Temple environmental law & technology journal

Vol. 3 (1984)-v. 23, no. 1 (fall 2004)

(OCoLC 11393907)

Changed to:

Temple journal of science, technology & environmental law

Vol. 24, no. 1 (spring 2005)

(OCoLC 62783570)

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:

Journal of the Suffolk Academy of Law

Suspended publication with: v. 14 (spring 2000)

(OCoLC 6463704)

Legal affairs (New Haven, Conn.)
Suspended publication with: v. 5, no. 2 (Mar./Apr. 2006)
(OCoLC 48968637)

*School Law Seminar:
School law in review*
Ceased in print version with: 2004
(OCoLC 13310852)
Beginning with 2005, available in electronic format on
CD-ROM only

Spectrum (Lexington, Ky.)
Ceased with: v. 78, no. 2 (spring 2005)
(OCoLC 26815112)

United Nations law reports
Ceased in print version with: v. 40, no. 4 (1 Dec. 2005)
(OCoLC 1642111)
Beginning with v. 40, no. 5 (1 Jan. 2006), available only
by e-mail from new publisher (Bloomsbury Publishing
PLC)

SUBJECT HEADINGS

Fixing and Avoiding Errors

Aaron Wolfe Kuperman

According to the rules (e.g. Subject Cataloging Manual, BIBCO manual, etc.), if a cataloger comes across a record that is obviously wrong, the cataloger is obligated to correct the mistake. This typically means one is required to change headings that were wrong when originally done (even if that means changing a record minutes after it was “completed”), as opposed to changes due to different styles of cataloging, or changes in rules or changes in how catalogers and legal scholars perceive the legal system (though at LC changes due to the constant creation of new subject headings usually are supposed to trigger revision of past records).

According to current procedures followed by many libraries, and increasingly followed by the Law team at the Library of Congress, records are accepted as “copy cataloging” (at LC, indicated in the 042 field, fixed field 008/39 and also obvious from the 040 field) if the subject headings pass automated validation procedures (showing they are “valid” headings). Ideally, they should also confirm that the heading correlates with the class number (using Classweb’s correlations feature). There is often no attempt by copy catalogers at book analysis in order to determine if the subject headings reflect the subject matter of the item being cataloged. At almost all libraries, at least from the perspective of senior managers (some of whom used to be catalogers), it is considered virtuous that copy cataloging is done by someone who lacks the training to determine if the subject heading is appropriate for the book (since those with such training have to be paid more, and enriching catalogers is definitely not a primary goal for library management). If the source record is a fully cataloged record from a large law library, there is a good chance that the subject analysis reflects the book. If the record is from a non-law library, or a small library that rarely does original cataloging, there is a high chance that the subject cataloging is unsuitable for use by a serious law library.

This leads to a paradox. If the subject headings, and therefore the class number which is intertwined with the subject headings, do not reflect the content of the book which the copy cataloger (following policy) didn’t attempt to analyze, (no need to even discuss if the inferior “encoding level 7” rules were applied), the record will immediately upon completion enter the status of being “wrong as assigned” and require recataloging. Nothing in the rules governing subject cataloging allows for use of wrong or misleading headings, even for copy cataloging or core cataloging or minimal level cataloging.

Problems that should be easy to prevent

These are some of the problems that are both common and are easy to spot, and you don’t need a JD and/or MLS to spot them.

For any law library, any flaw in jurisdiction should trigger a “*like, duh*” response. The place that law pertains to is critical to legal research, and therefore to law subject cataloging. If the book says it is about Brooklyn, it needs an appropriate heading (either a 651 for Brooklyn, or Kings County in a subfield z). If the book is specific to San Francisco, a heading for California is not specific enough. If the discussion and cases cited sound very American (and any measurements discussed are inches and gallons), it probably is about the United States even if the title page claims to be “international” in scope.

If a record arrives saying “Great Britain” one should always be skeptical. A quick check should reveal if the law applies to all of the United Kingdom. Any book on criminal or private law that doesn’t specifically mention Scotland or Northern

Ireland, is probably limited to England. If a catalog record says “Wales” one should be especially skeptical unless the text discusses some way in which Welsh law differs from English law, which has been rare since the 16th century when the Tudors abolished the Welsh legal system (though in the last few years some Welsh law has come into existence, but primarily in some public law areas).

If a catalog record claims to be about the American state law of antitrust or bankruptcy, it should be looked at again, since federal law governs these areas. A catalog record claiming to be about European Union law pertaining to domestic relations or criminal law is probably wrong since the EU authority in those areas has heretofore been very limited, though this is subject to change. This is largely a matter of class, as the subfield “z” for EU countries means both law of the European Union (class in KJE) as well as comparative law of the member countries on non-EU subjects (class in KJC). If a record claims to be about the “European Union” (or “EEC countries,” which is a different sort of problem), and the book mentions “Switzerland,” an alarm should go off.

Specificity in headings is probably trickier to explain, especially to someone who isn’t an experienced law librarian (or at least a law student). Certainly the presence of a concept in the title that is not reflected in the subject headings, should set off a warning that the level of specificity might be wrong. Unlike jurisdiction, which requires only basic civics and geography to comprehend, errors in specificity require detailed knowledge of the legal system and LCSH. An added complication is that one needs to avoid being “too specific” such as when an author mentions a “hot topic” on the title page (the better to sell the book), but the book is substantially broader. Using “Securities” for a book on “Insider trading” or “Derivatives--Law and legislation” is clearly wrong. The reverse is wrong; using overly specific headings that represent only a small part of the book misleads users who are looking for full fledged books that are on the more specific topic.

For foreign materials, except for the major English language jurisdictions, it is probably unreasonable to expect a technician (or perhaps even a cataloger?) to understand what is the correct level of specificity. One clue can be how foreign libraries cataloged the record, though US cataloging needs to be more specific since our libraries tend to be global in scope, especially at least LC and the major law libraries.

An obvious warning sign that a record might be “wrong” is if a simple correlation search in Classweb or the LC database reveals that the subject heading in question has never been used as a first heading (or perhaps been used at all). While there are exceptions, lawyers tend to be intellectually conservative, so be surprised if you actually get a book that is the “first” on the subject. This sort of checking only requires basic knowledge of Classweb and the bibliographic database.

What should be done

Quality in copy cataloging can be improved by searching for “good copy,” and expanding BIBCO (LC sponsored cooperative cataloging) would reduce the problem. Perhaps a BIBCO or AALL sponsored program could create a formal “feedback” loop to resolve differences among law catalogers across institutional lines. At a certain point the copy cataloger needs to be able to determine if perhaps the subject analysis of the source record just isn’t good enough. And yes, I know that we can’t afford to have all cataloging done by experienced catalogers with degrees in law and library science, but that doesn’t mean we can’t provide training adequate for most library para-professionals (who as a general rule are as smart as library professionals but lack the time and money to acquire the necessary credentials) so they can determine when a record is sufficiently mediocre to refer it to a professional cataloger.

New topics, and “hot topics” tend to be reflected in new books. Someone has to recognize the need for new headings (and numbers), which then suggests that a non-professional (lacking a JD and/or MLS) needs enough training to recognize the need for a SACO proposal. Arguably, reading the newspapers regularly is a good way to know what is a “hot topic” in the legal system. Perhaps a column on “hot topics” for law librarians might be a feature worth adding to *TSL*.

Disclaimer (and ulterior motive): Under current Library of Congress internal policies, it is possible for a record to be accepted as fully cataloged even though the subject cataloging has not been done or reviewed by a someone who is fully trained and qualified as a law subject cataloger. This often occurs when copy cataloging (whose quality is a function of whose record one is copying) or in upgrading a CIP record (whose quality is a function of how much material was made available pre-publication). I do not approve of these policies.



Contributing Authors: Marlene Bubrick, Elizabeth Geesey Holmes, Yumin Jiang, Ellen McGrath, Andrea Rabbia, Patricia Turpening

Acquisitions/Collection Development

Guidelines for Going E Only

DeVoe, Kristen. "When can Subscriptions Become Electronic-only? Developing Guidelines for Decision Making." *Against the Grain* 17, no. 6 (December 2005/January 2006): 37-42. Academic libraries are canceling their print subscriptions when they also subscribe to the electronic version. The author examines the decision-making processes at libraries through a survey conducted in October 2005. She focuses on how to develop guidelines for such projects and offers a list of criteria to consider. Five guidelines from various academic libraries are also listed.

Books for Understanding

Givler, Peter. "Books for Understanding." *Against the Grain* 17, no. 6 (December 2005/January 2006): 64. This short article describes the "Books for Understanding" site, which offers topical online bibliographies of books published by members of the American Association of University Presses. The bibliographies are compiled when a major news story breaks or public debate heats up. Recent topics covered include: civil liberty, global climate change, Hurricane Katrina, and reproductive rights.

<http://www.aupnet.org/booksforunderstanding.html>

Cataloging

Authority Control

Wolverton, Robert E., Jr. "Becoming an Authority on Authority Control." *Library Resources & Technical Services* 50, no. 1 (January 2006): 31-41.

Core Standard for Rare Books (DCRB)

Lundy, M. Winslow. "Evidence of Application of the DERB Core Standard in WorldCat and RLIN." *Library Resources & Technical Services* 50, no. 1 (January 2006): 42-57.

FRBR

Madison, Olivia M.A. "Utilizing the FRBR Framework in Designing User-Focused Digital Content and Access Systems." *Library Resources & Technical Services* 50, no. 1 (January 2006): 10-15.

Future of Cataloging

Marcum, Deanna. "The Future of Cataloging." *Library Resources & Technical Services* 50, no. 1 (January 2006): 5-9.

xISBN

"xISBN... is a web service which on input of an ISBN returns ISBNs in the same work set. It is an outgrowth of [OCLC's] work on FRBR." (Lorcan Dempsey's Weblog)
<http://orweblog.oclc.org/archives/000932.html>

Blogging the Catalog

"The prototype [OPAC] is built on the WordPress open source, blogging platform, which gives it some very interesting features. For example, every record in the catalog gets its own page, which means it has its own static, permanent link (also known as a 'permalink') that can be indexed by non-library search engines such as Google and Yahoo, as well as tracking of new items in engines like Technorati. Because it's blogging software, each record also offers comments, trackbacks, and (yes, believe it) tags." (Catalogablog quoting ALA TechSource)

http://catalogablog.blogspot.com/2006_01_29_catalogablog_archive.html#113865361914058850

MARBI Matters

Part 2 of a LITA blog entry by Diane Hillmann during ALA Midwinter 2006, including some information on RDA. (LITA Blog)

<http://litablog.org/2006/01/22/marbi-matters-pt-2/>

Rethinking the Library Catalog

University of California Libraries Bibliographic Services Task Force. *Rethinking How We Provide Bibliographic Services for the University of California*. Oakland, CA: University of California, December 2005.

<http://libraries.universityofcalifornia.edu/sopag/BSTF/Final.pdf>

In a no-holds-barred report by this University of California task force, much of the existing library bibliographic infrastructure is blasted as being out-of-date and inadequate. "The current Library catalog," states the report, "is poorly designed for the tasks of finding, discovering, and selecting the growing set of resources available in our libraries." But it doesn't stop there, in either uncovering deficiencies or in recommending potentially fruitful directions. The thrust of the report can perhaps be perceived by the headings under which the recommendations for further action are grouped: "Enhancing Search and Retrieval," "Rearchitecting the OPAC," "Adopting New Cataloging Practices," and "Supporting Continuing Improvement." Although this report is specific to the UC environment, I suspect that many institutions find themselves in a similar situation and therefore reviewing this report carefully is likely to be instructive. Full disclosure: I am a UC employee and was interviewed by the

task force in the process of producing this report.
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Lorcan Dempsey reacts to “Rethinking How We Provide Bibliographic Services for the University of California” report and North Carolina State University’s new catalog using Endeca software, which puts parts of the UC report into practice. (Lorcan Dempsey’s Weblog)
<http://orweblog.oclc.org/archives/000919.html>

Cataloging Costs

“Determining the True Cost of Cataloging Electronic Resources” includes a link to the MARC Cost Calculator. (Catalogablog)
<http://www.serialssolutions.com/marccalculator.asp>

Response From an OPAC Complainer

Guest post on ACRLlog from Andrew Pace (North Carolina State University Libraries). (ACRLlog)
<http://acrlog.org/2006/01/12/response-from-an-opac-complainer/>

Dublin Core

Dublin Core releases a new mission statement. (ResourceShelf)
<http://dublincore.org/news/communications/mission2006.shtml>

RichCat

“Enriched content that Amazon.com takes for granted—such as digitized tables of contents, cover art, reviews, summaries, and excerpts—are still rare in library catalogs.” Article by Roy Tennant describes projects to change this. (AUTOCAT)
<http://libraryjournal.com/article/CA423795.html>

Publisher Name Server Project

“OCLC Research is currently working on a Publisher Name Server project that is an attempt to develop a quasi-publisher name authority file to be used for a number of data mining projects.” (AUTOCAT)
<http://www.oclc.org/research/projects/publishers/>

Information Technology

Social bookmarking

DeVoe, Kristen. “Social Bookmarking and User-driven Classification.” *Against the Grain* 17, no. 6 (December 2005/January 2006): 77-79.
Social bookmarking is a tool for personal knowledge management that allows users to bookmark Web pages and sites on a public Web site. The author describes how such tools work, examines the benefits and drawbacks, and also touches upon how this kind of tool can be incorporated into library services. A brief list of social bookmarking services is included.

Google Scholar v. Metasearch Tools

Sadeh, Tamar. “Google Scholar Versus Metasearch Systems.” *HEP Libraries Webzine* 12 (February 2006).
<http://library.cern.ch/HEPLW/12/papers/1/>

The advent of Google Scholar has made many question whether libraries need expensive metasearching systems to unify searching of multiple sources. This thoughtful and informative article addresses this question, and even attempts to clarify the confusing terminology by drawing clear distinctions between “metasearching” (just-in-time unification such as most library metasearch tools) and “federated searching” (just-in-case unification like Google Scholar). Although the author is an employee of ExLibris (vendor of the MetaLib metasearching tool), and naturally uses MetaLib as an example system, what she discusses is generally applicable to the metasearching environment as a whole. She also reviews other metasearching efforts such as Elsevier’s Scirus system. Those who are knowledgeable about the issues will not be surprised that Sadeh does not come down on the side of Google, or against it. Rather, she acknowledges the utility of both Google Scholar and library-based metasearch services when each is appropriate, while carefully watching developments in the industry as a whole. This is altogether the best overview of Google Scholar, other large federated search systems such as Scirus, and library-based metasearch tools I’ve seen. Full disclosure: as a MetaLib customer I have worked with Ms. Sadeh and some of my work is cited in her article.

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Using Blogs for Staff Communication

“Tech Tips for Every Librarian.” *Computers in Libraries* 26, no. 2 (February 2006): 50-51.
Very useful and interesting short piece on using blogs for staff communication. It includes software recommendations and pros and cons.

Plogging

“Enter the ‘plog,’ which seems to be a synthesis of blogs and project-management software, with a dollop of wiki—the low-sodium variety—thrown in for good measure.” (ALA TechSource)
<http://www.techsource.ala.org/blog/2006/02/plogging-toward-completion.html>

Web 2.0

“A little information on Web 2.0 and its newborn babies, Library 2.0 and Librarian 2.0.” (ResourceShelf)
http://www.imakenews.com/sirsi/e_article000505688.cfm?x=b6ySQnR,b2rpmkgK

Library 2.0

Crawford, Walt. “Library 2.0 and ‘Library 2.0.’” *Cites and Insights: Crawford at Large* 6, no. 2 (Midwinter 2006).
<http://cites.boisestate.edu/civ612.pdf>
Library 2.0 is all the buzz, but what is it really? That’s the

question that Walt Crawford set out to answer. The result is a 32-page essay that includes 62 views, seven definitions, many perspectives by library bloggers and others, and, of course, Crawford's incisive analysis of it all. By far, this is the definitive piece on this rather amorphous topic. Crawford draws a distinction between Library 2.0, the conceptual aggregate that embodies a variety of software and service innovations, and "Library 2.0," the "bandwagon." He favors the former, but feels the latter "carries too much baggage." This is Crawford at his best, and, love it or hate it, it's a stimulating article that informs and provokes serious thought. (See also his follow-up article at <http://cites.boisestate.edu/v6i3a.htm>)

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"Where Do We Begin? A Library 2.0 Conversation With Michael Casey." (ALA TechSource)

<http://www.techsource.ala.org/blog/2005/12/where-do-we-begin-a-library-20-conversation-with-michael-casey.html>

iTunes U

"Apple, Inc. announced that it will allow colleges and universities to use a special sector within the overall iTunes service to load and distribute course lectures, other course content, and related digital audio and video files." (ALA TechSource)

<http://www.techsource.ala.org/blog/2006/01/itunes-u-tackles-whatsamatta-u.html>

NextSpace

"NextSpace grew from the *OCLC Newsletter* and will analyze industry trends and technology developments, as well as feature news about OCLC." (ResourceShelf)

<http://www.oclc.org/nextspace/default.htm>

Talking With Talis

"Listen to conversations with thought-leaders at the interface between Web 2.0, libraries, and the semantic web." (Catalogablog) <http://talk.talis.com/>

Academic Libraries

"Changing a Cultural Icon: The Academic Library as a Virtual Destination" article in *Educause Review*. (Lorcan Dempsey's Blog)

<http://www.educause.edu/ir/library/pdf/erm0610.pdf>

Digitizing Books

HarperCollins begins to digitize books. (ResourceShelf)

http://news.com.com/HarperCollins+to+begin+digitizing+books/2100-1025_3-5992116.html

Folksonomies

"The Hive Mind: Folksonomies and User-Based Tagging" article by Ellyssa Kroski. (Library Link of the Day)

<http://infotangle.blogspot.com/2005/12/07/the-hive-mind-folksonomies-and-user-based-tagging>

Local Systems

OCLC Purchases Openly Informatics

"Opening 2006 with the purchase of Openly Informatics, OCLC (Online Computer Library Center) continues its buying spree of technology companies." (Smart Libraries)

<http://www.oclc.org/news/releases/200601.htm>

Geac Acquired

"Following its acquisition by San Francisco-based Golden Gate Capital, Geac has entered into a major new phase—one in which it will no longer be known as Geac." (Smart Libraries)

http://www.geac.com/object/pr_110705.html

Management

Perceptions of Libraries

Perceptions of Libraries and Information Resources. Dublin, OH: OCLC, December 2005.

<http://www.oclc.org/reports/2005perceptions.htm>

This report "summarizes findings of an international study on information-seeking habits and preferences." The survey was an attempt to learn more about library use, awareness of and use of library electronic resources, and the library "brand," among other things. According to the report, "The findings indicate that information consumers view libraries as places to borrow print books, but they are unaware of the rich electronic content they can access through libraries." Although there are some bright spots, the report finds a rather depressing set of opinions about libraries. We clearly need to do better on a variety of fronts, but certainly with customer service and the marketing of our services to our users.

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Preservation

ArchiveGrid

"ArchiveGrid is RLG's new database describing primary sources from around the world. In April 2005, RLG received a grant to redesign Archival Resources. The new service—ArchiveGrid—will launch in March 2006." (ResourceShelf)

http://www.rlg.org/en/page.php?Page_ID=20869#grid

Disaster Planning

Teper, Thomas H. "In the Hot Seat: Using Local Resources for Innovative Disaster Training." *Archival Product News* 12, no. 4 (2005): 5-8.

<http://www.heritagepreservation.org/PROGRAMS/TFHurricaneRes.HTM>

The Heritage Emergency National Task Force has created *Hurricanes 2005*, a web site compiling information about last year's devastating hurricane season. Two pages are devoted to resources about recovery information and assistance.

Disaster Recovery

Before and After Disasters: Federal Funding for Cultural

Institutions. Washington, D.C. : Heritage Preservation, 2005. <http://www.heritagepreservation.org/PDFS/Disaster.pdf>. Heritage Preservation, with support from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), has published this 32-page booklet listing grants and loans.

Preservation Assessments

Brown, Karen E. K. "Use of General Preservation Assessments." *Library Resources & Technical Services* 50, no. 1 (January 2006): 58-72.

Serials

SUSHI

Standards Usage Statistics Harvesting Initiative presentation delivered at LITA Standards Interest Group meeting at ALA Midwinter 2006 by Tim Jewell. (LITA-L) <http://www.ala.org/ala/lita/litamembership/litaigs/igstandards/SUSHI.pdf>

Ulrich's Serials Analysis System

Metz, Paul, and Sharon Gasser. "Analyzing Current Serials in Virginia: An Application of the Ulrich's Serials Analysis System." *Portal: Libraries and the Academy* 6, no. 1 (January 2006): 5-21. http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/portal_libraries_and_the_academy/v006/6.1metz.html.

The Virtual Library of Virginia was one of the first subscribers to Bowker's Ulrich's Serials Analysis System. Creating a database that combined a union report of current serial subscriptions within most academic libraries in the state with the data elements present in Ulrich's made possible a comprehensive analysis designed to inform collective decision-making about serials. The results of this analysis, especially as they pertain to possible efforts to preserve subscriptions within the state or to add subscriptions to targeted new titles, are presented. Problems with using the resource and anticipated product enhancements are also discussed.

Serials Librarian Articles Examined

Goedeken, Edward A. "The Serials Librarian: A Brief History and Assessment." *The Serials Librarian* 49, no. 4 (2005): 159-175.

Serious navel-gazing is going on by the journal *Serials Librarian* as it features this study of its own articles from 1976 to the present day. The author of the study tabulates subjects covered, authors, geographic areas, etc. Perennial favorites as far as topics are concerned include collection development and cataloging. Other topics seem to come and go. In the beginning there was much interest in bibliographic utilities like OCLC and RLIN; automation was also popular though interest seemed to wane as "librarians became more comfortable with computers and their role in libraries." Not surprisingly, e-journals, once a "curiosity," now demand closer attention. This is a good look at the continuity of serials librarianship from a statistical point of view.

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Review of the Literature

Corbett, Lauren E. "Serials: Review of the Literature 2000-2003." *Library Resources & Technical Services* 50, no. 1 (January 2006): 16-30.

Digitization

Keller, Alice. "The Race to Digitize: Are We Forfeiting Quality?" *Informed Librarian Online* (February 2006).

The author conducted an informal review of digitized journal back issues and this article describes the errors and deficiencies she found. Errors are classified in the following categories: failed access, inaccurate journal titles, missing elements, insufficient quality of full text images, poor accuracy of OCR and inaccurate metadata.

An unfortunate result of these actual inaccuracies in digital content is that librarians' efforts to persuade readers to use digital surrogates can be unintentionally harmful. The frustration of users unable to gain access or find the particular issue they need puts the function of the digital archive in peril. The author's conclusion is to recommend that journal publishers who do create digital archives of their back issues carefully review their quality control procedures to make sure that their products are accurate.

ANNOUNCING: A NEW BOOK ON LAW LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

Library of Congress Law Library: An Illustrated Guide, co-authored by Jolande Goldberg and Natalie Gawdiak, has been published by the Library of Congress (ISBN 084441137X). This lavishly illustrated 176-page guide to the treasures of the Law Library of Congress is a "must read." It is currently being distributed through GPO's depository program, and should be up on the LC Website around May, according to Jolande Goldberg. Its LC number is 2005-044329 and its OCLC number is 60516749. Highly recommended for all law libraries!

continued from page 1

little or no discussion, and, worst of all, no one is protesting the steady loss of civil rights.

So, with a nod to Arlo Guthrie, perhaps those of us who do not agree that three individuals should be allowed to select and reject culture for a community of 10,000 can begin a protest movement. Naturally, my first instinct is to say we should boycott the AALL annual meeting because it will be held only 90 miles away in St. Louis. But that won't be any fun, and probably will go unnoticed. It would be better if we can form an Advocacy Committee to draft a letter of protest. Then collect signatures at the TS/OBS/RIPS/CS-SIS Joint Reception and, finally, send representatives to Fulton to advocate for the open expression of cultural ideas in schools and libraries. If librarians don't, who will?

On the lighter side of the news, the cover article of *Newsweek* for February 6, 2006 is "Genes & Family: What Science Can Tell You about Your History and Your Health." In my family, in just two generations, there are five women who have obviously inherited what we affectionately call "The organizational gene." There's me, The Cataloger; my cousins, Jennifer and Kaye, The Law Librarians; my younger cousin, Adena, whose clothes are meticulously classified by category with subclasses for length, quality and color range; and my cousin, Phyllis, whose work has always been mathematical.

However, if truth be told, Phyllis' real organizational magic takes place in her kitchen pantry. It's a place any cataloger would be happy. Food items are grouped together by category, and then alphabetized by name within the group. There is some color-coding, especially in the vegetable area where, say, all the green vegetables are together and then alphabetized by name. Imagine our delight when we toured the Biltmore Estate in Asheville together and discovered that their huge pantry was classified using the same system!

As a casual afterthought to outlining this article, I described Adena's clothing classification system to Phyllis in hopes of amusing her. She registered surprise and said, "You never asked ME about my closet. You've always been so fixated on making fun of my pantry, I never thought to mention it!" It turns out that Phyllis developed an *identical* classification system, only hers was a bit more expanded in its subdivisions because she is older and has more clothes!

These are somewhat predictable similarities amongst people *known* to be genetically linked. But, new scientific evidence is finding genetic links between unpredictable tribes. One example cited by author Claudia Kalb in *Newsweek* involves the Cohanim, members of the Jewish priesthood. They "trace their roots back more than 3,000 years to Aaron, Moses' older brother. For generations, fathers have passed on the priestly status to their sons through oral tradition. But, science has also uncovered a unique genetic lineage among the Cohanim – a common set of markers in their Y chromosome. Dr. Karl Skorecki, a Cohan himself, launched the research. The signature has been identified not just in Jewish Cohanim, but in the DNA of some members of the African Lemba tribe, who believe they were descended from the Biblical land of Judea. In Albuquerque, N.M., Father Bill Sanchez [a Roman Catholic priest] discovered that his DNA contained some characteristics of the Cohan lineage, too."

All this talk about shared genetic markers got me thinking about catalogers and how similar we can be to one another.

- Would you always rather *plan* the party than *attend* it?
- Do you have to tear the letter-trim perforation off continuous-feed computer paper?
- Don't you hate it when someone uses your desk when you're away and moves your stuff around?
- Do you enjoy straightening things out, lining things up and generally creating symmetry wherever possible?

If the answer to two or more is "yes," we could be related!

What would you think about using the next TS/OBS/RIPS/CS-SIS Joint Reception to collect DNA-swabs for comparison to see how many of us actually are kinfolk? Is anyone willing to write a proposal for the OBS/TS research grant?

The latest American Library Association statistics, released this month, show that 58% of their membership was born between 1940 and 1959. That's lots of librarians approaching retirement age. ALA's trade publication, *American Libraries*, offers pointers for coping with the job market most months for employers and employees. Creative recruitment was the focus of the October 2004 issue, including a discussion of long-term use of graduate interns.

Participation in the graduate internship program of one of our local library and information science schools has turned out to be a great success for our office. Each intern has worked 60-140 hours for us on a variety of projects, many of them "pro bono" in libraries where I have volunteered our services, such as synagogues and elementary schools.

I would be misleading you if I let you think that inviting graduate interns to work in your shop gives you access to low-cost, or free, labor. At least one professional on your staff must be assigned to instruct and supervise an intern's work. They are in

your library or department to learn from you and it's important to take your instructional role seriously. In some cases, this internship will be the only hands-on experience the student will have before entering the job market. But, at the end of the internship, you and your staff can feel really good about the contribution you've made back to the profession and know that you've done your part to help educate the next generation of librarians and information scientists coming up the ranks.

If you want to go a big step further as far as educating the next generation goes, think about approaching your local library and information science school regarding teaching a class or two. If you don't live close to a campus, check out new opportunities in distance learning. I can tell you from personal experience that students love professors from "the outside," professionals out there doing the job. There has been nothing more rewarding for me than bringing my own enthusiasm for a subject I love, cataloging and classification, to students still fishing for a career objective. Four graduates that I know of are working as full-time catalogers because they were turned on in my class. Believe me when I say it doesn't get any better than that!

REFERENCES

- American Libraries* 37, no. 2 (Feb. 2006): 35.
American Libraries 35, no. 9 (Oct. 2004): 34-45.
Newsweek 147, no. 6 (Feb. 6, 2006): 48.
The New York Times 155, no. 53,487 (Feb. 11, 2006): A1, A10.



Got the Urge to Write?

From the Editor

TSLL needs a replacement columnist for our Research and Publications column. Chris Long has been writing about research and writing for years now (that's a "Long" time), and his fingers and brain need a rest. He's wanting to step down and let someone new take over. It was a mere 14 years ago that I started the column. It's not the most popular column in *TSLL*, according to survey results from OBS and TS; but that doesn't mean it's not important. Specialized columns won't attract the majority of readership, like the Description and Entry, Acquisitions, or the Subject Headings columns, but they are important to the minority of readers who need information in that specialty area. Please contact the editor-in-chief if you are interested.

TSLL EDITORIAL POLICY

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Statements and opinions of the authors are theirs alone and do not necessarily reflect those of AALL, TS-SIS, OBS-SIS, or the *TSLL* Editorial Board. It carries reports or summaries of AALL annual meeting events and other programs of OBS-SIS and the TS-SIS, acts as the vehicle of communication for SIS committee activities, awards, and announcements, as well as current awareness and short implementation reports. It also publishes regular columns and special articles on a variety of topics related to technical services law librarianship. Prospective authors should contact the editor for content and style information.

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