I am very excited to be writing the “Research and Publications” column for TSLL! My name is Hollie White and I am a Metadata Research Center Doctoral Fellow at the School of Information and Library Science at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Before coming to North Carolina to earn my doctorate in Information Science, I was the catalog librarian at the Ross-Blakely Law Library at Arizona State University. It was my love of librarianship and technical services that inspired me to leave an active professional life to turn to one of research, study, and teaching. I hope my work can benefit all librarians, and that I can use my previous experience in law libraries to train the next generation of technical services law librarians.

Working at the Metadata Research Center with Dr. Jane Greenberg allows me to see many different sides of the research process. Part of my work is to write research articles, conduct studies, analyze data, apply for grants, arrange speakers, review papers, and manage an electronic journal system for an international conference. I’m currently working on a collaborative project that is funded by both National Science Foundation (NSF) and Institute of Museum and Library Science (IMLS) grants. I am familiar with both collaborative and solo research and writing processes. Research about library organization schemes, classification, and metadata is core to what I do every day, and I’m looking forward to sharing what I’ve learned with the law library community.

I hope in this column I can combine my passion for law librarianship with my interest in research and writing. I want to practice a type of “translational librarianship.” In the medical community, there is a concept called “translational medicine”—a two-way informational and experimental road—bedside to bench and bench to bedside. I think librarianship could take a lot of inspiration from this concept. Researchers could learn what real users do in real library settings, and then analyze this information in more theoretical learning institutions. I also think that practicing librarians can use theoretical frameworks in everyday library work, from acquisitions to cataloging.

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2008-2009 Officers, Committee Chairs, and Representatives

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I hope the new year finds each of you warm and well.

The months are rolling by quickly and your TS-SIS officers have been hard at work planning a full slate of activities for the Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C. I’m happy to report that we have one workshop and seven programs to go along with our usual fare of committee meetings and roundtables.

The full-day workshop, “Managing from the Middle: Techniques for Success in Technical Services,” is scheduled for Saturday July 25, and brings together several well-respected managers from the technical services field. This group will discuss the various issues and opportunities facing middle managers and take attendees on an exploration of new horizons in technical services management. With innovative tips, updates on personnel topics, and identification of new challenges, aspiring and existing managers will find a wealth of useful information to take home and apply. (A separate registration fee is required.)

“Here Today, Gone Tomorrow? The Future of Print Periodicals in Law Libraries,” an AMPC-sponsored program, is scheduled for 1:30-2:45 p.m. on Sunday, July 26. This program explores the various impacts that electronic serials have made on collections and collection development policies. Learn how different libraries have handled the changes wrought by our increasingly digitized world.

“Taking the Aggravation Out of Aggregators: An Update on Aggregator-Neutral Bibliographic Records” is an AMPC program cosponsored with OBS-SIS to be presented Monday, July 27, 10:45-11:45 a.m. As the title indicates, this program updates a program on the same subject from the Portland Annual Meeting. Panelists will address a variety of issues including creation, customization, quality and maintenance.

“Cataloging Video Recordings,” a program funded by TS-SIS, is scheduled for 10:45-11:45 a.m. on Monday, July 27. Attendees will enjoy the rare opportunity to focus on the complexities and peculiarities of cataloging videos and DVDs. The program tackles OCLC/MARC21 coding and tagging, assigning subject headings, identifying available resources, and solving common problems.

“Peer Collaboration,” another TS-SIS funded program, will be presented Monday, July 27, 4:00-5:15 p.m. The panel of speakers will concentrate on the challenges arising from projects or assignments shared by colleagues. Among other topics, this unique program will emphasize labor division, credit, and joint staff supervision.

Tuesday morning, July 28, 9:00-10:30 a.m. will bring us “Here’s to Your (Digital Archive’s) Good Health! Auditing and Evaluating Digital Preservation Projects,” an AMPC program. Learn how to apply national criteria and use qualitative and quantitative evaluation tools to enhance your digital collection’s long-term viability.

TS-SIS will cosponsor a program with PLL-SIS, “Next-Gen Integrated Library System (ILS) Features Relevant to the Private Law Firm Library,” on Tuesday, July 28, 10:45-11:45 a.m. Enjoy “an overview of the benefits (ROI) of Next-Gen ILS solutions which have a direct impact on delivering improved client services.”

Another TS-SIS funded program and a perfect complement to the middle management workshop, “Redefining Work Roles in Response to Changing Collection Environments” will be held Tuesday, July 28, 2:30-3:15 p.m. This program should be of interest to all librarians concerned with the need to reallocate staff as a result of the steadily changing collection environment. Come listen to the presentation, then stay for the discussion during the Technical Services Management Roundtable which immediately follows at 3:15.

Finally, we’ve held open a slot on Monday, July 27, noon-1:15 p.m. for a “hot topic.” If you have suggestions for this, please contact Karen Douglas, Education Committee chair (douglas@law.duke.edu). If you’d like more information on the programs listed above, please see the full descriptions on the TS-SIS website. (http://www.aallnet.org/sis/tssis/annualmeeting/2009/programdescriptions.htm) My sincerest thanks again to our excellent Education Committee!
One last note on the upcoming annual meeting–last year, a member suggested to the chairs of OBS and TS that they reconsider the TS/OBS/CS/RIPS Joint Reception to determine if the reception continued to serve a valid purpose. Did the compressed time frame of the Annual Meeting and the opening reception on the same night render the “Alphabet Soup Reception” unnecessary? After much discussion, the four SIS boards decided to survey our memberships in September. We asked if we should eliminate the reception or continue it and whether the reception should stay on Saturday night or move to Friday night. The results indicated a stronger preference for continuing the reception than eliminating it. Only 25% favored elimination while 44% favored continuing it and 32% didn’t have a preference. The results were more mixed for which night the reception should be held. Friday night, garnering 27% of the responses, was bested by Saturday night at 33% and “either night” at 40%. After evaluating the responses, the four SIS boards decided to hold the reception on the same night and at the same time as in previous years. Attendance will be closely monitored and the boards may reconsider the issue after the reception in DC. I should note that one consideration many have mentioned as a reason to discontinue the reception is its cost. Many feel that we could make better use of the funds as scholarships and grants. Unfortunately, the vast majority of the money involved in the joint reception comes from corporate donations. The savings for TS-SIS would be relatively small and would not greatly enhance our current grants and scholarship programs.

Speaking of grants, I encourage those of you interested in attending the conference in DC, but facing financial limitations, to consider applying for a grant. Both AALL and TS-SIS offer grants for new and experienced members to attend either the Annual Meeting or workshops. More information about TS-SIS grants is available at [http://www.aallnet.org/sis/tssis/grants/educational/](http://www.aallnet.org/sis/tssis/grants/educational/). Information about AALL grants is available at [http://aallnet.org/committee/grants/grant_application.asp](http://aallnet.org/committee/grants/grant_application.asp). The deadline for AALL grant applications is April 1, 2009. The TS-SIS grant applications deadline is April 25, 2009.

May your winter be peaceful!

Linda Tesar
Vanderbilt University

**Online Bibliographic Services Special Interest Section**

As I write this column, it is a cold but sunny mid-November day in the Midwest. However, my focus as the chair of OBS-SIS is on next July and our meeting in Washington, DC. I have many developments for the 2009 Annual Meeting to share with you.

For Washington, AMPC approved three of our program proposals. They are:

1. **“MarcEdit: A Magic Wand for MARC Records.”** This program proposed by Yan (Clara) Liao (Georgetown University) will feature the MarcEdit software developer Terry Reese from Oregon State University. It will be held on Sunday, July 26, 3:00-4:00 p.m. In addition, OBS will sponsor a roundtable discussion with Terry Reese, also on Sunday, July 26, 5:30-6:30 p.m.

2. **“Latest Trends in Library Automation: Building Creative and Inspiring Discovery Platforms.”** This program proposed by Georgia Briscoe (University of Colorado) and co-sponsored by the Academic Law Libraries SIS will feature Marshall Breeding, Director for Innovative Technologies and Research at Vanderbilt University Libraries. Mr. Breeding will be the ALL-SIS VIP to the Washington meeting. This program will be held on Sunday, July 26, 4:15-5:15 p.m.

3. **“Taking the Aggravation Out of Aggregators: An Update on Aggregator-Neutral Bibliographic Records.”** This program proposed by Karen Selden (University of Colorado) and Ellen McGrath (SUNY Buffalo) is cosponsored by the Technical Services SIS. The program will be held on Monday, July 27, 10:45-11:45 a.m. and will feature Eugene Dickerson (Ralph J. Bunche Library at the U.S. Dept. of State) and Kara Killough (Serials Solutions).

In addition to these three programs and one roundtable discussion, OBS-SIS decided to self-sponsor two additional programs:
1. “TOC Market Report: Undervalued TOCs Yield Huge Dividends.” This program proposed by Sally Wambold (University of Richmond) will discuss the use and value of tables of contents in bibliographic records. The speakers will be David Williamson (Library of Congress) and Christine Mitchell (Blackwell). The program will be held on Tuesday, July 28, 2:30-3:15 p.m., with a follow-up discussion 3:30-4:00 p.m.

2. “Classification Web and Cataloger’s Desktop Training at the Library of Congress.” This program will be held on Wednesday, July 29, during the morning hours at the Library of Congress. It will be a continuation and enhancement of the well-received programs on the same topics in Portland. We decided to hold this after the Annual Meeting ended to avoid any conflict with other programs, but it does mean an extra day in Washington. Space will be limited and advanced registration will be required. Participants will need to provide their own transportation to the Library of Congress (although the Metro is a very convenient option). The signup procedure will be announced on the OBS-SIS discussion list and website, as well as in this column. A big thank you to Karen Selden for coordinating this program and working with Bruce Johnson (Library of Congress) to plan it.

There will be the usual committee meetings and roundtables, with one new session. As always, the OCLC update and roundtable will be informative, with an OCLC representative present to discuss developments at OCLC and answer any questions. The local systems law users roundtables are scheduled for Tuesday, July 28, noon-1:15 p.m. A few of the local systems were dropped from the schedule, but most were retained. We are looking for coordinators for these roundtables. The new meeting will be a NISO training session, cosponsored by OBS-SIS, TS-SIS, and CS-SIS. The director of the AALL Government Relations Office in Washington, Mary Alice Baish, is coordinating the session with a NISO representative. If you have any interest in contributing to the reading and commentary on NISO recommendations and would like to attend, please let me know. The session will be on Saturday, July 25, 3:30-4:30 p.m.

The Alphabet Soup reception will be held on Saturday evening, 5:30-7:00 p.m. There was some discussion among the four cosponsoring sections during and after the Portland meeting whether to continue this event. A survey was conducted by all four sections, and after reviewing the results, we decided to continue with the reception in Washington. I appreciate all of you who completed the survey and made comments.

Even though it seems like I just became chair, it will soon be time to announce nominations for Vice Chair/Chair-Elect, Secretary/Treasurer, and one Member-at-Large. Susan Goldner is the chair of the Nominations Committee, and she would welcome any nominations or suggestions at sdgoldner@ualr.edu. Finally, if you are interested or concerned with technical services programming at the Annual Meeting, then the Education Committee is where you belong. I can say from experience that it is exciting to see the new program proposals, and it is extremely satisfying to see a program go from a proposal to the Annual Meeting schedule. Let me know if you are interested in this committee (or any other for that matter!).

Thanks for all you do to make OBS-SIS one of the best special interest sections in AALL. It is an honor for me to chair this section for 2008-2009, and I am always interested in your comments and suggestions.

Michael Maben
Indiana University, Bloomington Law Library

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Announcing New Genre/Form Discussion List

As was posted on the TS-SIS discussion list October 10, 2008

The SAC Subcommittee on Genre/Form Implementation is starting a new discussion list that is open to all. To subscribe—go to http://lists.ala.org/sympa/info/form-genre

You may also want to check out the Genre/Form FAQ posted on the LC Cataloging and Acquisitions site at http://www.loc.gov/catdir/cpso/genre_form_faq.pdf

Yael Mandelstam
Fordham University School of Law
Leo T. Kissam Memorial Library
Recently I was asked whether there are classification guidelines for K201-K472. This is an area where it pays to give careful attention to the work you are classifying. This is not an easy section and most of us do not know much about legal philosophy and jurisprudence, let alone the meaning of these terms and their classification numbers. I often look at the comments on the word “Jurisprudence” in part 1 of Cataloging Legal Literature. Mr. Enyingi, a Hungarian lawyer and an expert in law cataloging after his immigration to this country, gives a helpful paragraph on these two terms. In The Law Cataloger 1, no. 3 (1976): 8 there is a comment written by Joe Feldman, a lawyer and head of the Law Section of the old Subject Cataloging Division, and I quote: “JURISPRUDENCE is used for works which present a systematic, scientific treatment of legal philosophy. LAW—PHILOSOPHY is used for more general discussions of the philosophy of law. Admittedly, this is frequently a subtle distinction, and in LC practice heavy reliance is placed on the terminology used in the work being cataloged.” No matter how you cut it, these two terms get to be classed in K201+. You can generally recognize a work about sociological jurisprudence and a work about natural law. However, the topics between K230 and K355 are not so easy. Are you able to tell the difference between “concept of law” and general legal philosophy? Many catalogers just put everything in the K230 area. Here at LC there are 1,420 titles in K230 and I have only classified one and a half author letters in Law General, where most of these materials sit unclassified. Oxford Companion to Law discusses some of the theories of law and some of the legal philosophers. Remember that some of the people listed in K230-K457 wrote on more than one subject and you must ascertain the subject being discussed. A small book entitled Philosophy of Law by Martin Golding describes some topics such as positivism, norms, rights, etc. Wikipedia is also a source of information, as is any online search. A search of the term “legal positivism” yielded an article in the Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy.

In addition to the K201-K472 numbers, there are numbers in the country and regional schedules and tables for jurisprudence. The reference under K201 is “For works on the jurisprudence and legal philosophy peculiar to the law of a particular region or country, see the subclass for the region or country.” Of course, the key is the phrase: “law of a particular region or country.” The local numbers are not for sociological jurisprudence as talked about and studied in Germany but about the sociological jurisprudence of German law. Spain has table numbers from KKT440 to KKT469 and sixty records between these numbers. The Asian civil law schedule has twenty numbers for philosophy. KNN (old China) has 123 records in the philosophy numbers. It appears that some of these would be better classed in KNN122, general works.

The capability to read and understand a language has a huge impact on the ability to classify works on legal philosophy. The philosophy of law section of K (Law in general) and other K schedules will never be easy for most law classifiers, and you will have to create guidelines for your collection. Please try to carefully analyze the work in hand before classing.

Another area with no easy answer is KJC and KJE. I wrote a column (TSLL 33, no. 2 (2007): 8-9) on these two schedules last year, but I don’t think the column solved anyone’s dilemmas. You need to be aware of the scope notes in KJC and KJE. You need to analyze the work in hand and class the work where it best belongs in your library.

Classification is sometimes subjective. There are no easy answers. You must make your own decisions regarding certain areas of the schedules. Maybe for your library you will want to check the call numbers on copy coming from other libraries, especially for European law and philosophy of law materials. Perhaps these are not important subjects in your collection, so you can take whatever numbers you find for classification.

You will notice an additional name at the top of this column. I am just delighted that Monica Kauppi will be joining me as coeditor. She is a cataloger at Columbia Law Library and a member of the new catalogers’ group. I look forward to working with her, and hope she serves as a conduit for new catalogers’ K classification questions.

OCLC has explored making vocabularies available on the web by applying uniform resource identifiers (URI) as unique identifiers of individual concepts, terms and relationships in a system that OCLC calls “Terminology Services” (TS). For more detailed information on the services, please refer to http://www.oclc.org/research/projects/termsservices/. Terms in TS are webulated and can be addressed, referenced, and recombined with element-level identifiers by using web-based protocols. Lorcan Dempsey, Vice President of Research (OCLC), elaborated on the mechanisms and advantages of webulated vocabularies in a keynote talk which can be found at: http://www.oclc.org/research/presentations/dempsey/dewey_20040316.ppt.

Ming Lu (Head of Cataloging at Los Angeles County Law Library) suggested a program about OCLC’s Terminology Services. This program will be offered as a webinar. A definite schedule and details will be announced later. At this time, I will focus on a brief overview and background of selected TS technologies and sources, rather than on how the services work or on specific examples. These practical fun parts will be covered in the webinar.

OCLC joined the Terminology Services and Technology project, funded by the Joint Information Systems Committee (JISC) Information Environment. JISC also funds other project initiatives, such as the Alexandria Digital Library, Semantic Interoperability of Metadata and Information in unLike Environments (Simile), and Spatially-Aware Information Retrieval on the Internet (SPIRIT).

The executive summary of Terminology Services and Technology, JISC State of the Art Review (JISC) (found at http://www.ukoln.ac.uk/terminology/TSreview-jisc-final-Sept.doc) states the purpose of the Terminology Services and Technology project as “supporting further work to realize a rich information environment within the learning and research communities,” and it is “a set of services that present and apply vocabularies, both controlled and uncontrolled, including their member terms, concepts, and relationships.”

Machine-to-Machine (M2M)\(^1\) protocols or interactive communications at all stages of the search process give versatility to the system. It delivers a set of XML vocabularies to end users. Its “services include resolving search terms to controlled vocabulary, disambiguation services, offering browsing access, offering mapping between vocabularies, query expansion, query reformation, combined search and browsing.” (JISC, 7) Controlled vocabularies consisting of terms and words from natural language are broken down into individual facets. The resulting vocabulary is indexed and retrievable with a range of TS options, such as by types and structures of vocabularies.

Another important feature of TS is “named entity authorities” that identify and use authorized entities to improve precision and to disambiguate identical name forms, as well as to make references to different entities. Named entity authority can improve retrieval performance and build domain-specific authority files to foster consistency and semantic interoperability. While these functions are applied to controlled vocabularies in general, named entity authorities are a much more demanding area, since names are factual data. “Project Perseus (Crane and Jones 2006) found that about 6-7% of all words in text are named entities, i.e. person and organisational names, places, times and dates.” (JISC, 30)

OCLC “developed some of the first prototypes in the areas of terminology web services and persistent identifiers.” (JISC, 71) OCLC’s Terminology Services website provides a number of vocabularies and references to Faceted Application of Subject Terminology (FAST), Dublin Core Metadata Initiative (DCMI) type vocabulary, Medical Subject Headings (MESH), Thesaurus for Graphic Materials (TGM), Search/Retrieve via URL (SRU), Newspaper Genre List (NGL), Dewey Decimal Classification (DDC) headings, LSCH, and more.
At a conceptual level, the system’s mapping creates a heterogeneous environment and semantic relationships to utilize a domain-specific vocabulary component from controlled subject headings. This analogy is found in the OCLC FAST project that converts LCSH headings into a simplified syntax. The semantic interoperability allows a faceted representation and ontology-based mapping for better access to digital collections by increasing consistency and web navigations, since “ontologies tend to have the most precise and formal definition of relationships of the knowledge systems.” (JISC, 24)

OCLC played a leading role in automatic classification and indexing by launching the Scorpion Open Source project. This project aims to explore the indexing and cataloging of electronic resources. OCLC is implementing Dewey Decimal Classification (DDC) and Library of Congress Classification (LCC) by automatically classifying web-accessible text documents, and by building tools for automatic classification in its Connexion cataloging software. More details about the Scorpion Project may be found at: http://www.iicm.tugraz.at/thesis/cguetl_diss/literatur/Kapitel06/References/SCORPION/ScorpionHomePage.html or http://www.oclc.org/research/software/scorpion/default.htm.

Classification collocates similar items together, while indexing distinguishes items during a search. “Classification provides an overview and assists organization of material … Indexing seeks to be more descriptive of an item’s content, as opposed to assigning an item to a broad category. Thesaurus descriptors may be combined during search.” (JISC, 25) A combined classification and indexing system allows flexibility in browsing interfaces. This is because the collocated items with combined classification can expand browsing while the indexing system narrows the search by identifying the item in search. This expanding and narrowing function is added to the system.

I was fascinated to learn how all of these behind-the-scenes technologies enable TS to underpin systematic use of vocabularies to achieve different degrees of vocabulary control and to enrich semantic relationships. Although the web is the most successful innovation in recent years, its overwhelming amount of information made finding, accessing and maintaining the information required by a wide variety of users increasingly difficult. Another impact of the web is multifaceted dimensions and global enterprises. I am excited that TS applies the concept of an ontology-based semantic web application to provide effective access to heterogeneous vocabularies in order to mediate between end-users and shared vocabulary knowledge bases. You can find more details on semantic web applications at http://www.cs.vu.nl/~ronny/work/NLDB02.pdf.

The employment of advanced technology is critically important to the success of TS. TS uses SRW/U for standard query syntax in representing queries, and a Zthes Application Programming Interface (API) to support access and browsing of distributed vocabularies.

Improvement in commonly-agreed-upon standards and protocols such as M2M is needed for networked access to constituent concepts, and in relating vocabularies to increase interoperability. TS uses web-based thesauri and the Knowledge Organization System (KOS) to create a shared conceptualization of knowledge and yet to identify specific knowledge. I am sure that when you participate in the webinar, a presenter will demonstrate the power and effectiveness of TS. As I learn about how the technologies behind the system work, I realize that OCLC is steadfastly making great efforts to engage in research projects that will provide the best service for us. I would like to extend my gratitude to OCLC.


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**Announcement—MARC Field 440**

From the TS-SIS discussion list October 24, 2008; includes post from the CONSER Cataloging discussion list on behalf of Les Hawkins (CONSER Coordinator, LC)

MARC Proposal No. 2008-07 has just been implemented by the Program for Cooperative Cataloging. Field 440 is now obsolete.

The PCC recommends that members implement this change beginning Oct. 24, 2008.

Full text of the announcement is available at http://www.loc.gov/catdir/pcc/Field440.pdf

George Prager
OBS and TS-SIS Representative to MARBI

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Sometimes this column often feels way too repetitious to me, but I do not believe the idea of self-preservation has yet been presented. Preservation is really self-preservation. By preserving our collections, we protect ourselves, our knowledge base, and our society. That may sound grandiose, but I don’t believe it really is. Without our collections, we would not have our jobs. Moreover, our users need our collections, for self-evident reasons.

In my musings, I realize that I am really preaching to myself. As often noted, preservation is laborious and frequently time-consuming. It is not a quick fix. Incorporating preservation into an organization requires an enormous commitment of time, people, and money.

The good news is that there are talented people working for preservation. Jan Snyder Anderson (Georgetown University Law Library) is one of them. She recently offered an opportunity for librarians in the Virginia Association of Law Libraries (VALL) to acquire preservation copies of *Minor on Real Property*, a 1928 treatise that is still the standard for real property law in Virginia. Needless to say, the title is out of print. VALL awarded Jan a preservation-quality album as a token of appreciation for her assistance to her colleagues. That is not all this column has to say about Jan and Georgetown University. Jan, along with Gail Warren (director of the Virginia State Law Library), Steve Anderson (director of the Maryland State Law Library) and others developed the Chesapeake Project. *Legal Information Archive: the Chesapeake Project* states, “This project is a collaborative venture by three members of the Legal Information Preservation Alliance: the Georgetown University Law Library, the Maryland State Law Library, and the Virginia State Law Library.” Their efforts to preserve born digital materials “are informed by the mission of LIPA as well as by the institutional priorities and missions of the individual participant libraries.” Check the Chesapeake Project out at: [http://www.aall.org/committee/lipa/Chesapeake_Project.asp](http://www.aall.org/committee/lipa/Chesapeake_Project.asp). Readers will note that the Chesapeake Project is part of LIPA whose executive director is Margaret Maes, quoted in a recent column (*TSL 33*, no. 4 (2008): 17). An earlier preservation project that Jan organized at Georgetown was one to preserve state materials. The State Historic Codes Project was set up to reprint old state codes in Georgetown’s collection. Acme Bookbinding retained files that they will use to reproduce print copies for any library that wants them. (See [http://www.ll.georgetown.edu/states/historic_codes/index.cfm](http://www.ll.georgetown.edu/states/historic_codes/index.cfm) for more information.) Finally, when Jan learned that there was no place that retained or published the opinions of the Mayor’s Agent for Historic Preservation in the District of Columbia, she arranged for these decisions to be published on Georgetown’s website and to have the opinions preserved in print as well as electronic format. (For more information, see [http://www.ll.georgetown.edu/histpres/index.cfm](http://www.ll.georgetown.edu/histpres/index.cfm).)

Folks interested in preservation most likely know Pat Turneping. Pat has been working for preservation for over two decades. She wrote this column for many years. Her website at [http://www.bookloverconsulting.com/](http://www.bookloverconsulting.com/) lists the various preservation activities she can undertake for libraries, and describes the experience and accomplishments that qualify her to help libraries preserve materials.


Some people clearly do not need a preservation sermon. Jan, Gail, Steve, Pat, and Jane consider preservation a priority. But many of us are still striving to make preservation a part of our work. Access to knowledge is our mission. Without preservation, our mission is hampered. Working together to determine what materials are most important to preserve is something that we can all focus upon. Librarians are nothing if not collaborative. We can assist each other to ensure that our users can find the information they need.

That brings my musings to an end for 2008. I wish all librarians peace and joy at this time of year.

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

*The acquisitions librarian*
- v. 19, no. 3/4 (2007)
  (OCoLC 17009807)

**Changed to:**
*Journal of electronic resources librarianship*
Began with v. 20, no. 1 (2008)
  (OCoLC 190846342)

*Australian indigenous law reporter*
  (OCoLC 35834493)

**Changed to:**
*Australian indigenous law review*
Vol. 11, no. 1 (2007)-
  (OCoLC 145734711)

*Cleveland bar journal*
  (OCoLC 3610578)

**Changed to:**
*Cleveland metropolitan bar journal*
Vol. 1, no. 1 (Mar. 2008)-
  (OCoLC 226389103)

*Computer law review and technology journal*
Summer 1996-v. 10, no. 3 (summer 2006)
  (OCoLC 37429374)

**Changed to:**
*SMU science and technology law review*
Summer 2007-
  (OCoLC 234616873)

*Real property, probate and trust journal*
Vol. 1 (spring 1966)-v. 42, no. 4 (winter 2008)
  (OCoLC 1713959)

**Changed to:**
*Real property, trust, and estate law journal*
Vol. 43, no. 1 (spring 2008)-
  (OCoLC 235957559)

*Wisconsin women’s law journal*
Vol. 1 (spring 1985)-v. 22, no. 2 (fall 2007)
  (OCoLC 12192424)

**Changed to:**
*Wisconsin journal of law; gender & society*
Vol. 23, no. 1 (spring 2008)-
  (OCoLC 230815277)

The following serial cessations were identified by the University of San Diego Legal Research Center serials and acquisitions staff and the University of California, Berkeley Law Library acquisitions staff:

*Capital defense journal*
**Ceased with:** v.17, no. 2 (spring 2005)
  (OCoLC 34734513)

*Crime & justice international*
**Ceased with:** v. 23, no. 101 (Nov./Dec. 2007)
  (OCoLC 36428624)

*International corporate law (Oxford, England)*
**Ceased with:** v. 2 (2003)
  (OCoLC 43794979)

*International organizations and the law of the sea*
**Ceased with:** v. 18 (2002)
  (OCoLC 16852368)

*Law teacher*
**Ceased with:** v. 42 (2008)
  (OCoLC 1786290)

After twelve years of compiling the serials title changes column, Chris Tarr and I have decided it is the time to turn the column over to new hands. Thanks go to everyone we’ve worked with on the column, including the editors, our long-suffering co-workers whom we badgered for information, and all of our readers. You sent us titles, corrected our errors, and generally put up with us. Thanks! Maggie McDonald.

[Editor’s note: Although I assumed editorship with this issue, as a long-standing reader of TSLL and user of the serials changes compiled by Chris and Maggie since v. 22, no. 2 (1996), I would like to thank them for consistently providing serials title information. Chris and Maggie are among the select few columnists who have contributed columns to TSLL for over ten years, for which I and the readership salute them! Thank you very much for your service.]
Being Depressed with LCSH

Aaron Kuperman

While there are valid headings for New Deal, 1933-1939 and Depressions—1929—United States, neither of them is structured in a way to allow for a legal subdivision. For a work on the legal ramifications of the Great Depression, one could use a first heading such as Law—Economic aspects—United States—History—20th century, with one of the non-law headings suggested above. This reflects a general problem with LCSH. For most headings, the subdivision—History is limited to “To 1500” or a century, and many historical periods important to lawyers don’t fit. It would be nice if LCSH allowed important periods such as the great depression, the antebellum period, the post-WWII era, the federal period, or the civil war to be expressed in subfield “y,” but at present the best one can do is the not totally 100% authorized practice of doubling the law heading with a more precise heading that does have the exact dates.

Note that the heading “Depressions—1929” appears to represent an obsolete style of creating headings. (I think that “Economic conditions—Depression, 1929-1939” would be a preferable heading.) One rarely sees this heading used for anything in the second half of the 20th century or later, probably because what was over eighty years ago called a “depression” is now called a “recession,” and in modern usage only something similar to the Great Depression is called such. I suspect the first cataloger to use a heading for Depressions—2007 may run into some rude comments.

While many schedules in LCC have a caption for “Economic constitution,” a concept not frequently discussed in American law, there is no subject heading for the laws governing economic activities. Law and economics refers to a specific methodology of studying the subjects. Law—Economic aspects addresses the economic implications of any legal headings. Occasionally one finds “Economic policy” as a first heading for a work classed in K. What we need would be something along the lines of “Economic policy—Law and legislation” for laws governing economic activity.

Years ago, everyone knew what Banking law was, but over time the definition of Banks and banking became a bit more flexible, with banks doing more than just banking, and other institutions acting as banks. When in doubt, it is probably better to use Financial institutions—Law and legislation unless the book specifically says it is about “banks,” and the content of the book is limited to what “banks” do historically. Of course, the next Congress, as a result of what some argue is Depressions—2007, may change the law, probably in a way to simplify our task by being stricter as to what a bank can and can’t do. It isn’t clear how the relatively modern term Financial services industry is different from Financial institutions. There are headings for most of the “new” (and increasingly infamous) concepts such as Collateralized debt obligations, Swaps (Finance), and even for Subprime mortgage loans but not for the infamous “Ninja loans” (“no income, no job, no assets,” for which I would use a 653 heading). We also have separate headings for Mortgages and Mortgage loans, and while the difference is very clear to anyone who paid attention in a first year class in property law (the former represents a type of interest in property, and the later a loan secured by the mortgage), whether this reflects modern usage, even among lawyers, is debatable.

The American bankruptcy law was largely rewritten in 1978, and our headings were not revised. Thus “Chapter 11” bankruptcies get Corporate reorganizations, but that is also a heading for a corporation reorganizing for reasons other than bankruptcy, and while Liquidation is a valid heading, its use for “Chapter 7” is really valid only for companies and isn’t limited to bankruptcy (since companies sometimes choose to liquidate voluntarily), and “liquidating” a natural (i.e. flesh and blood) person has implications going far beyond bankruptcy. The individual “Chapter 13” has no heading to distinguish it from “Chapter 7,” though in the period after the change, some catalogers used Composition (Law) which is a somewhat archaic term for renegotiating debts, and is functionally similar. It does appear there are books on the distinct Chapter 7 and Chapters 11 or 13, so there should be literary warrant to establish distinct headings for “Corporate reorganizations in bankruptcy,” “Corporate liquidation,” and the personal “Chapter 13” alternative to the more traditional “Chapter 7” “liquidation-style bankruptcy.” However, being so current, we still have headings for Almshouses—Law and legislation and Debt, Imprisonment for which formerly played a major role in dealing with what is now called Bankruptcy.
Contributing Authors: Marlene Bubrick, Yumin Jiang, Ellen McGrath, Andrea Rabbia

For more news items on the latest trends and technology tools for technical services law librarians, check out the TSLL TechScans Blog at http://www.tslltechscans.blogspot.com/.

**Acquisitions**

The Challenge of Acquisitions in the Digital Age
http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/portal_libraries_and_the_academy/v008/8.4.whittaker.html


“In purchasing an electronic resource, the librarian must be familiar with licensing models, system requirements, file compatibility, authentication, proxy servers, and interface design … Differences among publisher interfaces, variations among aggregator interfaces, and duplication within the library’s electronic collection mean that numbers for one title may be different from those for another, for reasons that have nothing to do with the intrinsic value of the content. When we are evaluating e-resources and making contacts with publishers and content suppliers, we need to come to them with our own demands for the usage rules and requirements for the materials that they are selling. … In addition to business acumen and accounting knowledge, a digital-age acquisitions librarian needs to understand scholarly communication and the emerging business models of digital publishing.”

WorldCat Selection


This article introduces a new OCLC program, WorldCat Selection, to facilitate workflow from selection to acquisition. This program grew out of a project developed at the Cornell University Library several years ago. Now libraries can set up profiles with vendors, then notification of new items will be loaded into OCLC’s WorldCat Selection. Selectors review the items and make selection decisions. Finally, acquisitions staff export all selected records into the ILS and complete orders from the ILS. Current participating and future vendors include Blackwell Book Services, Casalini Libri, Coutts, Erasmus, Harrassowitz, YBP and others.

**Contract Addendum**

Kelly, Robert G. “Negotiating with a Contract Addendum.” Against the Grain 20, no. 3 (June 2008): 65.

Kelly shares his experience using the contract addendum to address specific issues important to his library. He also shares his procedures for working with his university attorney on contract revisions.

**LC Reorganization Merges Acquisition and Cataloging Functions**

The world’s largest library has redesigned the ways it receives and catalogs incoming materials in order to improve processing time dramatically and enhance the physical security of the collections.

As a result of the latest reorganization at the Library of Congress, a book acquired as a copyright deposit, purchase, gift or exchange will go to one division instead of several for centralized processing—the ordering, cataloging, shelflisting, barcoding and other activities that enable users to find one particular book among more than 23.3 million unique titles in print format (plus another 8.9 million that are duplicate copies) held at the Library.

“The new organizational structure—the Acquisitions and Bibliographic Access Directorate (ABA)—fully merges acquisitions and cataloging functions, streamlines workflows and deploys staff to take advantage of their unique language and subject skills,” said ABA Director Beacher Wiggins. He noted that the new organization will be better designed and staffed to acquire new digital materials, which will be processed in the same work units as collections in print and other formats. (TS-SIS discussion list)

**New Name for CPSO**

Posted for Bob Hiatt: With the administrative reorganization of the Library of Congress/Library Services/Acquisitions and Bibliographic Access Directorate on Oct. 1, 2008, the Cataloging Policy and Support Office has become the Policy and Standards Division and its email account has been changed to policy@loc.gov The email addresses of individuals remain unchanged. (OCLC-CAT discussion list)

**Behind the Scenes in Technical Services**

http://www.ahml.info/vlog/default.asp?ID=49

What happens before a book, CD or other item makes it to the library shelves? Take a fun, tongue-in-cheek, behind-the-scenes look at the Arlington Heights (Ill.) Public Library’s Technical Services Department.
Cataloging

OCLC’s Enhance Program
http://www.library.kent.edu/files/TechKNOW_August_2008.pdf


OCLC’s Enhance Program, in which proficient catalogers are authorized to edit and replace full-level non-serial records input by fellow member libraries of OCLC, is open to any of 9,875 institutions, but only 162 are participants. Attaining Enhance Status entails an application process designed to weed out less proficient catalogers. The author of the article states his goal is “to convince catalogers that this process is no big deal, is well worth the effort, and that they probably already know what they need to know to participate.”

440 Field
http://www.library.kent.edu/files/TechKNOW_August_2008.pdf

“What Will We Do When the 440 Field Becomes Obsolete?” TECHKNOW 14, no. 2 (August 2008): 6-7.


Historically the 440 field has been used when the form in which the series appeared on the piece was the same as the way that access was provided to the series. Once the 440 is made obsolete, catalogers will record how the series appears on the piece in the 490 field, and an 8xx field will be used to store the access point if series access is provided.

Libraries will have to consider whether or not to retrospectively convert their databases.

440 Now Obsolete
http://www.loc.gov/catdir/pcc/Field440.pdf

The Program for Cooperative Cataloging has issued the following guidelines for implementing the recent decision to make field 440 obsolete. The PCC recommends that members implement this change beginning Oct 24, 2008. (TS-SIS discussion list)

Full Draft of RDA Available
http://www.collectionscanada.ca/jsc/rdafulldraft.html

The full draft of RDA is now available for comment. Please see the web page above for details on accessing the draft and making comments.

Each national constituency of the JSC (Joint Steering Committee for Development of RDA) has a mechanism for providing comments. In the United States (exclusive of the Library of Congress, which reports directly through its own JSC rep), this is through the liaisons to CC:DA or through a web form offered by the Association for Library Collections and Technical Services (ALCTS). This form is now available at https://es.ala.org/alcts/RDA_Form/rda_form.cfm

There is also a link to it via the CC:DA homepage at http://www.libraries.psu.edu/tas/jca/cda/index.html

(See the “Announcing” block in the upper right). (AUTOCAT discussion list)

RDA Presentation
http://www.heidiloeberman.com/olacmougpresentation.html

See the slides from Heidi Lee Hoerman’s Sept. 28, 2008 presentation on RDA at the recent OLAC/MOUG/NOTSLS Conference. (AUTOCAT discussion list)

Cataloging Principles and RDA Webcast

Tillett, Barbara. Cataloging Principles and RDA: Resource Description and Access

“The second in a series on RDA: Resource Description and Access, the next generation cataloging code designed for the digital environment. This presentation deals with the cataloging principles that have influenced the development of RDA; the challenges they present to the international sharing of bibliographic and authority data; and the challenges they present to the developers of RDA.” (Catalogablog)

New OCLC Policy


Do Tags Help Users Find Things?
http://eprints.rclis.org/14566/


This conference paper by Margaret E.I. Kipp appears in the proceedings of the 10th International Conference of the International Society for Knowledge Organization, held in Montreal, Quebec, Canada.

“This study examines the question of whether tags can be useful in the process of information retrieval. Participants were asked to search a social bookmarking tool specializing in academic articles (CiteULike) and an online journal database (PubMed) in order to determine if users found tags were useful in their search process. The actions of each participant were captured using screen capture software...
and they were asked to describe their search process. The preliminary study showed that users did indeed make use of tags in their search process, as a guide to searching and as hyperlinks to potentially useful articles. However, users also made use of controlled vocabularies in the journal database.” (Cataloging Futures)

**Cataloger Scenarios**
http://dublincore.org/dcmirdataskgroup/Scenarios

From the Dublin Core Metadata Initiative/RDA Task group wiki: These cataloger scenarios are intended to assist catalogers in visualizing how their work might flow in a setting that used RDA Vocabularies and FRBR relationships. The goal here is just to show how these packages of information might fit together and how catalogers can use their knowledge and experience in different contexts. (Cataloging Futures)

**Variations/FRBR Project Funded**

*Indiana University’s Digital Library Program - Bloomington, Indiana*

Project Title: “Testing the FRBR Conceptual Model through the Variations System.” Indiana University (IU) proposes to use the Variations digital music library system as a test bed for the Functional Requirements for Bibliographic Records (FRBR) conceptual model. The Library of Congress Working Group on the Future of Bibliographic Control report, released in January 2008, challenged the library community to create a model for testing the transformative promise of FRBR. In response to the challenge, Indiana University will “FRBRize” records in the Cook Music Library’s entire sound recording and score collections and make them available for evaluation and testing, both in a search interface designed to make the most of the FRBR model and as raw data for testing in other environments. IU will release the source code for the FRBRized discovery system and perform usability testing on FRBR end-user and cataloger interfaces. (AUTOCAT discussion list)

**Changing Landscape of Contemporary Cataloging**
http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1178&context=libraryscience

Gardner, Sue Ann. “The Changing Landscape of Contemporary Cataloging.” *Cataloging & Classification Quarterly* 45, no. 4 (2008): 81-99. “Intended to contribute to the current dialogue about how the emerging information environment is impacting cataloging issues, this survey paper covers a broad range of topics, such as how search engines compare with integrated library systems, and includes some thoughts on how cataloging processes may evolve to continue to remain relevant. The author suggests that there is a need for significant changes in integrated library system interfaces and infrastructures as well as some changes in cataloging practice. The value of descriptive vs. non-descriptive elements in the catalog record and some pros and cons of the MARC format are covered.” (Cataloging Futures)

**OCLC Crosswalk Web Service Demo**

Developers who need to translate metadata now have access to a new demonstration service. Developed by Senior Research Scientist Jean Godby and Consulting Software Engineer Devon Smith, OCLC Crosswalk Web Service translates metadata records from one format to another and will process up to 500 records from all requests per user, per day. With the aid of the WSDL file, users can develop a client to access the service, which is available on the OCLC ResearchWorks website for an undecided duration. (OCLC Abstracts)

**Name Authorities**
http://orweblog.oclc.org/archives/001699.html

“Libraries have invested significantly in name authority work over the years, and have created extensive infrastructure to help manage names of people and organizations. The relationship between this work and broader interest in this topic is something that will need to be addressed in coming years if this work is to continue to have utility.” (Lorcan Dempsey’s weblog)

**Collocate and Disambiguate Blog**
http://collocate.wordpress.com/

Collocate and Disambiguate: Currents in authority control and authority data. Created by Lois Reibach, this blog will discuss news and trends in authority control, and new uses of authority data. Developments in controlled vocabularies will also be covered. (LITA-L discussion list)

**Metologue Blog**
http://community.oclc.org/metologue/

Metologue is a forum for sharing thoughts on all things related to knowledge organization by and for libraries, hosted by Karen Calhoun, Vice President, WorldCat and Metadata Services for OCLC. Karen is joined often by friends and colleagues from all over the globe, who contribute perspectives and experiences about the current and future state of cataloguing and metadata. (Lorcan Dempsey’s weblog)
Classify Service From OCLC
http://deweyresearch.oclc.org/classify2/
Classify is an experimental classification service from OCLC. After a search, the resulting FRBR set is checked and then the classification numbers used are displayed. This is a quick and simple way to get a class number, and there’s no need to be an OCLC member. Classify searches Dewey, NLM, and LCC and possibly other less-used classification schemes, like the one at the US Geological Survey. (Catalogablog)

Build the Open Shelves Classification
“I hereby invite you to help build the Open Shelves Classification (OSC), a free, “humble,” modern, open-source, crowd-sourced replacement for the Dewey Decimal System. I’ve been speaking of doing something like this for a while, but I think it’s finally going to become a reality. LibraryThing members are into it and after my ALA panel talk, a number of catalogers expressed interest too. Best of all, one library director has signed on as eager to implement the system, and the one at the US Geological Survey. (Catalogablog)

For more from Tim Spalding of Library Thing, go to http://www.librarything.com/thingology/

Metadata for Resource Discovery
https://urresearch.rochester.edu/retrieve/14621/Bowen_article_27n2.pdf
“The eXtensible Catalog (XC) Project at the University of Rochester will design and develop a set of open-source applications to provide libraries with an alternative way to reveal their collections to library users. The goals and functional requirements developed for XC reveal generalizable needs for metadata to support a next-generation discovery system. The strategies that the XC Project Team and XC Partner Institutions will use to address these issues can contribute to an agenda for attention and action within the library community to ensure that library metadata will continue to support online resource discovery in the future.”

The slides for her talk at ALA as part of the ALCTS Program, “Creating the Future of the Catalog and Cataloging” (June 29, 2008) are on the XC Shared Results Page. (Catalogablog)

Future of Cataloging
http://www.palinet.org/futurecatsym.aspx
MP3s and slides from “The Future of Cataloging: A PALINET Symposium.” (Catalogablog)

Response to “On the Record” Report
Deanna Marcum has released the response to On the Record: Report of the Library of Congress Working Group on the Future of Bibliographic Control. (AUTOCAT discussion list)

Tag of the Month
http://www.follettsoftware.com/sub/tag_of_the_month/
“Need help understanding MARC tags? Turn to Tag of the Month. This helpful resource features a new topic every month, including a description of the tag’s uses and working examples. The Tag of the Month page also features links to other helpful cataloging resources, including the online version of Understanding MARC Bibliographic: Machine-Readable Cataloging, the definitive book on MARC, co-authored by the Library of Congress and Follett Software.” (Plant Cataloging)

xOCLCnum
http://xisbn.worldcat.org/xisbnadmin/xoclcnum/index.htm
Just as xISBN allows you to find all related editions of a book by entering its ISBN, xOCLCnum does the same thing using OCLC numbers. (Catalogablog)

Subject Heading Validation Records in ClassWeb
In May 2007, the Cataloging Distribution Service (CDS) began distributing a series of subject authority records that were created solely for the purpose of allowing for machine validation of commonly used subject strings consisting of established headings combined with free-floating subdivisions. (class-web-announce discussion list)

eXtensible Text Framework
http://www.cdlib.org/inside/projects/xtf/
“The California Digital Library (CDL) is pleased to announce a new release of its search and display technology, the eXtensible Text Framework (XTF) version 2.1. XTF is an open source, highly flexible software application that supports the search, browse and display of heterogeneous digital content. XTF offers efficient and practical methods for creating customized end-user interfaces for distinct digital content collections.” (Catalogablog)

Information Technology
WorldCat Copyright Evidence Registry (CER) pilot
http://www.worldcat.org/copyrightevidence
OCLC launched a 6-month pilot (7/2008-12/2008) to explore the feasibility of building a cooperatively created and maintained repository of copyright evidence. Digitization projects continue for books in the public domain, but books whose copyright status is unknown are destined to remain in print and on shelves until their status can be determined. The process to determine copyright status can be lengthy and labor
intensive. The goal of the Copyright Evidence Registry is to encourage a cooperative environment to discover, create and share copyright evidence through a collaboratively created and maintained database, using the WorldCat cooperative model to eliminate duplicate efforts.

“The WorldCat Copyright Evidence Registry (CER) is a community of people, libraries, and other organizations working together to discover and share information about the copyright status of books. The Copyright Evidence Registry is based on WorldCat, which contains more than 100 million bibliographic records describing items held in thousands of libraries worldwide. In addition to the WorldCat metadata, the Copyright Evidence Registry uses data contributed by libraries and other organizations. You can search the Copyright Evidence Registry to find information about a book, learn what others have said about its copyright status, and share what you know. If your library or organization is a Copyright Evidence Registry subscriber, you can run automated copyright rules that you create in the Copyright Evidence Registry to conform to your standards for determining copyright status. The rules help you analyze the information available in the Copyright Evidence Registry and form your own conclusions about copyright status. Additionally, you can receive an e-mail notification when information about a book changes within the Copyright Evidence Registry.”

More information about the CER pilot can be found at http://www.worldcat.org/copyrightevidence/registry/about

Mash Ups

http://www.oclc.org/nexspace/009/1.htm

Storey, Tom. “Mixing It Up: Libraries Mash Up Content, Services, and Ideas.” NextSPACE no. 9 (June 2008)

“One of the fastest growing trends today is combining data and functionality from several sources to create new services that provide a unique user experience.” These services have been dubbed mash ups. “By allowing functionality and data from several places to be recombined and remixed to meet new needs, many believe mash ups represent the way the web and software development as a whole are heading.”

“Mash ups, in a general sense, have been going on in the library for many years … When you combine different ideas and different services to reach different audiences or energize existing ones, new experiences are created.” Early “mash ups” created childrens’ story hour and open shelf access; today mash ups incorporate web functionality to provide evolving ways for the library to communicate and participate in the new digital world.

Social Software SPEC Kit


Looking specifically at ten types of applications (social networking, media sharing, social bookmarking, wikis, blogs, RSS, chat and IM, VoIP, virtual worlds, and widgets), and with a response rate of 52% (64 out of 123 libraries), this survey makes clear that use of social software by ARL member libraries has rapidly increased in the last decade. Over 95% of responding libraries report that they use some kind of social software application, and most libraries are implementing multiple types of applications, often integrated into larger tools. IM and chat are the most popular type of application (59 libraries, or 94%) while VoIP is the least used (18 libraries, 28%). Although implementation is widespread, support models vary widely. Almost half the libraries report that social software activities remain uncoordinated, reliant upon the efforts of individual librarians. Most activities started as grassroots efforts by such librarians, with only five libraries (8%) reporting that library users requested such services. The survey does not explore assessment in detail, but finds that perceived benefits include enhanced visibility and communication, while challenges include finding time to learn the tools, and developing the staff expertise (self-study being the most common method). The executive summary of this SPEC Kit is available free online. The full version contains over 60 examples of social software usage at responding libraries.

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Search Box on Library Homepages


The authors visited 111 ARL academic library websites in October 2007, and recorded the presence and type of search boxes at the top level. They observed that a wide range of approaches, varying from sites that have no search box at all, to some sites that employ technology to develop Google-like federated searching. In the middle are many library sites that devote different search boxes to different types of sources such as the catalog, journals or federated database searching, and various Google resources. The authors noted that few library sites have search boxes for their digital collections or institutional repositories, as those resources tend to have their own digital presence.

Libraries and Mobile Technologies


Kroski, Ellyssa. “On the Move with the Mobile Web: Libraries and Mobile Technologies.” Library Technology Reports 44, no. 5 (July 2008). More and more library users are using their cellphones or other mobile devices (e.g., PDAs, smartphones, etc.) for much more than talking and texting. Many are searching and browsing the web, reading magazines and books, and generally doing things that until recently required a computer to do. In this issue of Library Technology Reports, Kroski
does an excellent job of surveying the present usage of mobile devices, providing an overview of devices, providers, and features, describing the various activities these devices support, highlighting how libraries are responding with services tailored for these devices, and providing good advice and assistance for any libraries wanting to go further. It is well-researched, nicely illustrated, and chock-full of good advice and assistance with getting started. The article is highly recommended for any library wanting to better understand mobile users and/or tailoring services for them.
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Google Books and the Open Content Alliance
http://www.uic.edu/htbin/cgiwrap/bin/ojs/index.php/fm/article/viewArticle/2101/2037


This article compares and evaluates in some detail the Google Books and Open Content Alliance (OCA) initiatives, providing an excellent overview of their production workflows (to the extent they are known), how they address issues of transparency and openness, their approach to rights management, and their use of metadata. Because the purpose of these initiatives is access rather than preservation, the transparency of the production and scanning operations is not as crucial as the transparency of rights issues and the usability of the final product. Despite OCA’s “open” model and the common criticisms of Google as being secretive and proprietary, the author finds that Google is in many ways more transparent, and he raises concerns about the long-term sustainability of the OCA rights model, its metadata management, and its transparency. On a related note, as this issue of Current Cites was going to press, Google, the Association of American Publishers, and the Authors Guild announced a settlement to the class action lawsuit filed against Google in 2005. The settlement (not addressed in this article) should clarify a number of rights issues, but will undoubtedly receive much commentary as people work through it over the coming weeks.
—Reprinted by permission from Current Cites 19, no. 10 (October 2008)

Federated Search 101
http://www.libraryjournal.com/article/CA6571320.html


This is a credible, if somewhat superficial, review of the recent state of the library metasearch tool market and how to approach tool selection. Since this is a fast-moving market you may find it useful to take the pulse of the market closer to when you need to select an option, since this piece is based on information already a year old, but the general information probably still applies (e.g., most desired features, etc.).
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Make Web 2.0 Tools Work
http://www.baselinemag.com/index2.php?option=content&task=view&id=5237&pop=1&hide_ads=1&page=2&hide_js=1


Although written more with a corporate audience in mind, this short article highlights some of the more important things to keep in mind when trying to encourage the use of Web 2.0 tools in an organization. Although some of the suggestions might seem self-evident to Library 2.0 advocates, the author reminds us that if we want to encourage innovation we have to abandon some preconceived notions of how things should be managed. For example, the author stresses the point that we should abandon attempts at detailed productivity measures where Web 2.0 tools are concerned and look instead at overall productivity of workers in relationship to their projects and tasks. Another recommendation is to allow personal use but limit the amount of time people engage in personal work through common understanding rather than rigid control. Finally, the author suggests using microblogging as a recruiting and retention tool. In addition to signifying that the organization is interested in pursuing newer technologies, microblogging and other tools have an additional benefit as they help improve collaboration among workers.
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Reference Extract
http://referencextract.org/?page_id=3

“How have you ever wished for a personal reference librarian, an information guru to point you to the most reliable sites whenever you search the web? A new search-engine project aims to simulate something like that. The trick? Weighting search results so that librarians’ picks rise to the top. The project is being developed by the Online Computer Library Center and the information schools of Syracuse University and the University of Washington. A $100,000 grant from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation is covering planning costs. According to the project proposal, the search engine ‘will be built for maximum credibility by relying on the expertise and credibility judgments of librarians from around the globe.’” (Wired Campus)

Ithaka Report
http://www.ithaka.org/research/Ithakas%202006%20Studies%20of%20Key%20Stakeholders%20in%20the%20Digital%20Transformation%20in%20Higher%20Education.pdf


Reconceiving Research Libraries for the 21st Century
http://www.clir.org/pubs/reports/pub142/contents.html

This new title from the Council on Library and Information Resources, No Brief Candle: Reconceiving the Research
Library for the 21st Century, is composed of a series of provocative essays, the proceedings of a lively and informed symposium earlier this year in Washington, and a set of recommendations extrapolated from both. While several of the subject headings are familiar—scholarly communication, peer review, preservation of data, and e-science—the conclusions and recommendations are not. The consensus derived from these efforts was unambiguous in calling for more aggressive intervention to better structure and manage the challenges we face. (Library Link of the Day)

OCLC/RLG Partnership Highlights
http://www.oclc.org/programs/ourwork/
http://www.oclc.org/research/researchworks/
Annual highlights of the RLG Partnership and OCLC Programs and Research (Lorcan Dempsey’s weblog)

Blogging about Conferences
http://blogs.ala.org/nrmig.php
http://tssis.blogspot.com/
Check out the Metadata Blog for reports from the ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim. And don’t forget the TS/OBS blog with reports from the AALL Annual Conference in Portland.

hangingtogether.org Blog
http://hangingtogether.org/?p=463
http://hangingtogether.org/?p=462
Check out these posts on the hangingtogether.org blog by Jim Michalko about his experience at the AALL conference in Portland: “We paid for it” and “Nothing stays where you put it.” (Lorcan Dempsey’s weblog)

Uncontrolled Vocabulary
http://uncontrolledvocabulary.com/
Check out Uncontrolled Vocabulary: A weekly live interactive roundtable discussion of all things library, every Wednesday at 10 PM Eastern. (LITA blog)

Blog for Library Technology
http://nblog.lib.umich.edu/blt/
“[BLT] Blog for Library Technology is published by the University of Michigan Library’s Library Information Technology Division. We’ll talk about technological innovations we’re developing in the U-M library.” (Lorcan Dempsey’s weblog)

Local Systems

UK ILS Report
Although published earlier this year, this report is just beginning to get attention outside the United Kingdom. While some would say that there is little new in this report, the value of this report is that it provides an additional perspective; one that confirms what we see happening in North America is, in fact, a global phenomenon. In the report, we find that like the US and Canadian LMS markets, the UK market is dominated by four vendors with relatively little product differentiation among the various systems. Libraries are slow to adapt ERMS (Electronic Resource Management Systems) and remain unconvinced of the value of federated search products. Additionally, libraries are not using the information they gather about user preferences in ways that help enhance the position of the library as their patron’s first choice for resource discovery. Finally, local OPACs are losing ground as preferred information discovery systems with the end result being the potential for the traditional LMS to become just a back-end system to other, more global and encompassing, resource discovery systems.

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Open Source ILS
http://www.techsource.ala.org/ltr/open-source-integrated-library-systems.html
As the one person most knowledgeable about the integrated library systems (ILS) landscape in the United States (and probably beyond), few are as well-positioned to take a look at open source ILS software as Marshall Breeding. Here is exactly the kind of straightforward expository look at these options you have come to expect from Breeding. Although it is not an in-depth comparison, he provides charts of specific functions (e.g., faceted browsing, book jacket display, invoice processing, etc.) and identifies which of these each of the four highlighted options supports. Systems covered in this detail include Koha, Evergreen, OPALS, and NewGenLib. Unfortunately, this also makes the shelf-life of this LTR likely to be measured in months. As Breeding himself says, “This report provides a snapshot in time of the open source ILS products and companies. The world of ILS is evolving rapidly, even more so than previous trends in library technology.” So get it now, while it’s hot, or else don’t bother.

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Interface for Mobile Platforms
http://www.libraryjournal.com/article/CA6599063.html
Mobile phone ownership and use is growing and this article is a good summary of what libraries are currently doing to provide library services and resources to mobile platforms. OPACs and library webpages can be specially coded for delivery to a mobile device or take advantage of “transcoding,” which reformats regular library websites...
on-the-fly. Library notices delivered by SMS can help to provide “high-value notification and reminder services.” Did you know that at least one library can SMS the title, location, floor and call number of an item found on the OPAC to a mobile device? Customers can then move from the OPAC terminal to the correct floor and shelf location of the desired item, using the information received by SMS. The article also looks at mobile services provided by Amazon and LibraryThing, which provides good food for thought for possible library applications.

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Sharing Library Data
http://www.ariadne.ac.uk/issue56/gatenby/

One could argue, as Gatenby does here, that despite the fact that most libraries have been networked for well over a decade, they have yet to take full advantage of the opportunities to work more efficiently and effectively. That is, some data and services that libraries need may be more profitably maintained not at the local level by individual libraries, but at a group or global level. In this piece Gatenby identifies various kinds of library data and suggests ways in which it could become more useful and valuable if we move it up into shared spaces. She states that doing so is a crucial first step to being able to completely re-engineer integrated library systems to function at the network level. “It is important for libraries to own and control their data resources; to be free to share them, provide access to them and to expose the data,” she asserts. “It is less important that the libraries own or run the software that manipulates and manages the data.”

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New Website for eXtensible Catalog Project
http://www.extensiblecatalog.org/
The eXtensible Catalog Project has announced the launch of their new website. (LITA discussion list)

SOPAC Available
http://www.thesocialopac.net/
The SocialOPAC.net is the official website of the Social OPAC application suite—an open source social discovery platform for bibliographic data. The purpose of this site is to build a cohesive community of users and developers around the SOPAC project suite. (Cataloging Futures)

RDA IFLA Satellite Conference Summary
http://www.yorku.ca/vul/bibserv/blog/?p=172
The conference is summarized on The Bib Blog (York University Libraries Bibliographic Services) by Tim Knight. (Cataloging Futures)

BiblioCommons
http://www.libraryjournal.com/article/CA6579748.html
“BiblioCommons, a new social discovery system for libraries that replaces all user-facing OPAC functionality, allowing for faceted searching and easier user commenting and tagging ...” (LITA-L discussion list)

Extending Discovery Capabilities of WorldCat Local
http://www.oclc.org/news/releases/200821.htm
OCLC and Index Data, a software development and consulting enterprise that specializes in information retrieval and metasearch solutions, are working together to extend the discovery capabilities of WorldCat Local to include all licensed and full-text resources of a library. (OCLC Abstracts)

OCLC/Google Agreement
http://www.oclc.org/news/releases/200811.htm
“OCLC and Google Inc. have signed an agreement to exchange data that will facilitate the discovery of library collections through Google search services. Under terms of the agreement, OCLC member libraries participating in the Google Book Search™ program, which makes the full text of more than one million books searchable, may share their WorldCat-derived MARC records with Google to better facilitate discovery of library collections through Google. Google will link from Google Book Search to WorldCat.org, which will drive traffic to libraryOPACs and other library services. Google will share data and links to digitized books with OCLC, which will make it possible for OCLC to represent the digitized collections ofOCLC member libraries in WorldCat.” (OCLC Abstracts)

Management
Best Practices for Focusing on Customers

Considering the recent discussion on library email lists and blogs about calling library users ‘members’ rather than ‘customers,’ this analysis of library patrons by a retail consultant, phrased in retail terms, may irk some, but it is a very useful document for librarians wanting to understand their users. Commissioned by the Metropolitan Library System, the study looked at customer behavior in four Chicago area libraries (public and academic). Use of the library was measured by tracking customers’ movements within a library, by questionnaires and by video tracking of traffic flow, wait times and transaction times. Some results are surprising - 56% of people spent less than ten minutes in the library and two-thirds did not know what they wanted before they arrived. The first half of the report outlines these and other key findings in brief paragraphs, and the second half contains best practice solutions, including suggestions
for libraries with no budgets, low budgets or high budgets. Whether they use the terms members, patrons, users or customers, there is no doubt that libraries can learn a lot from the hard-nosed data collection and analysis that the retail industry has spent years refining. Supporting data from the consultants, and implementation plans from the library directors of the target libraries can also be found on the WebJunction site.

—Reprinted by permission from Current Cites 19, no. 9 (September 2008)

Changes in ABA Questionnaires
Report to Law Library Directors on Upcoming Changes in the ABA Questionnaires. (TS-SIS discussion list)

Preservation
Mass Digitization
Yale University Library (YUL) committed to the scanning of 30,000 books from their collections and making them available online. This article presents an analysis of mass digitization needs and illustrates the workflows and in-house technical developments necessary for mass digitization.

By detailing the steps that worked for them, the authors have provided an excellent guideline for others planning a book digitization project. From preservation selection criteria to a mass digitization flow chart to care and handling procedures, many practical tips, as well as lessons learned, are provided.

National Digital Preservation Program
The Library of Congress has been authorized to lead the national program to develop a strategy to preserve digital content. This article gives a good overview of the program and its three primary objectives, including identifying at-risk content, building a national network of preservation partners, and developing technical tools and services for preservation. Many important preservation partners are identified.

Serials
xISSN Web Service
http://xissn.worldcat.org/xissnadmin/index.htm
xISBN is now being joined by xISSN, a new web service. With this service you can supply an ISSN, and find out about any predecessor, successor, and alternate ISSNs and titles, and find the electronic ISSN for a print title or vice versa. This is a web service which can be integrated into library applications, websites, link resolvers, cataloging tools, and so on. There is also a pretty nifty human-ready demonstration interface known as Title History. (Lorcan Demsey’s weblog)

How to Survive as a New Serialist
http://www.nasig.org/publications_guides.cfm
Griffin, Glenda. NASIGuide: How to Survive as a New Serialist (May 1, 2008) (NASIG-L discussion list)

Conference Report

DC-2008: International Conference on Dublin Core and Metadata Applications

This past September, the Eighth Annual International Conference on Dublin Core and Metadata Applications met in Berlin, Germany. The theme for this year’s conference was “Metadata for Semantic and Social Applications.” A total of 312 attendees represented thirty-nine different countries. Conference participants and attendees came from a variety of different subject domains in various disciplines, including archives, government, museums, libraries, education, and information science.

The Dublin Core conference (referred to as DC-2008) was held September 22-26, 2008 at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin. Programming for the conference, selected by program co-chairs Jane Greenberg and Wolfgang Klas with the help of a fifty-three member program committee, tried to address the needs of both the first time conference attendee and veteran Dublin Core participants by filling the days with a variety of workshops, paper presentations, tutorials, seminars, project reports and posters.

Beyond the guiding theme of Web 2.0 and social networking technologies, there were many smaller, but equally important overarching themes at the conference, including semantic integration, metadata scheme use and design, interoperability, metadata quality, technological changes, and moving towards new metadata/cataloging standards. The task groups and special
session meetings at the conference tried to move forward on a variety of topics from RDA to scholarly communications to metadata for scientific data.

DC-2008 made it very apparent that the Dublin Core Metadata Initiative is relevant to the work of law librarians who specialize in technical services functions. More than just an annual conference, Dublin Core (DC) is a community of people dedicated to the development and promotion of metadata in all disciplines. Papers and keynote speakers at this year’s conference discussed research and developments that took place in education, art, and science. Understanding how unique specific domains, “special” libraries, or collections are, the DC community responded by encouraging the creation of new communities within DC to deal with metadata issues. For example, DC-2008 held the first meeting for people currently facing the challenges created by scientific data. Many library collections and repository projects are facing the challenges of integrating these new information items into the traditional library framework. To solve this problem, the group proposed forming a new DC community focusing on metadata for scientific communities. DC has a place for everyone—no matter how unique or special. The annual DC conference could be an excellent place to present law library-specific issues and receive excellent international feedback.

Not just about research and theory, DC-2008 had many sessions that addressed the needs of library practitioners. DC-2008 participants are actively involved in creating cataloging codes and solving current cataloging or metadata application issues faced in libraries. RDA was also an important topic at DC-2008. Two workshops in particular, one led by Diane Hillmann on RDA and the other led by Christine Frodl, had lively discussions about moving forward with RDA. Many people found these sessions productive, if not cathartic and inspiring. Ute Schwens (German National Library, Frankfurt am Main), one of the keynote speakers, voiced her wholehearted support for developing RDA and the need for cataloging codes.

Makx Dekkers, Managing Director of the Dublin Core Metadata Initiative, commented that DC-2008 “supported the cross fertilization of research and practice that will help advance the field to the benefit of all.” DC-2008 was an excellent balance of research and practice, addressing the needs of librarians while still appealing to those people who do research in information science or build new technologies. Law libraries could definitely benefit from and contribute to the various metadata and organization-specific activities of this community.


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**Making the Catalog a Better Tool: Using 970 Fields for Describing Hierarchical Databases**

Sima Mirkin & Michael J. Petit

American University

Washington College of Law, Pence Law Library

At the Washington College of Law, Pence Law Library, we are striving to provide better access to legal materials. One of the aspects of better access is the creation of contextual links that would elevate an online catalog from being merely a sort of warehouse inventory instrument to an educational and discovery tool. The results of the queries would lead researchers to new materials and resources they previously did not know existed. Also, creating intelligent access points keeps the results lists precise, leading to better access to materials in the online environment. This is one of the sizable advantages of doing research in the library’s online catalog, as opposed to sifting through thousands of Google results screens.

The goal of achieving better access to online information is dependent upon the level of bibliographic description of online materials in the catalog. Description of hierarchical law databases presents special challenges for catalogers because of the multilevel analytics of these resources. For example, how would one create intelligible bibliographic records for databases such as the BNA ALL Databases or the CCH Internet Research Network?

For the past few years, the Pence Law Library has subscribed to monthly enhancement files from Blackwell’s Tables of Contents (TOC) Catalog Enrichment Service. Blackwell adds table of contents fields to the bibliographical records, assigning them 970 MARC tags. The 970 field allows indexing of its subfields by author, title, and keyword, providing more comprehensive access to the cataloged item.

Participation in Blackwell’s TOC service gave us an idea regarding a way to create a more detailed bibliographical description of complex databases. We decided to create individual records for each “tab” title within the database, and then utilize the 970 fields for the description of titles and subtitles under each tab. The 970 fields fulfill the purpose in these records...
since they allow both retrieval and hierarchical description of the contents. By using 970 fields, we were able to remove the bulky 505 and 740 fields from our records. Also, the presentation of the 970 fields on the OPAC screen creates a much more visible and tidier display. This makes our catalog records easier to read and understand for patrons. Figure 1 shows an OPAC display of the portion of the record for the “Banking” tab of the CCH Internet Research Network, with the Table of Contents fields reflecting titles and subtitles within this tab.

Figure 1

The use of 970 MARC tags allows for a hierarchical display of the TOC data within the database. The first indicator determines the entry’s inclusion in the index and may have three values: 0 (not indexed, for example, Preface); 1 (indexed); 2 (citable title). The second indicator determines the number of indents according to the hierarchical level of the entry.

The subfields in the 970 tag further assist in the formatting and indexing of data.

- Subfield 1 -- the section or chapter number
- Subfield t -- the name of the subchapter
- Subfields c & d -- personal and corporate names
- Subfield f -- inverted (indexable) personal name

Figure 2 shows the MARC display of the same record for the “Banking” tab. The first indicators have a value of 1 for each entry, which means all of them are indexed. The value of the second indicator, for example, for the subchapter Secured Transactions Guide is 2. This means that the system will display this entry with one hierarchical indent (see Figure 1). Only subfields 1 and t are used in this particular example.

Figure 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TOC</th>
<th>970</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>[1]News</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TOC</td>
<td>970</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>[1]Consumer credit and secured transactions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOC</td>
<td>970</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>[1]Consumer credit guide</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOC</td>
<td>970</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>[1]Secured transactions guide</td>
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<td>TOC</td>
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<td>[1]Federal banking</td>
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<td>TOC</td>
<td>970</td>
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<td>[1]Federal banking law reporter</td>
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<td>970</td>
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<td>[1]Bank compliance guide</td>
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<td>TOC</td>
<td>970</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>[1]Individual retirement plans guide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOC</td>
<td>970</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>[1]State banking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOC</td>
<td>970</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>[1]State banking law reporter</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The usage of 970 fields for describing complex databases is an alternative to creating individual bibliographical records for each title within databases or to providing links to each individual title via Electronic Resource Management resource records. In addition to being access points, the 970 fields provide:

- clear collocation of tab titles, immediately visible from the search results screen (Figure 3)
- collocation of titles in the form of Table of Contents within the tab and umbrella titles, available from individual bibliographical records screens
- visibility of the whole database content as the patrons link to a desired title in hierarchical steps

We believe that by describing hierarchical materials as a whole with detailed and searchable content, catalogers can create additional paths for discovery of materials for patrons. This approach adds an educational aspect to an online catalog, making it a better tool for legal research.

Figure 3

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[Editor’s note: This article is being published concurrently in Law Library Lights 52, no. 2 (Winter 2009) and reprinted here, with the permission of the authors and Law Library Lights, in order to increase dissemination of its information to more technical services librarians.]

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**Announcement—RDA**

The availability of RDA documents, as posted on the TS-SIS discussion list October 30, 2008 and November 18, 2008.

RDA working documents are available at [http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/jsc/workingnew.html](http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/jsc/workingnew.html)

For an overview of the full draft of RDA, see [http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/jsc/rdafulldraft.html](http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/jsc/rdafulldraft.html)

For the complete RDA full draft for constituency review, see [http://www.rdaonline.org/constituencyreview/](http://www.rdaonline.org/constituencyreview/)
From the Editor

As I write this column in Washington DC this week in January, I can feel the public’s excitement, renewed energy, and enthusiasm for a new beginning associated with the inauguration of President Obama. That is the sort of energy I would love to tap from the membership of TS-SIS and OBS-SIS—the “yes we can” attitude. With some new writers to fill in the vacant columns, and other SIS members periodically contributing brief articles, perhaps about creative ways they’ve handled everyday technical services issues, TSLL can continue to be a strong source of technical services knowledge.

We’ve made a good start, with Hollie White beginning her stewardship of the Research & Publications column, as well as contributing a conference report about Dublin Core. Coming soon we’ll have Beth Geesey-Holmes (Partridge Snow & Hahn) returning as a columnist, this time for the Private Law Libraries column, Barbara Bohl (University of California, 

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**Announcement—SUSHI**

Post from Cynthia Hodgson, National Information Standards Organization (NISO) Technical Editor Consultant

Subject: SUSHI Schemas Updated to Support Release 3 of the COUNTER Code of Practice for Journals and Databases

Reprinted from the TS-SIS discussion list, November 6, 2008

The NISO SUSHI Standing Advisory Committee has announced the approval and final release of the schemas (and related files) providing full support of Release 3 of the COUNTER Code of Practice for Journals and Databases. Notable in this latest release of the COUNTER Code of Practice is the requirement that content providers implement SUSHI as a means of delivering their reports. With the schemas now finalized, content providers can be confident about setting their development agendas for implementing SUSHI.

The SUSHI (Standardized Usage Statistics Harvesting Initiative) standard (ANSI/NISO Z39.93 - 2007) defines an automated request and response model for the harvesting of electronic resource usage data, utilizing a Web services framework. Designed as a generalized protocol extensible to a variety of usage reports, it also contains an extension designed specifically to work with COUNTER usage reports. COUNTER reports have become a mainstay of collection analysis for many libraries; SUSHI serves to automate the time consuming and error prone process of manually running, retrieving and loading these reports.

NISO’s SUSHI Standard Advisory Committee, formed last summer to maintain the standard, has used community feedback to identify additional needs for implementation and to examine the standard for areas that may need updating or improving. In addition to addressing the needs of the schemas, the Committee’s charge also includes the goal of making SUSHI easier for implementers to understand and work with. As part of that effort, the schemas have been annotated with descriptions and examples for key elements, and the website at [http://www.niso.org/workrooms/sushi](http://www.niso.org/workrooms/sushi) includes clear graphical representations of the schemas. In addition, the FAQs on the site are being updated and include sections specifically for librarians and for developers. Further documentation on the site includes material covered in NISO’s SUSHI webinar on October 2, a list of clients (ERM and Usage Consolidation services) supporting SUSHI, and a list of SUSHI compliant content providers, and other supporting information.

Also on the site is a link to the draft, “How to Start Building a SUSHI Service.” This work in progress by Thomas Barker, Software Engineer, IT and Digital Development at the University of Pennsylvania Library, is a valuable tool for those interested in getting started with building a client.

**Background and Technical Details**

Launched in 2002, COUNTER is designed to help librarians and publishers in the recording and exchange of usage statistics for electronic resources. By following COUNTER’s Code of Practice, vendors can provide libraries with data using standardized formats and data elements. The SUSHI protocol is a SOAP (Simple Object Access Protocol) request/response Web services “wrapper” for the XML version of COUNTER reports.

In the protocol, a transaction begins when a client service running as part of an application developed by a library or running as part of a usage data consolidation service or ILS/ERM identifies itself, identifies the customer whose statistics are being requested, and specifies the desired report to the SUSHI server service running at a data provider. In response, the server provides the report in XML format, along with the requestor and customer information or an appropriate error message. The SUSHI developers envision a system in which the client system is programmed to retrieve reports automatically for all the COUNTER-compliant vendors with which the library does business.

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From the Editor

As I write this column in Washington DC this week in January, I can feel the public’s excitement, renewed energy, and enthusiasm for a new beginning associated with the inauguration of President Obama. That is the sort of energy I would love to tap from the membership of TS-SIS and OBS-SIS—the “yes we can” attitude. With some new writers to fill in the vacant columns, and other SIS members periodically contributing brief articles, perhaps about creative ways they’ve handled everyday technical services issues, TSLL can continue to be a strong source of technical services knowledge.

We’ve made a good start, with Hollie White beginning her stewardship of the Research & Publications column, as well as contributing a conference report about Dublin Core. Coming soon we’ll have Beth Geesey-Holmes (Partridge Snow & Hahn) returning as a columnist, this time for the Private Law Libraries column, Barbara Bohl (University of California,
Berkeley), taking over Serial Titles, and Trina Robinson (George Washington University), assuming responsibility for Acquisitions. They’ve all said, “Yes we can.” However, TSLL still needs your assistance, so if interested in writing Collection Development, Description and Access, or Management columns, which are currently vacant, please contact me.

I would like to see TSLL periodically include brief articles by SIS members reporting on creative ways they’ve handled projects or everyday issues encountered in their work. An excellent example of this type of article was written by Frederick Chen, “From Monograph to Serial: The Recataloging of Two Bureau of National Affairs Series.” (TSLL 33, no. 3 (2008):11-12) I was delighted to be contacted for this issue by Sima Mirkin, recent secretary/treasurer for TS-SIS, and Mike Petit, a past chair of TS-SIS, concerning an article they wrote about the handling of bibliographic description of complex databases using the 970 field. The type of articles I’m thinking about may be scholarly written, but I view them as more likely to be practical information, which would be more relevant to publish in TSLL than posted on either of the SIS websites. In past AALL Annual Meetings some of the most popular sessions, particularly for newer law librarians, have been the “How do I handle …” variety.

Life is a journey, marked by a series of challenges faced and defined by the choices we make. In my journey as a law cataloger over the years I’ve read most of the issues of The Law Cataloger (TSLL’s previous title) and TSLL, especially while assisting Susan Goldner (University of Arkansas at Little Rock) in the compilation of the TSLL 30-Year Index. For me, one of the challenges to indexing my portion of TSLL volumes was that I found myself reading and often re-reading the actual content, rather than concentrating on the indexing. I found TSLL to be a very interesting repository of valuable historical information, much of which remains relevant today. TSLL indexing needs to be brought up-to-date to current volume thirty-four. Indexing can be a challenge, but if you are an SIS member interested in indexing TSLL’s latest volumes, please contact me. Remember …”Yes we can.”

Work on editing my first issue of TSLL was also a challenge, but I’ve had a lot of suggestions and help from Cindy May, Julie Stauffer, Martin Wisneski, Brian Striman, and all of the columnists. I would also like to thank my son Sean Bryant, a recent library school graduate, for his assistance with formatting when I needed it and computer help when my home computer’s power supply died. Thank you to Michael Maben for suggesting I consider editing TSLL. I know I’ve got big shoes to fill, with Brian being an excellent editor, so full of creative ideas for TSLL. Still I chose to say, “Yes, I’ll be editor-in-chief,” and with that, I ask you the readers to contact me with your ideas for future TSLL articles. Thank you.

Virginia Bryant
George Washington University Law Library

Continued from page 1
To me, research is about using traditional methods as well as developing new qualitative and quantitative methods for examining what libraries do every day, understanding where to find grant funding for new projects, and knowing how to write research articles once we have found solid solutions for our library challenges.

I already have a few ideas for columns, but I want this column to address needs in the community, so please feel free to contact me with questions or suggestions for future columns.

**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.

Online web-access to TSLL is available without subscription restrictions.

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<tr>
<td><strong>Deadlines (each vol/year):</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>no. 1 (September) .......... August 21st</td>
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<td>no. 2 (December) ............ November 21st</td>
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