All libraries must work within the confines of a budget. As much as we would love to provide our users with every resource they could ever possibly want, we are limited by the money we have to spend. And because we are unable to buy everything, we have to carefully evaluate which titles we will purchase to determine what combination will get us the most for our money and best meet the needs of our patrons. In the law firm environment, we also face many space restrictions. This means we have to closely review our balance of print and electronic resources, both for cost and size. We are shifting away from large print sets to save space but have to carefully calculate if we can afford the extra costs to access such sets electronically.

One way to make these decisions is to rely on information and statistics about usage. We don’t want to waste money on a product that no one is using. Obviously, some specialized resources get less usage than ones that are relevant to a number of practice groups, so we can’t always make decisions strictly on total numbers. Instead, we need to make sure that the resource is being used by the target group.

At my firm, we have limited statistics available to us about the usage of our print collection. We do not use an electronic circulation system, so we cannot run checkout reports, though we can look at the checkout card if we are interested in the circulation of a particular title. We also rely on anecdotal evidence from our reference staff about the titles they use or are asked to find for attorneys and staff. For a sub-set of our print collection, our most reliable statistic is the routing list. If titles are being routed to multiple attorneys, then we know they are being used.

We are aware that sometimes people no longer need to receive a specific title but may not have time to contact us and ask to be removed. To make sure our routing lists are still accurate, I periodically conduct an audit and email each attorney a list of all of the titles they are signed up to receive. This has proved to be an effective way to prompt our attorneys review and remove themselves from titles they no longer need. These emails also encourage attorneys to review our routing request form and our current offerings and can lead to a number of new signups.
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This column will speak to the new librarians in our field as well as to how we can support them and other members who aren’t able to attend the American Associate of Law Libraries (AALL) Annual Meetings due to financial limitations.

**New And Newer Technical Services Librarians**

You are important. We need you. I’m serious. We tried to identify you in Seattle at the 2013 AALL Annual Meeting with special ribbons. That was great, and I hope it helped. We had a presence at the Conference of Newer Law Librarians (CONELL) for you. That also was great, and I hope it helped—Helped by getting you to embrace getting involved now. The Technical Services Special Interest Section (TS-SIS) has over 650 members. Identifying all you new buddies isn’t easy. Being shy isn’t what we need. We need you to respond to our solicitations to join committees, write an article or two or more for *Technical Services Law Librarian* (TSLL), help with communicating to any of our officers or chairs of our numerous committees. Tell any of us what you want in our Special Interest Section (SIS). This is an official call for you to come forward and participate. Extend your professional landscape to include yourselves in our SIS. Post on the Technical Services My Communities. Email to your chair—me. There’s so much you can give us, and we are waiting. Better yet, contact Jennifer Creevy, our Membership Committee chair. Email her that you’re new and want to be engaged somehow. Her email address is jcreevy@lasc.org.

**Scholarships And Travel Grants**

We carry about $20,000 of membership monies in our AALL “bank account” most of the time. We spend money for things that directly impact the betterment of our SIS. Your SIS. However as chair, it seems to me that we can be a healthy SIS if we carry approximately $15,000 every year. This means we could, with membership approval, apply $5,000 toward scholarships and travel grants. We have some members who are leaders and very active professionally and love TS-SIS but aren’t coming to the annual meetings because they can’t afford it. Imagine being able to offer five more colleagues—new or long-standing members—$1,000 each to help defray the cost of AALL Annual Meeting registration, travel, and housing. A scholarship award also could cause the members’ employing organization’s administration to notice we offer this help. They also may consider helping by giving the employee time off and financial support for attendance. We already provide some help, but I want to push our normal carryover in the SIS treasury to a lower but still sound amount by $5,000 in order to put the membership money to work. There will be those who don’t want to change what we’ve got and argue that we ought to leave well enough alone. I want to be a voice for using several thousand dollars to help a few to be able to come to the Annual Meeting. The logistics would be that we would probably want this not to just be a one-shot deal with my term, but instead to be a new guideline to add to the TS Executive Board each year so that our treasury will not be in the AALL account less than $15,000 dollars. This guideline should be approved by the membership quorum at the San Antonio meeting in 2014. What do you think? Before any next step is made, I felt that I would use this column to present this in “idea form” to get a reaction. It will also tell me who’s reading my columns.

**Nominations Are Needed Now For The Renee D. Chapman Award**

Our Nominations Committee Chair this year is Carol Morgan Collins, Associate Professor and Head of Technical Services at the University of Tennessee. Please send your nomination names to her at ccollin1@utk.edu, and the Committee will send you all the criteria for proper submission of materials for this highest-recognition award in our field. There will be more announcements on the TS My Communities list. For more information, visit the TS-SIS website at [http://www.aallnet.org/sections/ts/awards/Awards](http://www.aallnet.org/sections/ts/awards/Awards).

**The Website**

It is my fault that our website is out of date. It has nothing to do with Martin Wisneski. Hopefully by the time you read this, most of the information that should be current will be current. I apologize to everyone who’s been wondering (and maybe worrying) about the old information on the site.

*From the Chair*

Brian Striman
University of Nebraska
For the Online Bibliographic Services Special Interest Section (OBS-SIS), this time of the year – “Fall” stands for falling into the gears of gathering our new resources for the upcoming American Association of Law Libraries (AALL) Annual Meeting, including members, programs, schedules, ideas, and more. When comes to members, I would like to encourage You, our current members to looks around and try to recruit new members. From the results of last year’s survey, we are unfortunately not getting any younger. But on the other hand, we are losing valuable members due to their well-deserved and earned retirements. Please stay in touch and influence a new generation of librarians to join OBS-SIS.

CONGRATULATIONS, and HATS OFF to YOU RETIREES!!!

As I am writing this message to you, OBS-SIS already sent in a schedule of meetings and proposed two programs to the AALL Annual Meeting Program Committee (AMPC). We will be hearing back from them in December. This year, the Education Committee selected and invited Nicole Engard, whom I had the pleasure of working with for a few years at Jenkins Law Library.

Nicole C. Engard is the Vice President of Education at ByWater Solutions. Her primary role at ByWater Solutions is to educate librarians about open source software with a focus on the Koha ILS. In addition to her daily responsibilities, Nicole keeps the library community up to date on web technologies via her website “What I Learned Today...” (http://www.web2learning.net) and volunteers as a community moderator on opensource.com. In 2007, Nicole was named one of Library Journal’s Movers & Shakers, and in 2009, she was the editor of “Library Mashups,” a book published by Information Today, Inc. In 2010, she authored “Practical Open Source Software for Libraries,” a book published by Chandos Inc., and in 2012, the second edition of “The Accidental Systems Librarian,” which she worked on with Rachel Singer Gordon, was released.

In the program, if approved by AMPC, Nicole will talk about Open Source Software: a Community and a Philosophy of Freedom. She will explore tools libraries can use right now to improve their efficiency, customer service, and product offerings.

The other program is already approved since OBS-SIS took financial responsibility for it. Thank you Chris Tarr, for submitting this proposal and agreeing to coordinate Orbis Cascade Alliance Summit: A Library Management Service Model for the Future. This 75-minute program has been scheduled for Tuesday, July 15th, from 10:15am to 11:30am. This program will be a continuation of the Local Systems Roundtable presented in Seattle this year. The program’s alphanumeric code for San Antonio is F1. Please mark your calendar to attend this program.

The OBS-SIS Board and Committees Chairs are preparing to revise our OBS-SIS Procedures Manual (http://www.aallnet.org/sections/obs/About/manual). It is important that this manual remain current since it guides our work. If you served on the Board within last three years, please help us make sure we have things right.

The OBS-SIS Board wishes you a wonderful holiday season, and we’ll see you in the New Year! Make sure to add to your New Year resolutions active involvement in OBS-SIS.

Katrina Piechnik
Jenkins Law Library
Acquisitions: A Constant?

Trina Robinson
George Washington University Law Library

The role of the Acquisitions Department is continuously evolving. In my 20 years of experience as a professional librarian, I have witnessed many of these changes. They range from subtle to drastic, and they occur with changes in employment, format, staffing, and budgets. The acquisitions division is involved with all material types, vendor relations, and the acquisitions budget, and can also be involved in collection development, license negotiation, and Electronic Resource Management (ERM). It is a division often challenged to refresh and renew.

Even amidst the many changes acquisitions divisions face, there are some constants. The one constant that always involves some challenge is the acquisitions budget. All acquisitions budgets shrink, whether it is from a decrease in the dollar amount or inflation in the cost of purchases. Even the $38.00 journal subscription that is sold to a new publisher and is now $158.00 makes an impact on the budget. Libraries are also one of the first places administrations look to when it is time to tighten belts (for whatever reasons our belts may need tightening; i.e. economy, low enrollment figures, etc.). Shrinking budgets are constant in the acquisitions world.

When I joined the Technical Services Law Librarian (TSLL) Newsletter staff in 2009, I wrote about acquisitions and the shrinking budget for the entire first year. Nearly four years later, it is still a topic of great discussion. All of the same issues are alive and well, but now we are spreading our budgets wider and not always thinner to cover formats we believe our patrons need and want to use. We are trying to reach our students where they are (live) on their tablets, phones, and laptops. These decisions, usually made outside of our divisions, always generate challenges within our division, usually in the form of shifting workflows and responsibilities.

I believe change is a good thing because it keeps us alert and involved, and it challenges us to do rather than to be. So I enjoy the role I am in, accepting the challenges and facing them with renewed excitement. Acquisitions departments are on the blurred lines between Public and Technical Services. We always have been, but even more so in today’s libraries, which are growing and expanding to meet the growing and expanding needs of our patrons.

Classification

Karen Wahl
George Washington University Law Library

In most catalogers’ minds, it seems logical that each piece of material we house should be classified. Left to our own devices, each piece would get its own number, be shelved in order, and in my personal fantasy, be organized from A to Z from the top floor to the bottom floor of the library. We know that, especially in a law library, this does not happen just as we might wish. We bring collections together and shelve them in ways we believe our users would find most helpful, frequently collocating related materials that may fall in different places of the schedule.

For instance, law libraries may collocate state codes or reporters in a particular section of the library, while leaving monographs and smaller serials related to state law to be shelved in the library’s general collection. My library, Jacob Burns Law Library of George Washington University Law School, is one of these institutions—we have one area dedicated to codes and reporters of the various states that is separated from the rest of the collection. These codes and reporters remain unclassified.

When I first came here, I was somewhat shocked to see this, as it is not a system I have encountered before. It seemed odd to me that you would not classify every physical item in the library. How would you ever find it? And yet, now that I see it in action, I can see why that choice was made.

Why do we classify items in general? To collocate items, both physically and in our catalog, and to give another access point through which our patrons can find material. If the items are not being physically collocated however, this could confuse the patron if they are unable to find the materials where they would believe those items to be in the general scheme.
Frequently, it appears that the patrons looking for print codes or reporters in our library are comparing across jurisdictions. For their uses, monographs on state topics would seem more like clutter than providing useful information. It makes sense, for those patrons, to have these large sets near each other, while separating out the more specialized state materials. It then becomes easy at the reference desk to direct the students to these sources—go to this floor and look for your alphabetically arranged state. It becomes easy, that is, for students who are not as familiar with a library.

For those patrons who we have indoctrinated so well into our classification ways, this setup is completely foreign. A few weeks ago, I had a patron push back. “No—not on the map. I need the book’s number. The book’s… call number?” Even after I explained how the materials were arranged, the look on the student’s face remained unchanged. “You’re doing it wrong,” the look seemed to say.

What is the best solution? Classify these materials and incorporate them into the general collection? Leave them as they are? Classify them and leave them out of sequence? We run the risk of potentially confusing the patron who explores the general collection and is unable to find the appropriate code or reporter, but we add an access point in the catalog that is currently lacking. In my mind, I have a hard time not having these items classified. As long as the location field in the catalog contains a floor reference, I believe patrons’ confusion over having materials with close call numbers on different floors would not be as great as the confusion created by not finding a call number at all. My experiences at the reference desk this autumn seem to bear this out. Intimidated by finding in the catalog only a reference to what floor the materials are on, patrons find their way to the reference desk for further direction. Certainly, we would still see many of them if our policy changed, but classifying these materials may lessen the confusion for some.

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**Collection Development**

**ABA Collection Standards Changing**

Theodora Belniak  
SUNY Buffalo

At the risk of repetition, it is of note that the American Bar Association (ABA) is going through a comprehensive review of its standards, including those that define an academic law library.

Related to collections, the proposed substantive changes are as follows:

- Both the core collection and the specialized collections specific to a law school’s educational goals may be made available through reliable access to:
  - Databases to which the library has access and intends to continue to have access to,
  - Free online databases which are likely to continue to be freely available, and
  - Items made available via consortial agreements.
- Access to a local library is not considered reliable access under this standard.

Carry-overs from previous iterations of the standards are:

- Off-site storage does not violate the standard;
- A single-format collection may violate the standard if it does not meet the needs of the library and law school;
- Law libraries still need a written collection development plan;
- Law libraries still need “suitable space and adequate equipment.”

If these proposed changes are accepted, it is difficult to predict the impact on collections in academic law libraries. For many established law libraries, straddling the fence between physical ownership and digital access has become the norm. Duplication of print materials is framed as a “just in case” measure. But if access alone satisfies the standard, will the expense associated with this duplication still be justifiable in the eyes of law school administrators? And what of the space devoted to libraries?

And how will these standards be applied to new law schools? Adequacy and space are measured in relation to the footprint of the collection; if the print collection is minimal, how will that measurement shift? If the needs of the law school are to have online-only access to resources, how will the ABA apply its standards?
What do you think? What will this brave new world look like for your institution? Are you planning changes in anticipation of the new standards?

For the official document: http://www.americanbar.org/content/dam/aba/administrative/legal_education_and_admissions_to_the_bar/council_reports_and_resolutions/20130222_notice_and_comment_standards_chs_6_7.authcheckdam.pdf

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**DESCRIPTION & ENTRY**

Robert Bratton
George Washington University Law Library

Ashley Moye
Charlotte School of Law

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**To Display or Not to Display: That is the Question. Or Is It?**

*Ashley Moye*

I think we can all agree that one of the most confounding changes related to *Resource Description and Access (RDA)* is that affecting those inscrutable 33x fields. We’ve all asked the questions, ranging from “What are they?” and “Why are they there?” to “What do we do with them?” and “So what happens to these GMDs?”

While there are concrete answers to the early rounds of questions like what and why, many libraries are still struggling with reconciling answers to the latter questions. Opinions may be scattered, but as implementation becomes a distant memory and day-to-day reality ensues, librarians are initiating workflows and solutions that balance the needs of public services and technical services staff as well as the needs of the all important end-users.

First, let’s review a little background. Originally, bibliographic records used the General Material Description (GMD) to distinguish between differing types of records, including microform, motion pictures, sound recordings, and music. One field, however, proved itself a problem child as time progressed. Originally called “computer file”, the GMD for “electronic resource” served as a catch all for data, programs that process data for use, and combinations of data and programs, accessed either locally or remotely. But as times changed and the information superhighway grew longer, wider, and more circuitous, this simple description of “electronic resource” no longer proved useful in clearly and concisely identifying resource types for the patron. In this same manner, “motion picture” and “videorecording” also proved to be increasingly limiting as descriptors.

Enter *RDA* and those inevitably messy 33x fields. The purpose of replacing the single GMD with three fields—content type, media type and carrier type—is an attempt to parse out the pieces that had previously been combined into one GMD, thus providing additional clarity to the description of resources. Current *RDA* records can distinguish between subtle differences in the mass of records originally clumped together under a single term, with each field serving a specific purpose in breaking down the now diverse elements of resources.

While these 33x fields will inevitably replace the GMD, in the meantime, librarians are left bridging the gap—both in workflows as well as in their integrated library systems. All of us face the same decisions, with a few common questions emerging. Do you display your 33x fields? How do you reconcile your AACR2 records still featuring the GMD with your new *RDA* records?

Yes, eventually 33x fields will need to be added to all non-*RDA* records. The Program for Cooperative Cataloging (PCC) Guidelines on Hybrid Bibliographic Records recommend a period of three years, where catalogers editing non-*RDA* records are asked to leave GMDs present in records through March of 2016. This allows vendors ample time to implement changes to their discovery systems that will actually make good use of the 33x fields. After that time, GMDs dissolve in to dust. In the meantime, how will your library choose to handle this conundrum?

The first challenge is tackling inconsistent displays in the catalog. Weighing your library’s cataloging resources and staff workloads, you must decide whether to let records live side by side in harmony or to attempt to hybridize your records—either by inserting *RDA* 33x fields in to AACR2 records or inserting GMDs into *RDA* records. Unfortunately, this is a time-intensive endeavor, and many libraries simply do not have an excess of valuable, yet ever-diminishing staff resources to make these consistency changes feasible.
Most libraries are in agreement that the GMD is overwhelmingly seen as a visible and understandable field, allowing quick and easy displays to internal and external users when searching for the desired format of particular records. Patrons want and need access to this specific format information in the brief displays in the catalog, and as many ILSs still cannot transpose the $33x$ fields into something as visible and understandable, it seems as though GMDs are here to stay – for a limited time only, of course. In some instances, libraries are consciously retaining the GMDs in older records for the sole purpose of auto generating $33x$ fields for these records in the future; after the $33x$ fields have been inserted, the GMDs will be deleted. If choosing to retain your own GMDs, consult with your vendors; they may offer the option of inserting these fields in to their RDA records prior to delivery, saving valuable technical services staff time for other purposes.

Librarians also generally agree that the $33x$ fields are overwhelmingly considered incomprehensible to both patrons and staff, as these fields were originally designed to be read by computers, not by living, breathing human beings. As a result, most libraries find displaying values in records that are not interpretable by end-users a bit senseless. RDA is focused on the ease for the user, and as a result has removed the use of standard abbreviations, even those as basic as p. and ill., which makes it almost counter-intuitive that libraries are wrestling with whether to display $33x$ fields in a traditional manner.

This doesn’t mean libraries aren’t finding ways of using these fields though. The $337$, or media type field, appears to be suppressed across the board, as it rarely provides new information to patrons. And often, the terms used can be misleading. Content and carrier type seem to be clearer fields, so the combination of the two can be used to create a description that users can understand. Therefore, libraries may choose to map [338:336] to display where the 245$h currently displays in both their brief and full displays. In these cases, they may choose to suppress the specific [volume:text] combination, as it is neither useful or necessary; libraries may also find various content types too verbose or obscure, choosing more appropriate terms to display instead.

Format labels and generated icons based on fixed fields and coding seem to assist in bridging the gap—allowing some libraries to remove themselves from these issues all together by taking away the need for either the GMD or the $33x$ fields being displayed. Facets and icons overcome the fact that GMDs are general and lack specificity. However, these fixed field icons may not capture the content and media aspects of complex and hybrid records effectively. Additionally, while icons may be visible to the public, staff members may not be able to view the icons, depending on your ILS.

Options abound at this point, and libraries will continue to respond in creative ways, learning from each other and making decisions based on their own internal and external user needs. The important thing to note is the following: Despite the ways your library chooses to reconcile these fields, do not – and I repeat – DO NOT remove this new RDA data from your records. No one has any idea what systems of the future will offer in terms of capabilities, and this field promises to be an amazing data gold mine in the future.

Go BIBCO!

Robert Bratton

During the summer of 2013, the catalogers at the George Washington University Law Library debated whether to join the Program for Cooperative Cataloging’s BIBCO program. I raised the issue because I felt we were already creating many records that were good enough to bear the PCC moniker, so why not get the recognition for it? Two of my colleagues were also interested in participating. After getting our boss’s permission and approval from our Library Director, we were off!

What is BIBCO? The purpose of the program as stated on their website is “to increase the timely availability of high-quality catalog records for monographs. The program seeks growth and diversity among libraries that contribute to the pool of BIBCO records.” BIBCO members make a commitment to contribute a minimum of 100 bibliographic records per year and to stay current with all rule and policy changes. It is not required to produce 100 original records; you may upgrade existing records to BIBCO. To qualify to join the program, the institution must already by an independent NACO participant and have Regular Enhance status with OCLC. We met those two requirements, so the next step was to find out about the process.

I contacted Jessalyn Zoom, the Acting Coordinator of the BIBCO Program. She laid out the steps to becoming a BIBCO library: 1) request National Enhance authorizations from OCLC, 2) read the BIBCO Participant’s Manual (draft), the PCC RDA BIBCO Standard Record (BSR) Metadata Application Profile, and go over LC’s RDA training materials, 3) produce PCC bibliographic records to be reviewed by a reviewer, and 4) after a period of review, the reviewer will either grant or deny independent status. We had already gone through LC’s RDA training modules, so we felt we were ready to begin this process.

The authorization numbers from OCLC came surprisingly quickly. We slogged through the documentation and then met and went over our questions. Meanwhile, Jessalyn assigned us to a reviewer: the indefatigable George Prager of New
York University Law School Library. We agreed to a system of internal review of our records before I submitted them for George to review. This process generated a great deal of very interesting discussion on cataloging matters big and small, and it made us go back and carefully read the different documentation. After about a month, George gave his blessing and said we were ready to go forth as independent contributors of BIBCO records. We are maintaining our internal review of records we authenticate as BIBCO records, and so far, we are averaging 22 per month. Has there been a noticeable negative impact on our production statistics? While it is too soon to say for sure, our statistics for the first two months of producing BIBCO records look excellent.

One theme was constant during our review: everyone participating in the PCC is grappling with the increased ambiguity and uncertainty in the world of cataloging standards. We had grown accustomed to a cataloging/metadata environment that had (mostly) definitive yes-or-no rules. Even if you disagreed with them, there was usually a definitive answer: do it THIS way. RDA has brought more flexibility (and sometimes confusion), and all participants in the PCC are working toward establishing best practices. But it remains very much a work in progress. On one hand, it seemed unwise to join BIBCO during this chaotic time, but on the other, it seemed fine to jump in and try to work with others to reach those best practices.

Why join BIBCO? More reading, more hoops to jump through, and sometimes more work—so why do it? The answer will be different for every institution, but for us, it felt like the right time to take this step. We are fortunate that we have adequate staffing and the support from our bosses to participate in cooperative cataloging programs. We also felt that some of our records were already good enough to be BIBCO records, so why not designate them as such? One hundred records per year is certainly not an onerous requirement; producing nine BIBCO records per month would exceed that. One of the most important reasons we joined was to hopefully become part of the conversation. The PCC programs are not monolithic entities, they are comprised of people—librarians just like us. We can’t complain about policies we don’t like if we are unwilling to collaborate with others to work on these policies. There is no great “They” sorting out the many questions raised by RDA. Like all aspects of cooperative cataloging, we have to sort them out ourselves.

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**Streaming Access versus Streaming Holdings**

Dan Blackaby
Cornell University Law School

Working in an academic setting, you sometimes have faculty ask for, and even expect things from the library that aren’t always clearly in the library’s domain. Most academic settings, and even some in corporate libraries, have the reserve system. Faculty members put things on reserve for their student’s use. This is a well-worn concept. In the past, when it came to videos, they would put VHS copies and later DVDs. Now that we’re in the realm of streaming media, we are asked somehow to put these videos up on the web for their students to use.

This raises a few questions, including the following:

- How much does this cost? If the videos are library holdings, how much does it cost to purchase the streaming rights to a video, even for limited use within a limited population? Is this a one-time fee or an access fee subscription? Would it be cheaper to outsource it?
- Is this still the library’s job? The reserves, especially if the original video is the faculty member’s personal copy, may no longer be under the library’s control, sitting on a server perhaps somewhere in an Information Technology (IT) department. So while the library may have an interest in facilitating access, at what point does it become too attenuated from the process to have any reasonable modicum of control?
- How many formats can you stream in? Does it work for a mobile device or a tablet? Does it work equally well within browsers?

In addressing cost, there first needs to be an agreement to forego the novelty factor as a reason for doing anything. Doing something just “because you can” often gets in the way of most effectively serving the patrons. While such exercises may broaden the skills of your workforce and allow for options later, if you’re working on a “just in time” rather than “just in case” model, it makes little sense to build a costly streaming infrastructure or even subscribe to an academic streaming service if the items being streamed are widely and publicly available. We ask students to buy costly textbooks often totaling in the high hundreds of dollars, but we won’t ask them to spend $30 on a DVD or $9.95 for a monthly subscription to
Netflix, which as of 2013 can even be shared among a limited number of people? If you do want to hold the item, does the cost involved with streaming warrant making it available that way when there are cheaper options available?

Is there one streaming system that works? If you’re associating this with a class, then you’re likely using a class management system like Blackboard, which has options like Kaltura or PanOpto. Your system choice (and decision to stream at all) really hinges on what type of content you’re trying to stream.

There are a number of commercial services in addition to Netflix and Amazon, and some are geared toward the library market. Hoopla (https://www.hoopladigital.com/home) has been getting a lot of press lately, including an article in the Los Angeles Times (http://www.latimes.com/entertainment/envelope/cotown/la-et-ct-hoopla-nbc-universal-mgm-20131105,0,3350046.story.axzz2CBSW2mB). It has been characterized as “OverDrive for movies”.

A platform that appears to have caught quite a bit of traction among academic libraries is Swank (http://digitalcampus.swankmp.com), which is more controlled than either Hoopla or the more popular commercial services. This control brings with it the associated costs, as the items within Swank are usually licensed by the university itself, and treated as library holdings.

So if you decide to stream videos and they’re not library holdings, what does the library have to do with it? This is a policy question – if the job of the library is to provide access to information, then yes, from a guidance point of view, the library can and perhaps should be involved. If the library is seen, however, as a curator of content, then often that content is not in the direct control of the library. Often, the video to be streamed may not be stored on library servers, even when not using the commercial services, and the control of the content falls under class management or the academic services IT department.

Often, that determination is made by the format of the content. In many cases, direct licensing of a film is done in concert with the purchase of a physical item, such as a DVD. With the advent of iTunes and Amazon’s Instant Video services, often there is no physical item, but rather a file that can only be streamed or played usually in a proprietary delivery mechanism, such as iTunes. “Ownership” in that case is and has been a debatable point of contention. iTunes and Amazon in particular make the transferability of these files limited, and the legality of having a ‘group account’ on either service is somewhat dubious. They do, however, make the use of mobile devices and tablets an assumed capability.

Even when the files can be discretely parsed, such as when legally “ripped” from a DVD, there remains the procedural question of how it’s to be stored, where, and under whose control. In the big picture, how often is “ripping” a DVD for the file going to be done? And is this a wise investment of time and resources?

I believe the answer comes back to the “just in time” versus “just in case” debate and the nature of the content. I argue that mainstream popular content is likely more easily and less expensively available on the larger commercial services such as NetFlix, and therefore the cost associated with being able to stream them yourself is prohibitive when compared with the relative ease of access using those services. It is when the material is not widely available and indeed unique that streaming it yourself is viable. Whether it be films based in your organization’s area of interest or pertaining to the organization itself, such as oral histories or instructional videos, it is in the cases where the delivery is likely to be more specialized and private that the cost benefit analysis says to stream it yourself. If that decision is chosen, often this can be done without engaging a service as most basic media player service such as RealPlayer or QuickTime can handle the sort of files that would be being used. What’s more important in those cases is how you choose to limit usage. Usually this is done by hiding the links behind proxy servers, IP recognition, or password protection.

Streaming is not only here to stay, it is quickly becoming expected. Even the phrase “on demand” is becoming somewhat rare, as that simply becomes the standard.
The Holiday Gifting Minefield

Mary (The Grinch) Lippold
South Texas College of Law Library

It’s that time of year again, and it brings up another whole bag of office etiquette issues. I’m talking about the holiday office gift giving. Do people exchange gifts at your office? Do you pull names or do the “Secret Santa” thing? Do supervisors give gifts to their staff? Do you give your boss a gift?

While gift exchanges can be a lovely way to show appreciation and share the holiday spirit, they come with a boat load of pitfalls. Below are a few tips to keep in mind. After all, this is supposed to be fun, not add more stress.

1. Double check your institution’s gift giving policies. If you’re lucky, they don’t allow it, and you can quit reading this article now and return to planning the office Holiday Lunch which brings its own etiquette issues and will be next year’s December column topic.

2. If you are not sure, ask trusted colleagues in your office about office “traditions.” I would ask more than one person, especially if you are very new. People’s perceptions can be very different.

3. Don’t get a gift for everyone in the office for the sake of making a statement or because you think you should. (Obviously if you are the boss and giving gifts, then you better include everyone.) Gifts should show your appreciation and thanks to someone who has been particularly helpful in the past year. Don’t forget those who saved you from making a fool of yourself. Those folks deserve something special, especially if they had to save your bacon more than once.

4. If you are giving gifts to people who work for you, try to make thoughtful choices and not automatically give everyone the same gift. Make sure they are about equal in value, there is no appearance of favoritism, and not too personal, in which case you might want to go back to giving everyone pretty much the same gift.

5. Generally, it is better not to give your boss or supervisor a gift unless it’s something small that you are giving everyone, like baked goods or something else you made or grew yourself. Nobody likes a suck up. And everyone pitching in to get something for the boss doesn’t work either. People will feel they have to participate because it’s for the person who determines their salary. That’s more like extortion than a gift.

6. If your office does a “Secret Santa,” make it an “opt in” rather than an “opt out” event. Post a signup sheet for everyone who is interested, and don’t assume or pressure anyone to participate. Be sensitive to those who just want the entire month to be over as quickly as possible. It is okay if holidays are not your thing.

7. Keep budgets small….like really small….like less than $5 or $10….unless you are the boss and giving everyone a gift, then knock yourself out.

8. No gag gifts. There will always be someone who doesn’t get it or will be offended. Better to go for tasteful over tacky.

If your office has never done the gift giving thing, do not try to institute a Secret Santa or gift exchange. Trust me, you will regret it, and once you start, it will cause all kinds of stress. I know it’s going to be hard to resist for those who think this is the most wonderful time of the year, and you’ll probably do it anyway. Just let me know when it’s time to say “I told you so!”
Our OCLC liaison Glen Patton has shared the following news items since July 2013.

**OCLC Update: Changes to authorities**

As part of the Connexion install on September 23, 2013, changes have been made to resolve changes introduced to authorities browsing as part of a previous install. These changes include the resolution of the separate entries for heading that contain different and or no terminal punctuation.

**Browsing**

Currently, headings containing terminal or no punctuation appear as separate entries.

Example 1a (Current)
Shakespeare, William, ǂd 1564-1616

Following the install, the presence or absence of terminal punctuation are now once again collapsed into a single entry:

Example 1b (New)
Shakespeare, William, ǂd 1564-1616

Changes made to support the new indexing functionality have had an impact on the placement of the highlighted heading if an exact match for the search term is not found. In some cases, the highlighted text will no longer be in the middle of the list. For example, if you were to browse the heading “& violine” in the genre index currently, if no match is found, the system automatically highlights the center of the displayed list:

Example 2a (Current)
Actualities (Motion pictures)

Following the install, the highlighted entry is 3-D films, as the heading & violine would file at the top of the index.

Example 2b (New)
3-D films

**Controlling**

Changes have been made to controlling to handle incorrect ordering of non-controllable subfields changes made involving $3 and $i. There are situations that could produce unexpected results involving punctuation between the $3 and $i respectively, if the subfields were to be re-ordered. Please keep in mind that neither $3 or $i are controllable subfields, and the controlling software makes no attempt to modify punctuation associated with uncontrolled subdivisions.

In situations of this type, please send information of these types to support@oclc.org so that staff can investigate the problem and determine the appropriate action.

Please contact OCLC-Support at support@oclc.org with any questions or concerns related to this announcement.

**OCLC adds new features to WorldShare ILL and extends access to WorldCat Resource Sharing through May 2014**

New features now available in OCLC WorldShare® Interlibrary Loan include printing and workflow options completely new to WorldShare ILL. Several of the new features are listed below, and additional details about these enhancements are available in the September 2013 WorldShare ILL Release Notes (http://www.oclc.org/content/dam/support/release-notes/worldshare-interlibrary-loan/Releases/wsill_release_notes_2013-09.pdf).
Printing enhancements include:
- Print a request directly from within the request, eliminating the need to print from the request queue.
- Redesigned 1-per-page and 2-per-page printouts.
- A summary of WorldShare ILL printing enhancements is available at on the OCLC website at http://oclc.org/illprint.

Workflow enhancements include:
- New display results of request searches. Search results are now divided into separate borrower and lender result sets.
- One-step transfer of bibliographic data and holdings into new requests from a “View Holdings” display.
- Lenders can now edit request details after responding yes to the request.

Learn More About The Latest New Features
A September 26, 2013 WorldShare ILL webinar provided a detailed overview of these enhancements. A recording of this webinar is available at http://oclc.org/events/2013/WorldShareILLchatandupdate92613.en.html.

New Schedule For Your Transition To Worldshare Interlibrary Loan
In response to requests from many members of the OCLC resource sharing community, we have extended access to WorldCat Resource Sharing through May 19, 2014. The new transition schedule provides additional time for ILL staffs to fully learn the new WorldShare ILL service while retaining access to WorldCat Resource Sharing.

New WorldShare ILL transition dates are:
- End of placing new requests in WorldCat Resource Sharing: April 14, 2014
- End of access to WorldCat Resource Sharing: May 19, 2014

Thank you to those of you who have completed your transitions from worldcat resource sharing to worldshare ill. You have provided leadership for others whose transitions are in process. We invite you to share your WorldShare ILL experiences with others through an upcoming webinar or a written summary we can share on the OCLC website. Please let us know of your interest in helping your ILL colleagues by sending an email to ILLstory@oclc.org.

OCLC will continue to add new features to the service. The most recent scheduled release was in November 2013. There are no planned releases of new functionality between November 2013 and February 2014, which will give you an opportunity to become more familiar with WorldShare ILL during a three-month period when the service remains essentially unchanged.

WorldShare ILL training
Comprehensive WorldShare ILL training and documentation resources are available from the OCLC Support and Training website (http://www.oclc.org/support/services/worldshare-ill.en.html). Training resources include:
- Self-paced materials (http://www.oclc.org/support/training/portfolios/resource-sharing/worldshare-ill/learning-paths/self-directed.en.html) that let you learn at your own pace and on your own schedule.
- Recordings of instructor-lead classes (http://www.oclc.org/support/training/portfolios/resource-sharing/worldshare-ill/learning-paths/easy-schedule.en.html) that include all the information in a live class - available for you to review at your own pace.
- As always, please contact OCLC Customer Support at support@oclc.org or OCLC Support in your region for assistance (http://www.oclc.org/support/contact-support.en.html).

OCLC is enriching WorldCat records with FAST headings
OCLC is systematically adding FAST headings to selected WorldCat records. This message provides a brief description of the FAST enrichment activity.

What is FAST?
FAST (Faceted Application of Subject Terminology) is a fully enumerative faceted subject heading schema derived from the Library of Congress Subject Headings (LCSH), a widely-used subject-access vocabulary published and maintained by the Library of Congress. The development of FAST has been a collaboration of OCLC and the Library of Congress with advice from members of the ALCTS/SAC/Subcommittee on FAST.

Enriching WorldCat records with FAST headings
In September 2013, OCLC began systematically adding FAST headings to WorldCat bibliographic records. The records affected will already have LCSH assigned, and the routines will be applied only to records that are attributed as being English-language-of-cataloging.
FAST-enriched WorldCat records will include “OCLCF” in the MARC 040 subfield “d” (ǂd), have one or—more likely—several 6xx fields with a second indicator of “7” and subfield “2” (ǂ2) that contains the string, “fast.” Additionally, subfield “zero” (ǂ0) will be present in the machine-process-added FAST headings—this provides the FAST authority record number.

The processes performing this FAST enrichment work in WorldCat will run as background processes and should not adversely impact system performance. OCLC will initially prioritize the enriching records originally created by the Library of Congress and then will apply the FAST enrichment process to records from other sources. For the initial run, records will be excluded from FAST enrichment until at least six months from date of entry have elapsed.

Why is OCLC systematically adding FAST to WorldCat Records?
OCLC Research and other agencies have been experimenting with using FAST for a variety of purposes and in a range of application for many years. FAST has repeatedly proven itself to be remarkably effective for clustering, indexing, analysis, and navigation of WorldCat data.

The FAST headings have been drawn from a non-production, enriched copy of WorldCat maintained by OCLC Research. As such, these FAST enrichments have not been easily available to many OCLC applications or to interested third parties. This enrichment of WorldCat will permit more applications and agencies to take advantage of FAST.

Going forward, OCLC has plans to make FAST available in its cataloging tools. In particular, a FAST assignment feature will be released in early 2014 in an updated version of OCLC WorldShare Metadata Record Manager, which is currently available to WMS libraries and will be available to all cataloging subscribers in the future.

More information:

Please contact OCLC-Support at support@oclc.org with any questions or concerns related to this announcement.

Connexion client 2.50 is now available
This information is for users of the Windows-based Connexion client interface; it does not impact users of the Web-based Connexion browser.

Connexion client version 2.50 is now available for download (http://psw.oclc.org/software.htm) from the Software download area of Product Services Web (logging required). You will be required to upgrade to version 2.50 by March 31, 2014. An upgrade warning message will begin appearing when you start version 2.40 beginning in early February 2014. View the upgrade instructions at http://www.oclc.org/content/dam/support/connexion/documentation/client/gettingstarted/gettingstarted.pdf#page=32 before installing version 2.50.

To install the client on Windows XP, an account with administrative rights is required. To help prevent installation problems with Windows Vista, 7 and 8, right-click the file you downloaded and click Run as Administrator.

Version 2.50 includes the following enhancements which will be detailed in a forthcoming recording:

- Armenian, Ethiopic and Syriac scripts are now supported.
- New RDA authority workforms for Family and Name Title have been implemented.
- New authority indexes Cataloging Source, Descriptive Conventions, Keyword, and Notes available for searching via the Keyword/Numeric Search drop down lists; these were previously only available via command line searching.
- GenerateAuthorityRecord macro updated to fully recognize the 264 field.
- GenerateERecord macro updated to better handle Unicode characters.
- Help, Useful Web Links list updated to link to OCLC-MARC Records documentation.

This information about Connexion client and a link to download the software is available on the Connexion client enhancements Web page at http://www.oclc.org/connexion/interface/client/recent.en.html. If you need assistance installing the Connexion client, please contact support@oclc.org.

RDA Implementation Experiences Webinar
On October 16th, OCLC sponsored a webinar on RDA implementation experiences. During the session, Erin Stalberg, Director of Discovery and Access Services at Mount Holyoke College and Margaret Maurer, Head, Metadata and Cataloging at Kent State University talked about their experiences with implementing RDA. A recording is now available. To view the
recording of this webinar, please visit: https://oclc.webex.com/oclc/lsr.php?AT=ph&SP=EC&rID=65159697&rKey=119a75829f07950.

Note that this recording is in the Universal Communications Format (UCF) rich media file format. Please refer to https://oclc.webex.com/oclc/systemdiagnosis.php for a list of players that support viewing rich media files using UCF. To view the presentation slides, please visit: http://www5.oclc.org/downloads/webinars/RDAimplementationexperiences101613.pdf.

The Metadata [R]evolution: Transformative Opportunities

Will the future of metadata be an evolution, revolution, or both? From serving as a descriptor of items and collections to now including people and places, the progression and repurposing of metadata is an exciting frontier, full of opportunities and challenges. The September 18, 2013 program at Johns Hopkins University (also streamed live) explored the powerful potential of metadata from a variety of insightful perspectives:

- Paul Albert, Assistant Director of Research and Digital Services, Weill Cornell Medical College
- Anita de Waard, Vice President of Research Data Collaborations, Elsevier
- James G. Neal, Vice President for Information Services and University Librarian, Columbia University
- Barbara Preece, Director, Loyola/Notre Dame Library
- Bob Schulz, Senior Product Manager, OCLC
- Jackie Shieh, Coordinator, Resource Description, George Washington University Libraries
- Winston Tabb, Dean of University Libraries and Museums, Johns Hopkins University

The conference program, archived video presentations, and slides are available at https://www.oclc.org/events/2013/CollectiveInsightSeries/CollectiveInsight_JohnsHopkins_130918.en.html.

OCLC General Council Update on Credits
In April 2013, the OCLC General Council approved a resolution (http://www.oclc.org/content/dam/oclc/councils/global/global-advisory-group-resolution.pdf) based on Final Report Global Advisory Group on Credits and Incentives (http://www.oclc.org/content/dam/oclc/councils/global/global-advisory-group-on-credits-and-incentives.pdf) to phase out cataloging/ILL credits beginning in July 2014. A report on plans for this phase out was presented at the November 2013 Global Council meeting. In general, beginning July 2014, the average credit activity for the previous two years will become the “flat-rate credit” applied against future subscription. Each OCLC member library will be considered individually. Member libraries should expect to receive institution specific information starting in February 2014. Questions/comments can be addressed to IncentiveProgramInput@OCLC.org.

Detailed official information should become available via a dedicated web page in the near future.

OCLC Quality Control Tips
The following tips are adapted from lists compiled by OCLC’s Luanne Goodson.

Searching WorldCat Indexes
Searching WorldCat Indexes (http://www.oclc.org/support/services/worldcat/documentation/searching/searchworldcatindexes.en.html) provides comprehensive information about indexes used to retrieve records from WorldCat.

This guide shows MARC fields and subfields indexed for each WorldCat index; gives examples; and provides information about how each index works to help construct searches that retrieve the records you need. OCLC services, including cataloging, reference, and resource sharing use the same search indexes. Interfaces for searching WorldCat include:

- OCLC Connexion® client and browser (cataloging)
- OCLC CatExpress® in Connexion browser (copy cataloging)
- OCLC FirstSearch® (reference)
- OCLC WorldShare™ (Acquisitions, Circulation, Interlibrary Loan, Metadata)
- OCLC WorldCat Resource Sharing (interlibrary loan)

This guide is intended for library staff that use the OCLC interfaces listed above to search WorldCat, as opposed to end users searching public access interfaces to WorldCat.

Please note: Connexion Client and FirstSearch support the following non-Latin/non-roman scripts: Arabic, Armenian,
Bengali, Chinese, Cyrillic, Devanagari, Ethiopic, Greek, Hebrew, Japanese, Korean, Syriac, Tamil, and Thai. Many WorldCat indexes support both Latin script and non-Latin script search terms. In WorldCat index descriptions (https://www.oclc.org/support/services/worldcat/documentation/searching/searchworldcatindexes.en.html), each description notes whether that index supports non-Latin script search terms.

Levels of searching and examples in this guide
To give flexibility in search strategy and control over the results, OCLC search interfaces provide various levels of searching, from simplified to complex.

The most complex search level requires knowledge of full search syntax—all parts of a search in correct order and format, including index labels and punctuation, search terms, Boolean operators, and qualifiers.

Examples of complex search levels: An “expert” search in FirstSearch or a “command line” search in Connexion.

Interfaces also provide less complex levels of searching where you use text boxes and drop-down lists to enter or select the parts of the search. The interface automatically formulates the correct search syntax when you send the search to the OCLC system.

Examples of less complex search levels: A “basic” search in FirstSearch/Resource Sharing or CatExpress or a “guided” search in Connexion.

Note: Not all indexes are listed in drop-down lists in searching interfaces. If an index is not a selection in a drop-down list:

In Connexion, you must enter a full syntax “command line” search that includes the index label, punctuation, and search term for the index.

In FirstSearch and WorldCat Resource Sharing, you can enter a search term preceded by the index label and punctuation in any search box; the index you type overrides the index selected in the drop-down list adjacent to the search box.

Examples of searches in this guide are given in full search syntax (most complex format). From full syntax examples, you can extrapolate the parts of a search you would enter or select in boxes and lists to construct a basic or guided form of the search.

Caution: Although constructed as “real” WorldCat searches that produce actual results, the examples in this guide can only illustrate the principles of searching. Over time, results of running a search example may change. Because of the dynamic nature of WorldCat, search examples used here may no longer retrieve records or may retrieve too many records.

For assistance on Searching WorldCat, please call or email Support@oclc.org.

Unexpected search results using Connexion Client
Connexion Client users sometimes encounter search results they do not expect, and usually, it is due to a search option being checked (or not) that went unnoticed.

So, here is a rudimentary overview of the Search WorldCat pop-up window in the Client version 2.4 of Connexion. For more detailed information please see Help --> Client Help within Connexion or Connexion client documentation here: http://www.oclc.org/support/services/connexion/documentation/client.en.html.

Connexion Client – searching issues to always be aware of:
1. You can use more than one session of Connexion Client at a time, this can be especially helpful if you use more than one authorization number (e.g. Enhance Regular and NACO Regular). Regardless, the settings for the last session that you close will be the settings that open the next time.

2. If you share an authorization number and the person you share it with changes the search settings, and they close their session after you – their settings will be the ones that come up the next time Connexion Client is accessed. This is one of many reasons why OCLC encourages libraries to give each person their own authorization number. You may obtain as many authorizations numbers as you need, and they are free. Just visit the OCLC Online Service Center at http://www.oclc.org/servicecenter.en.html for more information.

Many options are available – and if you check the box next to Retain Search, they will remain in play the next time you open the Search WorldCat window.
• Command Line Search: convenient not just for numbers, but for any search you do regularly. Try combining searches in the command line when you know the search label (e.g. kw:cataloging and dx:rda and yr:2013 and cs=dlc)

• Keyword/Numeric Search
  • Search for: pull down menus are helpful; remember you can click the plus button (e.g. beside the Language: box above) to see more options or the minus button (e.g. across from Material Type above) to see fewer options. Or click the button, which looks like a bulleted list and a pencil, before that to set your own list of indexes.
  • Don’t forget the Boolean operators can be changed as well - combine search keys using AND (finds records that contain all terms anywhere in the record)
  • NOT – use to narrow results (excludes the term that follows not)
  • OR – use for broader results (Finds records containing any or all terms)

• Language (la:) - this search option refers to the language of the item for which you are searching (e.g. as found in the OCLC Fixed Field (008/35-37)), http://oclc.org/support/services/worldcat/documentation/searching/searchworldcatindexes.en.html#language

• Format (mt:) - this refers to the Type of material you wish to find, as you are used to seeing in the box at the top of a record when you choose View --> OCLC Fixed Field, http://oclc.org/support/services/worldcat/documentation/searching/searchworldcatindexes.en.html#search_worldcat_materialtypes.fm

• Internet (mt:) - to limit searches either to include or exclude internet resources

• Source (cs=) - refers to the cataloging source (to limit a search to records cataloged by the Library of Congress use dl:y)

• Microform (mf:) - limit searches to include or exclude records for microform

• Years (yr:) - in this box type a year of a range of years

• Material Type - this list includes codes which can be used to search by either format and/or document type. See Searching WorldCat Indexes for a more detailed explanation

• Apply Language of Cataloging Limiter (ll:) - this searches only on subfield $b of Field 040. Your setting remains in effect for all WorldCat searches from session to session unless you change it. This setting applies whether you enter searches in:
  • Command Line Search box
  • Keyword/Numeric Search area
  • Quick search box on the toolbar

• Search Results: Display using GLIMIR clustering see https://www.oclc.org/content/dam/support/connexion/documentation/client/cataloging/searchworldcat/searchworldcat.pdf beginning on p. 32 of 95 for help with this selection.

Then there is the Settings button. This opens an additional window in which you can opt to view – Institution Records; Scipio.

You might find it worthwhile to review the Searching WorldCat Indexes document available at http://oclc.org/support/services/worldcat/documentation/searching/searchworldcatindexes.en.html.

Finally, please consider the many training opportunities available on the OCLC Support & Training website (http://www.oclc.org/support/home.en.html). Some of you may have attended the free, online “Connexion Client Module 02- Basic Bibliographic Searching” on Dec. 4, 2013 (https://www.oclc.org/support/training/portfolios/cataloging-and-metadata/connexion-client/courses/basic-searching.en.html). The handout is available at https://www.oclc.org/content/dam/training/Connexion_Client/Connexion_Client_Module2/Connexion%20client%20module%2002%20handouts.pdf.

Improved searching skills lead to faster and more accurate cataloging, so it is worth the time to explore all the searching options available.

Please direct questions or concerns to AskQC@oclc.org

Updating the OBS OCLC Committee List and Webpage

The Online Bibliographic Services Special Interest Section (OBS) OCLC Committee webpage and the OBS OCLC Committee list on the webpage are still being updated, so there is still time to add your name to the committee list or to suggest links or other information you would find useful. Please contact me at jkm95@cornell.edu to add your name or make any suggestions.
The OBS OCLC Committee is open to any OBS member who has an interest in OCLC and its products or services. There is no formal committee work required of members, but it is useful to create and maintain a community of OBS members who share similar interests and concerns.

As always, please direct any questions or concerns about OCLC and its products and services to me, and I will work with Glenn Patton at OCLC to find answers or obtain clarification.

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**Year-End Preservation Projects to Consider**

1. Dedicate some time to cleaning your storage space.
2. Locate and remove all harsh chemical cleaners from your library.
3. Scan your collection for slightly leaning books, and take corrective action now.
4. Take inventory of your emergency stockpile, and replenish accordingly.
5. Do a stack walk-through and help large books (which may be distressed), by replacing small bookends with large ones.

**Year-End Preservation Ideas to Consider**

1. Create a staff Wiki page for preservation.
2. Compile a list of common preservation questions with answers and share with other units.
3. Consider rotating preservation duties the same way you may rotate ILL, Westlaw, party planning, and other duties.
4. Set aside one day per semester for preservation activities library-wide, and enjoy the results.
5. Set aside some petty funds to purchase rainy day bags for patrons.

**Year-End Questions & Answers**

Q: Is it okay to sweep our carpet in between vacuuming?
A: If you can, please wait for the vacuuming; sweeping tends to scatter dust and dirt, which usually ends up settling on our shelves and in the crevices of our books.

Q: Can we use magnetic wiping cloth to clean both metal and wood shelving?
A: Yes

Q: What is the fastest way to dust books?
A: Unfortunately, there is no fast way. Dusting books is slow and tedious work (but it is very rewarding). Books should be picked up one at time, held nice and tight, then gently dusted (dust the top of the pages by dusting away from the spine toward the fore edge).

Q: How do I remove dirt from a microfilm reel?
A: You can unwind the reel and wash it slowly in cool, clear water. Then, loop the reel around a clothesline or the like until it dries.

Q: Can ink be restored?
A: No, once ink has faded or been washed away, it’s gone.

Q: How often should we update our disaster plan?
A: Every six months, your plan should be updated to include the following changes: contact numbers, staff, floor maps, and other emergency information.

Q: What is foxing?
A: Foxing are brown stains and spots found on books. These spots are the result of fungal activity. This particular stain is usually found in 18th century and/or 19th century machine-made paper in which there are high concentrations of iron and acid.
Q: What type of items should we have in our emergency stockpile?
A: For immediate responses, you should have the following: yellow caution tape, aprons (polyethylene), gloves, paper towels, sponges, antibacterial wipes, plastic trash bags, polyethylene sheeting (pre-cut), reusable absorbent pads, plastic zip-type bags, and buckets.

Q: Are dust masks and goggles sufficient when dealing with mold?
A: Goggles are good for reducing eye irritation, but plain dust masks do not provide adequate protection against inhalation of mold spores. Respirators have been proven to work well, but they should not be used unless the mask has been fitted and properly maintained.

Q: We are moving a collection and have a short window of time to get it done. To save time, we are considering cleaning the books after the move. Any thoughts?
A: Ideally, collections should be cleaned before items are placed on carts, in boxes, or on shelves. However, if the collection is not too dirty, then cleaning after the move would be better than not doing it at all.

**AALL Digital Preservation Webinar**

This webinar was sponsored by the American Association of Law Libraries (AALL) and the Legal Information Preservation Alliance (LIPA). The speakers were Fang Wang, reference and special collection services librarian at St. Mary’s University School of Law and Margie Maes, executive director, Legal Information Preservation Alliance on August 29, 2013.

The webinar covered the following basics: what is digital preservation, why we need to preserve digital content, and how to identify content and best ways to manage content over time. It also covered protection, access, and legal issues.

Here are some of the takeaways:

Digital Preservation is a set of activities aimed toward ensuring access to digital materials over time.

Not all content in and around an organization will be preserved; identifying content is the first step to plan for future preservation needs.

Digital Preservation is not cheap (especially over time). Therefore, identifying items to preserve is important.

Inventory is the best way to identify content. The scope of inventory should include the following: what content we are already preserving, what content are we required to keep, and what content we need to review, and other basic inventory checklist items such as categories of materials to review, selection criteria, and priorities.

Selecting best file formats are important too. For text files: TIFF, XML or PDF/A and for image files consider, TIFF, JPEG 2000 and PFD/A.

There are pros and cons to open source versus proprietary. And there are pros and cons to joining your main campus library repository versus consortium repository. No system is without flaws or fully compliant with proper preservation standards. Select the best for your library based upon your library needs.

Add digital preservation to your overall preservation policy.

**Good Bye 2013**

I hope all of our collections have a Happy New Year with clean shelves, plenty of bookends, enough space, adequate lightening, good temperature, proper handling, and lots of specialized attention.

In the meantime, put your preservation cap on, and start preserving.
Conducting Case Study Research

Hollie White
Duke University

The case study is a popular qualitative research method found in many disciplines, including Library and Information Science (LIS). Beginning in the 1980s, case studies became an acceptable study for use in LIS but did not become popular until the late 1980s and early 1990s (Fizgibbons & Callison 1991; Callison 1997).

When reading the LIS literature, the “case studies” described are often contradictory in application to the point of confusion. To help clear up the mystery surrounding this popular method, I wanted to write a brief overview of the topic. In this article, I will define case study, present an outline of how to conduct one, and provide helpful resources worth consulting for more information.

What exactly is a case study?
William Kretzschmar, my lexicography professor in college, always said the first way to define something is to figure out what it is not. So, let’s begin by pointing out what is not a case study.

A case study is NOT:
• a personal account of how your library did something;
• a hypothetical account of how any library could do something; or
• a study of more than one case/event/situation.
• used for historical research

A case study DOES NOT:
• involve hypothesis testing; or
• involve manipulation or control, as seen in experiments.

If the lists above describe what a case study is NOT, then what IS a case study?
A simple way to describe what a case study IS can be attributed to Choemproyong and Wildemuth (2009), who describe a case study as “a description of a particular situation or event.” One event, situation, case, or set of cases are described. This case study description needs to be the result of systematic and thoughtful analysis. The “how” and “why” questions are central to the case study method, and it is often used as preliminary research on a contemporary topic that will be researched further using other methods. Case studies are always conducted in natural settings where the events normally take place.

How does one conduct a Case Study?
Conducting a case study takes planning and thought. The following steps should be taken in preparation for conducting a case study:
1. Find an appropriate contemporary phenomena/topic/event to observe;
2. Identify what you will be specifically analyzing;
3. Observe/collection data;
4. Reflect and review findings; and
5. Summarize observations and add insight.

Case studies, like other qualitative research, generate a large amount of data. Methodology largely focuses on observation and interviews, which results in narrative data that must be transcribed or coded. Before conducting a case study, be sure to allocate enough time not only for data collection but also data analysis.

Considerations before implementing a case study
Case study results are often very specific and have limited options for being generalizable. Yet, case studies can be very helpful for libraries that need to understand more about specific instances within their own institution. Often, librarians are called upon to create services that address unique situations with in their environment. Case studies can be a beneficial method to systematically analyze an occurrence unique to an individual institution.
Below is a list of resources that were either cited in this piece and/or can elaborate on the case study process.


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**SERIALS TITLES**

*Barbara Bohl*

*University of California, Berkeley*

The following serial title changes were recently identified by the acquisitions and cataloging staff of the University of California, Berkeley Law Library:

**Colorado journal of international environmental law and policy**
Vol. 1, no 1 (summer 1990)-v. 24, no. 1 (winter 2013) (OCoLC 21379882)

**Changed to:**
*Colorado natural resources, energy & environmental law review*
Vol. 24, no. 2 (summer 2013)- (OCoLC 828861737)

**Free speech yearbook**
1970-v. 46 (2012) (OCoLC 18300689)

**Changed to:**
*First amendment studies*
Vol. 47, no. 1 (May 2013)- (OCoLC 802275785)

**Future trends in state courts**
2004-2012 (OCoLC 58551213)

**Changed to:**
*Trends in state courts*
2013- (OCoLC 850400657)

**Legisprudence**
Vol. 1, no. 1 (2007)-v. 6, no. 3 (Dec. 2012) (OCoLC 156862671)

**Changed to:**
Theory and practice of legislation
Vol. 1, no. 1 (2013)-
(OCoLC 849532483)

Review of European Community & international environmental law
(OCoLC 25990329)

**Changed to:**
Review of European, comparative & international environmental law
Vol. 22, issue 1 (2013)-
(OCoLC 847943870)

The following serial cessations were identified by University of California, Berkeley Law Library serials and acquisitions staff:

**Bibliographie en langue francaise d’histoire du droit**
(OCoLC 1772081)

**European newsletter : tax and business law developments in Western Europe**
Ceased with: Issue 79 (Oct. 2011)
(OCoLC 36460648)

**Hastings science & technology law journal**
Ceased in print with: Vol. 5, no. 2 (summer 2013)
(OCoLC 302271441)

**Human rights case digest**
Ceased with: Vol. 18, no. 11/12 (July-Aug. 2008)
(OCoLC 24620909)
Just when I am certain there is nothing about serials left to say, some items come along and remind me there is still work to do. Here are a few things I thought others might find interesting from recent publications.

**Going to Carolina in My Mind:** The September 2013 issue of *Serials Review* (vol.39, no.3) is a special issue focused on the North Carolina Serials Conference held on March 15, 2013. There are invited articles from the conference speakers as well as a few reports from sessions. There is an interesting recap of the keynote address giving by Rachel Frick, Director of the Digital Library Federation Program for the Council on Library and Information Resources (CLIR) written by North Carolina State University Libraries librarian Tessa L.H. Minchew. Her talk promoted collaborative efforts to make information open access and urged attendees to not let their daily duties distract them from this larger professional mission. She called for libraries to push out their local perspective to the larger world by making our rare collections more accessible. Her comments really resonated with me because my library, the University of Georgia Law Library, digitized the old Georgia code volumes and made them available through Internet Archive and the Digital Library of Georgia a couple of years ago. We have received positive feedback from attorneys, historians, and genealogists for making these hard to find materials freely available.

**Who is Reviewing the Law Reviews?:** Every law school has at least one law review. As librarians interested in serials, it is good to stay on top of what is going on in the law review world and to think of ways to encourage open access availability for these journals. Here are some items that caught my eye:


- Back on August 21, 2013, bepress announced their new open-access portal, the *Law Review Commons* at [http://lawreviewcommons.com](http://lawreviewcommons.com) with content from nearly 150 law reviews made available through their law schools' bepress *Digital Commons* repositories. Want to get your law school’s journals on it? Check out The College of William & Mary Law Library’s free webinar “Digitally Archiving Your Law Reviews: From Planning to Population” at [http://digitalcommons.bepress.com/webinars/12/](http://digitalcommons.bepress.com/webinars/12/). Thanks to the Technical Services Special Interest Section (TS-SIS) members Linda Tesar and Lauren Seney for making this resource available to all of us.

**law-reviews/ on the Maryland Appellate Blog.** He cites the *University of Pennsylvania Law Review Online* at [http://www.pennlawreview.com/] and @PennLawReview as a model for how other law reviews can improve their online presence while contributing to legal scholarship in a meaningful way. Lots of interesting ideas!

**eBook Runner:** In case it got buried on your desk somewhere before you could read it, I recommend digging out James S. Heller’s article “Do Androids Dream of Electric Books?” from the September/October 2013 issue of *AALL Spectrum* at [http://www.aallnet.org/main-menu/Publications/spectrum/Archives/Vol-18/No-1/androids.pdf]. He explores how legal publishers already have made the transition to digital and that our libraries have become digital before our very eyes. He declares digital the winner in the war versus paper.

**Free-Share Hub:** Sometimes, routed issues get stranded on someone’s desk and reappear in my inbox months later. That is what happened to the January/February 2013 issue of *Computers in Libraries*, which made its way to me just a few weeks ago. I stumbled across American Association of Law Libraries (AALL) member Avery Le’s article “Offering More Than Just Casebooks: Law Libraries and the Decision to Circulate Mobile Tablets and E-Readers.” She covers many of the reasons to encourage tablet use with our users and gives examples of useful apps. Still, I remained somewhat doubtful until I got to the end of the article where she calls out to libraries to stay true to the mission of information professionals “to remain contemporaneous and malleable to the current modes of research.” She described tablet circulation as just one way to transform your library into a “free-share hub.” When I hear students and faculty ask if they can “rent” DVDs from our library collection, I realize how much we need to communicate to our users the fact that our libraries are Twenty-first Century Free-Share Hubs!

**Cha-Cha-Cha-Cha-Changes:** The October 2013 issue of *Library Resources & Technical Services* (vol.57, no.4) features an article on serials title changes in our new Resource Description and Access (RDA) world called “Identifying Significant Changes in Serials with Title Changes in the Recognition of New Works” by Mavis B. Molto at Utah State University. Now, I fell in love with serials title changes back in my Advanced Cataloging course in library school a couple of decades ago. But I’ve got to admit that FRBR and I haven’t grown that close. Would I still know a title change when I saw one? This article does a nice job of summarizing the history of serials cataloging rules and then outlining the procedures for identifying subject and function subcategories, assigning those levels, and recognizing new works. It ends with a significant discussion of the findings as well as recommendations for RDA rule changes based on the study completed.

**Get Your Core Competencies Here:** In September 2013, NASIG announced their newly released *Core Competencies for Electronic Resource Librarians* at [http://digitalcommons.usu.edu/nasig/vol28/iss5/]. They describe the competency statements as ways to assist librarians in defining their own responsibilities, educating newcomers to this field specialization, and communicating our value to outsiders. When I saw the announcement in the *NASIG Newsletter*, I thought again about Jim Heller’s statement in his article noted above that digital has won the print versus digital war. So, I’m fairly certain that we are all “Electronic Resource Librarians” now – time to take a closer look at those competencies!

More on from the serials front lines in 2014…

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**Wikipedia & some agenda items for improving LCSH**

**Wikipedia as a tool for subject catalogers**

Recently someone sent in a SACO proposal that looked “wrong.” It was adding all sorts of 450s (UF, what used to be called “see references”) that were clearly incorrect. Part of the problem, it turned out, was that they were from a non-law library that probably didn’t understand legal terminology. Interestingly enough, the only reference source cited was Wikipedia. The article they cited in Wikipedia, while claiming to be from a generic perspective, was written primarily from a British and Commonwealth perspective. And in this matter, American “legalese” was quite different.

Wikipedia is an excellent tool for subject cataloging. When a book claims to be about the newest and most important concept in modern law (and of course, is a CIP meaning limited information is available), I always go to Wikipedia first. Among other things, if a term is found in Wikipedia, at the very least it includes some proof the term is actually used in the “real world.” And from the reference sources, one can determine whether the term was invented by the author or associates of
the book being cataloged and if anyone else agrees that this is a new concept worthy of being a subject heading. While the author of the book can easily plant a Wikipedia article citing his work, it’s usually obvious.

Wikipedia is vastly faster than conventional reference sources, often by decades. It also requires a “grain of salt” to deal with people planting articles for reasons of advocating an agenda (a political agenda, an ideological agenda, trying to get tenure, etc.). However, Wikipedia articles usually have numerous references, which facilitate evaluation of the article for reliability and bias and usually provide links to more conventional sources. And exploiting the different language versions is a tremendous tool for seeing how terms get translated between different legal systems. But the tool requires caution.

**Some “agenda” items for subject catalogers**

In moving to new and bigger cubicle, I ran into all sorts of notes or problems that would be nice to solve someday. Perhaps this is a good time for subject catalogers to decide that we need to address them. In all cases, the problem is that our subject headings are so much out of sync with the “real world” that it undermines their utility in helping users find what they are looking for. Writing as a Library of Congress (LC) insider, I suggest that the solution to these problems will not be found within LC, or even the Program for Cooperative Cataloging (PCC), but needs to come from the American Association of Law Libraries (AALL). These might be good projects to recruit some of our newer catalogers who probably understand better than most that there is a good reason we don’t want to use terminology that reflects the mid-20th century.

**Labor-Management Relations.** This refers to employees acting in an organized way through Labor unions and their relationship with the management of their employer. The subject heading for non-legal aspect is Industrial relations, which sounds quaint since in the twenty-first century, one is usually dealing with service oriented businesses. But the biggest problem is that Industrial relations--Law and legislation is a UF to Labor laws and legislation, which is out and out WRONG since it is an aspect of the topic (other aspects include health and safety, discrimination, wage and hour laws, etc.)—meaning it should be a separate heading and a NT.

In LCC’s K schedules, labor-management relations is usually a subtopic within a larger labor law area. This is as it should be (thank you to Jolande Goldberg and her predecessors), and while it would involve changing many subject headings and bibliographic records (remember, LC always change the bibliographic records for changes in subject headings), the ability to use the K schedule as guide would make this a possible task.

**Computer Law.** This is a giant mess. Part of the problem is that computers are becoming all pervasive (e.g. suggesting we need to pay no more attention to the concept of commercial transaction involving computers than we do to commercial transactions involving typewriter or telephones, though once those were “hot topics”). However, authors produce literature on how some aspect of computerization affects this or that, and we are in need of a consistent way to deal with it. Subject headings such as Computers--Law and legislation or Internet--Law and legislation or Computer crimes are basically meaningless since everything involves computers and the Internet. It is increasingly difficult to pursue a career in crime without making some use of computers or electronics. For this subject, LCC is of no value since the K schedules tend to dump stuff in a “Computers” dump number for assorted subtopics that don’t fit anywhere—meaning LCC needs a new approach as well.

**Economic Law.** While we have Law--Economic aspects and Law and economics (for the academic sub-discipline), we lack a heading for works discussing the laws regulating economic activity. This should be corrected since authors write books on the topic. We often use (often incorrectly) headings such as Trade regulation, Industrial laws and legislation, the two mentioned earlier in this paragraph and Jurisdiction--Economic policy (which really belongs in H as a first heading). In some countries, they have an official or de facto “economic constitution.” But the United States does not, which is probably why we lack a heading for it. In LCC, there are captions for the subject in almost all schedules other than KF, KD, and KE (since it is not a concept of Anglo-American law, even though an argument can be made that it is permeating into the common law countries). However, the presence of number in LCC would facilitate introducing term into LCSH; so, we should work on a way of establishing “Economic policy--Law and legislation” in some form.

**Relationship indicators in 600/610 headings.** Under Resource Description and Access (RDA), we are getting used to adding a $e to all 1xx/7xx headings, and they can be very useful. They are authorized under the MARC format for 6xx headings, and in fact, many of the suggested RDA relationship indicators are more likely to be useful for subject rather than descriptive cataloging. The major use would be for trials, since we could use the $e to indicate plaintiff, defendant, prosecutor, defense attorney, victim, etc. Another use would be to distinguish an account of the life of a legal scholar from a book analyzing that person’s contributions to legal scholarship. As the hard-wiring to the MARC format is in place, this would only take a change to the subject cataloging manual, which can be done relatively easily (and adding some additional relationship indicators, which is not a daunting task).
Cataloging

Library of Congress Transitions to Free, Online-Only Cataloging Publications.

The Library of Congress has announced a transition to online-only publication of its cataloging documentation. As titles that are in production are released, the Library’s Cataloging Distribution Service (CDS) will no longer print new editions of its subject headings, classification schedules, and other cataloging publications. The Library will instead provide free downloadable PDF versions of these titles.

For users desiring enhanced functionality, the Library’s two web-based subscription services, Cataloger’s Desktop and Classification Web, will continue as products from CDS.

From American Libraries Direct, 6/26/2013

ALCTS E-forum on Training for Resource Description and Access

In mid-May, the Association for Library Collections & Technical Services (ALCTS) sponsored an e-forum on training for Resource Description and Access (RDA). The forum was focused around four areas of discussion:

- Large libraries with more resources;
- Small libraries with fewer resources;
- Training needs of professional staff/original catalogers; and
- Training needs of support staff/copy catalogers and non-cataloging staff.

Libraries are using many strategies to manage the transition to RDA. These include forming tasks forces to handle RDA implementation and training, self-study, using Library of Congress online training materials, attending external training or hiring trainers to run sessions on site, and taking for-fee online courses.

Training tips included:

- Identify/create format specific documentation.
- Use mappings available in the RDA Toolkit to help transition staff members;
- Introduce RDA and Functional Requirements for Bibliographic Records (FRBR) concepts over time (don’t expect to make an instant transition);
- Remember that learning styles differ and provide access to training materials that work for differing learning styles;
- Be creative!; and
- Decide on and document local policies.


ALCTS sponsors e-forums on a regular basis. They conducted as e-mail discussions and are freely available. See http://lists.ala.org/wws/info/alcts-eforum for more information.

LC’s report from ALA Annual 2013 available online


For those who missed it, LC’s report on cataloging-related activities presented to the Committee on Cataloging: Description & Access (CC:DA) at the recent American Library Association (ALA) annual meeting in Chicago is available online at http://alcts.ala.org/ccdablog/wp-content/uploads/2013/06/lc201306.pdf. A significant portion of the four-page document relays important information about the impact of RDA on the name authority file, LCSH, headings for fictitious and legendary characters and animals with proper names, the Subject Headings Manual, and the Classification and Shelflisting Manual. RDA-related changes made to LCSH center largely around subject headings having to do with the Bible and the Qur’an. For example, “Water in the Koran” has become “Water in the Qur’an.” The complete list of changed subject headings can be found at http://www.loc.gov/catdir/cpsot/subjects-RDA-changes.pdf. The LC report also includes a brief update on the BIBFRAME initiative and information about LC’s transition to online-only publication of its cataloging documentation.
Copy Cataloging Using *RDA*


A fairly recent addition to LC’s extensive collection of *RDA* training materials is the set of materials that focuses on copy cataloging using *RDA*. Issued in May 2013, the materials were developed by Tim Carlton, Les Hawkins, Hien Nguyen, Margaret Wayne, Kay Guiles, and Dave Reser of LC. Although created primarily for LC copy catalogers, with an emphasis on LC policies and practices, the training materials contain a great deal of information that will be of value to copy catalogers at other libraries as well. According to the course summary, “[t]his course focuses on helping trainees develop the ‘cataloger judgment’ necessary to evaluate copied records to determine which elements are acceptable ... and which elements should be edited or adjusted.” The course materials include an instructor manual, a trainee manual (with exercises), and a separate document with the answers to the exercises. The materials are up-to-date and reflect current LC copy cataloging practice.

**JSC responses to proposed RDA treaty instructions available**

http://www.rda-jsc.org/working2.html#6ala23

In May 2013, John Hostage, the American Association of Law Libraries (AALL) representative to CC:DA, issued a 36-page revision proposal for *RDA*’s instructions for treaties (http://alcts.ala.org/ccdablog/wp-content/uploads/2013/05/aall2013-1.pdf). John’s proposal clearly and thoroughly documents the problems law catalogers have with the *RDA* treaty instructions and suggests revisions to the instructions. In anticipation of the November 2013 meeting of the Joint Steering Committee for Development of *RDA* (JSC), JSC constituents’ responses to the proposal have been made publicly available at http://www.rda-jsc.org/working2.html#6ala23. LC’s response (http://www.rda-jsc.org/docs/6JSC-ALA-23-LC-response.pdf), while generally supportive of the proposed revisions, questions whether the element “Signatory to a treaty” would still belong in chapter 6 (“Identifying Works and Expressions”) if the proposed revisions were to be implemented. LC’s response also includes some suggested changes to the proposal and a number of questions concerning the proposed revision to 6.19.2.7 and its recommendation to record as the preferred title “a short title or citation title used in legal literature.” Stay tuned for developments in this important area of law cataloging.

**WorldCat Metadata API allows libraries to create their own cataloging applications**


OCLC member libraries can use the WorldCat Metadata API to conveniently add and enrich WorldCat records and maintain WorldCat holdings information and local bibliographic data. Libraries can now create new applications using the WorldCat Metadata API to manage their cataloging workflows. As always, libraries can continue to catalog their collections in WorldCat using OCLC-built applications, such as Connexion and the upcoming WorldShare Metadata Record Manager. However, it is pretty exciting that the WorldCat Metadata API enables libraries to manage WorldCat data through integration with library and partner-built applications.

**JSC meeting in Washington, DC, November 2013**

http://www.personal.psu.edu/jxa16/blogs/resource_description_and_access_ala_rep_notes/

The JSC met November 4-8, 2013 in Washington, DC. Among the many proposed *RDA* revisions discussed at the meeting was one authored by AALL member John Hostage addressing the *RDA* instructions for treaties (revision proposal 6JSC/ALA/23, available at http://www.rda-jsc.org/working2.html#6ala23). Those interested in following the JSC discussions as they unfolded may want to check out John Attig’s blog at http://www.personal.psu.edu/jxa16/blogs/resource_description_and_access_ala_rep_notes/.

Mr. Attig, who until recently was the ALA representative to the JSC, started the blog in January 2009. His blog has provided blow-by-blow coverage of the JSC’s annual meetings since November 2011. Mr. Attig has shown himself to be skillful in boiling down long and complex discussions to their most essential elements and reporting the outcomes in relatively easy-to-digest pieces.

**MarcEdit updated adding WorldCat API functionality**


As announced by Terry Reese and blogged by Roy Tennant at hangingtogether.org, MarcEdit has been updated to take advantage of OCLC’s WorldCat metadata API. It is now possible to set batch holdings in OCLC, batch upload/edit records into WorldCat, and search WorldCat directly from within MarcEdit.

More information and a links to download MarcEdit are available at http://marcedit.reeset.net/ and http://blog.reeset.net/archives/1217.
Publishers around the world partner with OCLC to improve library workflows for electronic content
http://www.librarytechnology.org/ltg-displaytext.pl?RC=18457
OCLC has finalized agreements with international content providers to add more electronic collections to the WorldCat database, the most comprehensive online catalog of resources available through libraries worldwide. Incorporating these databases into WorldCat and the WorldCat knowledge base will improve access to these collections and simplify administration for libraries that use OCLC WorldShare Metadata services. These agreements will also reduce the cost and time spent managing updates to these online collections for libraries that have registered with the knowledge base and will provide immediate access for libraries that subscribe or want to purchase these collections. The value for libraries is that multiple applications will be able to access the metadata to simplify workflows for managing electronic materials.

Information Technology
NASIG approves Core Competencies of Electronic Resources Librarians
http://www.nasig.org/site_page.cfm?pk_association_webpage_menu=310&pk_association_webpage=1225
The North American Serials Interest Group (NASIG) has announced that their Board approved and adopted “Core Competencies of Electronic Resources Librarians” as NASIG policy at their June 2013 meeting in Buffalo, New York. The core competencies are organized around the life cycle of electronic resources, the technology required to provide and maintain access to electronic resources, evaluation and assessment of e-resources use, and communication of information concerning electronic resources, their evaluation and use. The changing landscape of electronic resources is acknowledged. Commitment to professional development, flexibility, a high level of tolerance for complexity and ambiguity and a focus on customer services are emphasized.

The full text of the NASIG Core Competencies of Electronic Resources Librarians is available through NASIG’s Core Competencies Task Force web site.

Textbooks in Google Play Store – July 29, 2013
Google recently announced that they will be offering textbooks through their Google Play store, http://arstechnica.com/gadgets/2013/07/textbooks-coming-to-the-google-play-store/. Users will be allowed to rent them for six months and for up to 80% off of their purchase price. This is a variation on Apples “Textbooks for iPad” program, http://www.apple.com/education/ibooks-textbooks/.

Metadata and Linked Data – August 28, 2013
Many people will cringe when they hear the word “metadata”. It’s been getting a lot of play in the media with the National Security Agency (NSA) scandals. Metadata, and an outgrowth of metadata, linked data need not be scary.

It is not hard to create metadata. Programs like PicturePark (http://picturepark.com/) and Adaptive’s Metadata Manager (http://www.adaptive.com/products/metadata-manager/how-is-metadata-manager-different/) provide ways to not only add metadata, which you can do in many common text editors, but allow you to structure the schema in a way to which even the least code-proficient user can easily add the metadata to a file.

It’s when the metadata is used in concert with other metadata that the real utility becomes apparent. Roy Tennant has been publishing a very interesting series of pieces on the Post-MARC era and on data issues in general (http://www.thedigitalshift.com/author/rtennant/).

There’s more and more everyday on how metadata plays a role in our lives. If you’ve not been paying attention, now’s the time.

Streaming services
Streaming services have been in the news quite a bit lately, most notably, Hoopla (https://www.hoopladigital.com/home), which has been characterized as “OverDrive for video.” Another platform being used by many academic libraries is Swank (http://digitalcampus.swankmp.com/), which allows for more controlled use and licensing.

In addition to more wide open services like Vimeo, YouTube, and UStream, there are also services like Streamhoster and CamZone as well as ones tied to class management systems like Kaltura. What service does your organization use?

Digital Changes Everything: The Intersection of Libraries and Archives
It wasn’t until the prevalence of digital publishing and electronic records that real interest in archives percolated among librarians. The avalanche of born-digital records, digitization projects, digital curation in special collections, and new fields such as digital humanities has finally brought about an intersection of these various disciplines.
Local Systems

Redesigning the Item Record Summary View in a Library Catalog and a Discovery Interface

_American Libraries Direct_ 10/16/2013
[http://acrl.ala.org/techconnect/?p=3883](http://acrl.ala.org/techconnect/?p=3883)

Almost all librarians have a love-hate relationship with their online public access catalogs (OPAC), which are used by library patrons. Interestingly enough, there are a lot more complaints about the library catalog from librarians than patrons. Sometimes it is about the catalog missing certain information that should be there for patrons. But many other times, it’s about how crowded the search results display looks. All librarians want a clean-looking, easy-to-navigate, and efficient-to-use library catalog. But of course, it is much easier to complain than to come up with a viable alternative.

Principles recommended include decluttering, revealing just enough essential information to determine the next action, highlighting the next action and shortening texts.

Libraries: The Next Generation


In recent years, there’s been great excitement around the so-called nextgen library systems—platforms that go beyond automating back-office functions and front desk transactions to deliver seamless user experiences for knowledge seekers. This entire issue is devoted to the next generation of library automation.

Library Technology: The Next Generation


Next-generation library automation products and services have been the focus of attention in the library community for the last few years. It seems that there is tremendous interest in systems that are better aligned with the issues libraries face today. New discovery and library management platforms have emerged from research and development stages into real-world use in libraries. People are seeing intense competition among these new systems and between them and the new versions of established products. The author sees them as being at a critical time in the realm of library technologies, with many organizations working to break out of established conceptual, functional, and technological bounds. Sweeping changes in libraries drive the urgency for a new generation of technology products and services to support them. The compositions of library collections have changed to include higher proportions of electronic and digital materials relative to print. Some of the subsequent generational cycles were based largely on transitions in computing platforms.

Management

OCLC presentations from the American Library Association’s annual conference

Recordings and slides from presentations sponsored by OCLC at the American Library Association annual conference June 28-July 1, 2013 are available via the OCLC website. Sessions include:

- OCLC Americas Regional Council Member Meeting and Symposium;
- Results and Revelations from OCLC WorldShare Management Services Libraries;
- Library Analytics to Inform Decision-making and Measure Impact;
- The Future of FirstSearch: More Visibility for your Library and its Resources;
- Putting the “E” in Interlibrary Loan;
- Launching Online Special Collections using CONTENTdm: Perspectives from Library Staff;
- WorldShare Partnerships that Engage End Users; and
- OCLC’s Next Generation Metadata Management

All of the presentations are under an hour.

Additionally, a TED Talk on “Culturnomics” and Google’s Ngram Viewer associated with the OCLC Symposium on Culturnomics is also linked from this page, see [http://www.ted.com/talks/what_we_learned_from_5_million_books.html](http://www.ted.com/talks/what_we_learned_from_5_million_books.html), and [http://books.google.com/ngrams](http://books.google.com/ngrams).

[http://www.niso.org/news/pr/view?item_key=4bab6c0503ed5d9f392f862e9d32ce346eef6c69](http://www.niso.org/news/pr/view?item_key=4bab6c0503ed5d9f392f862e9d32ce346eef6c69)

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About two years ago, we began using the OneLog system to track usage of our online subscriptions. Now that we have a significant amount of data collected, it has proved to be an invaluable resource. While it does not capture all usage, such as when users access resources from outside our network or on mobile devices, it still provides us with a much clearer picture of how our subscriptions are being used. As a part of the renewal process, we now check the OneLog usage reports for the previous year before processing the invoice. For firm-wide resources, we can make sure the usage merits that subscription level. If there are only a small number of users, we poll them to see how they are using the site and check to see if the information they are obtaining can be found through another source. If the information is available elsewhere or if there are only a small number of infrequent users, then we may consider ending our subscription. With a small number of dedicated users, we may explore our options to see if switching to a per user subscription would save us money.

Previously, when a non-firm-wide online subscription was up for renewal, we might email the registered users to see if they used the product and wanted to continue to have access. Typically, the majority of our registered users would want to continue their subscriptions. Now, we check usage in OneLog and have a standard template that we use to email individuals who have accessed a resource only a handful of times, or not at all, during the previous year. This more catered approach has led to more attorneys reporting they no longer need access to a particular resource, and we have been able to reduce our seats on a number of subscriptions. These emails have also helped us discover if someone has lost a password or if they have stopped receiving emails or alerts from the publisher. It has also occasionally helped us to catch a problem with how our OneLog tracking record was set up for a particular resource. When all of the registered users claimed to be using a resource, but weren’t showing in the usage statistics, we discovered that we needed to alter our tracking URL.

We have also tried to monitor our online subscription usage by asking publishers for access to administrative modules when available. These give us more control over signing up users for emails and setting up usernames and passwords. It saves us the time of the back and forth emails with our account representatives and allows us to give individuals faster access. Many of them also make it easier to reset passwords when users have forgotten them. They also allow us to remove users if they leave the firm or no longer need access.

I have spent a lot of time recently thinking about subscriptions, usage, and statistics because I just completed an update of our routing request form. We use an application that was created in-house by our Information Services (IS) department. Our previous form had only the title and the routing format (print, electronic, or table of contents). I worked with our IS department to add categories for practice group and publication frequency and then added the appropriate information for each title. Since we frequently get requests about what titles are available for a given practice group, having the ability to search and sort by practice group was the most useful change for both attorneys and library staff. It will be much easier for our training librarian to give new hires a list of available titles during their initial library orientation.

As part of the routing request form update, I also reviewed all of our routing lists to make sure they weren’t too long. Since most of the titles we route are current awareness materials, we want our attorneys to be able to read the issues in a timely fashion. We have an internal mail delivery system that helps these circulate relatively quickly, but if someone on the list is out of the office or having a busy day, circulation can be held up. As a result of this comprehensive review, we added a number of additional print copies and shifted some titles online. For law reviews, our Serials Assistant explored the options for sending the table of contents via email. Many law reviews now have this content available on their web site and often even full articles can be read for free. We also started using WestClips to get West publications to our attorneys more quickly. The articles are delivered in an email and can be read on Westlaw.

Obviously these are issues that will always be present in libraries and where there are always opportunities to improve our processes and efficiency. Even as procedures become more automated, we will still be involved with quality control, and this is even more important when we aren’t checking in on things daily. Now that I have finished the revision of our routing request form, I am looking forward to exploring some new modules available through our ILS vendor. Some of the new electronic content offerings will hopefully make it even easier for us to route emails and maintain a routing request form that our attorneys can use to request publications.
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