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CONSER Member Reports Oct. 2008

Center for Research Libraries

This "CONSER year," the Center for Research Libraries' Cataloging Dept. focused on streamlining internal procedures from initial cataloging to final shelving (or immediate circulation for "rush" materials) with fewer people performing more of the process, the goal being to increase efficiency and decrease errors. Priority was also given to identifying and cataloging previously uncataloged material or material in which cataloging had been indefinitely postponed. Digitization of the Center's physical holdings continued, with cataloging done primarily according to the single record approach. This enabled a workflow in which professionals cataloged the print or microform originals (if not already cataloged) and paraprofessionals added 856 links (URL and PURL) after digitization was completed. Meanwhile, a little over 5 years after it began, the Dissertation cataloging project completed cataloging all 800,000 of CRL's International Doctoral dissertations. Congratulations to Yoseline Louisma and her team of students and paraprofessionals! Additionally, improvements were made to CRL's Web Catalog, including the completion of an English/French dual-language interface, and the addition of scoped searching tabs for serials, newspapers (searching by country and U.S. State), dissertations (searching by country and institution), and e-resources.

Columbia University

Retrospective conversion continued to be the source of a large proportion of Columbia's original serials cataloging in 2007/2008. Our grant-funded project to process uncataloged materials in Union Theological Seminary's Burke Library ended on August 29, 2008, and a list of serial titles requiring further attention has been compiled as the basis for a future smaller project. Serials Cataloger Robert Rendall continued to contribute original CONSER records for an old backlog of Slavic titles and for the Business Library's large collection of uncataloged corporate reports.

Burke's project serials cataloger Alex Crosier accepted a permanent position in the Original and Special Materials Cataloging Division, where she will continue to work with serials as well as monographs. Robert and Alex attended SAR training at the Library of Congress at the end of April and have assumed responsibility for reviewing SARs created at Columbia.

In our first full year of working with the CONSER standard record, we have experienced no problems of any kind and have not felt the need to establish any local requirements in addition to the CSR's mandatory element set.

Columbia's Serials Acquisitions Services department implemented a new initiative to catch title changes and other changes requiring bibliographic updates this year, and the number of current titles referred by check-in staff to serials cataloging for updates in CONSER has increased substantially.

Our East Asian Library continues to contribute CONSER records with original scripts for Chinese and Korean serial titles. Chinese Cataloger Charlene Chou trained Tibetan Librarian Lauran Hartley in CONSER procedures and Lauran has begun to contribute Columbia's first CONSER records for Tibetan serial titles. The library is recruiting a new full-time Korean Cataloger and expects Korean contributions to increase in the future. This year the library's

Chinese and Japanese catalogers have both served on the CEAL Committee on Technical Processing's subcommittee on CJK examples for AACR2 Chapter 12.

Harvard University

This past year was especially notable for Harvard serial catalogers as the first year CONSER's new cataloging standard for original record creation, the CONSER Standard Record (CSR) has been in place long enough for catalogers to feel comfortable using it and for our workflows to benefit from it. Our statistics, a total of 2914 original, first-time authenticated, and enhanced existing bibliographic records, reflect an increase which we think must, at least in part, be a result of its use.

Like many others, we are experiencing a changing library environment and staff in the HUL/CONSER Office has made a special effort to insure that our contribution to the CONSER program remains strong. During this past year, we undertook a series of visits to various Harvard libraries on campus to facilitate communication between the individual units and the CONSER Office, insuring that the services we offer are meeting the needs of library staff as well as our patrons. These visits will continue into the coming year.

Several transfer projects this past year involved CONSER contributors at Harvard. During this process, existing bibliographic records of the titles in these collections were evaluated and upgraded. New records were created if necessary and existing CONSER records were enhanced. Two such projects involved early 19th century German education and film-related periodicals. In each case, similar materials were being brought together to better meet patrons' research needs.

Harvard Law School Activities:

This year's CONSER work at the Harvard Law School Library might be called "business as usual." We are becoming familiar with using the CONSER standard record format. Record maintenance continues to comprise a large part of our work. Currently received titles with skimpy bibliographic records in our online catalog (particularly for foreign titles) brought to our attention as new issues are received, have been upgraded to full CONSER standard. The Pound basement project, moving large numbers of older titles to remote storage, involves the serials catalogers when problems arise. We also cataloged several online resources, and updated many CONSER records contributing e-resource links in the 856 field, some as the result of print cancellations. Local digitization projects are resulting in updating older, inadequate serial records. We continued to contribute CONSER cataloging for East Asian and Slavic language titles due to the work of the bibliographers for these areas.

We continue to be short-staffed, but are looking forward to the arrival of our new Islamic bibliographer, Martha Jenks, who will eventually be trained in CONSER serials cataloging.

Hong Kong University of Science and Technology

Our CONSER productivity remained the same as the previous fiscal year with a total of 475 transactions, which included 115 authentications at full levels and 360 record maintenance. Much of the manpower was devoted to the cataloging of "Zhongguo qi kan quan wen shu ju ku", a Chinese academic journal full-text database with over 3,000 titles, the cataloging of over 700 journal analytics of ScienceDirect titles which doubled our target set in the past year, and the cataloging of about 1,500 LexisNexis selected titles. Other major cataloging projects undertaken in the past year included the cataloging of the Chinese ethnic minorities collection donated by John Dolfin of over 3,000 titles and the personal collection of Lin Ta-

Kuang of 4,000 titles. At the same time, we collaborated with the Language Centre at the University and cataloged over 5,000 language learning and teaching materials of the Center.

Our Library participated in a joint project, which included libraries at seven Universities here in Hong Kong from October 15 to December 8, 2007. A services quality survey using LibQUAL was conducted in three major areas, affect of service, information control, and library as place, among all our faculty, students and staff. We received over 1,800 responses and many positive comments about our services with high mean scores in all areas. We hosted an "International Conference on Information and Learning Commons" on our campus on 10-11 December 2007 to mark the anniversary of launching the Information Commons in the Library. The conference was attended by over 150 university administrators, librarians, and learning support professionals from many countries. We also organized a special exhibition named "From the 1st Gold to Beijing Olympics" in the Library Gallery in August 2008 to celebrate the staging of Beijing Olympics.

As the 3-3-4 academic reform of the Hong Kong Higher and Tertiary Education System to be implemented in 2012 is drawing close, a Steering Committee on Library Building Enhancements was formed to coordinate among Library departments on building extension related issues. The Library is in the process of planning for a building extension with the creation of a 24/7 study environment to meet the future need.

Indiana University

A full year since the implementation of the CONSER standard record, the Serials Cataloging Unit of Indiana University Libraries is pleased to report that the CSR has resulted in a 16% increase in the productivity of the unit, even though quite a number of the titles cataloged this year were older international and foreign government publications which often require a good deal more authority work. Last year's preliminary results were encouraging, but a comparison of the last six months before implementation with those same months a year later made the productivity gain all the more clear. Catalogers reported that the time saved in descriptive cataloging could be better spent on authority work and call number and subject assignments, with some left over. The catalogers felt that the reformed rules were very successful in reaching the stated goal of reducing the time spent on descriptive cataloging without impairing the patron's ability to identify the serial resource s/he was seeking.

Indiana University spent the year preparing for its first shipments to Google as part of the Committee on Institutional Cooperation's Google Digitization Project. The project is now in full swing with volumes leaving and returning according to a scheduled rotation. We anticipate the number of volumes to be digitized, both serial and monographic, will be about three-quarters of a million volumes. These volumes are already appearing in searches performed by patrons in Google Books.

Since the opening of our Auxiliary Library Facility, the serials cataloging unit has been providing cataloging support for titles both monographic and serial that are being transferred to the ALF, especially local holdings records that are then uploaded into OCLC. At this point more than a million volumes have been transferred to the ALF. Indiana University continues to place a high priority on ISSN discovery and ISSN requests. With access to the ISSN Portal, serial catalogers routinely search for ISSN assigned to foreign titles on subscription. They also request ISSN for domestic serial titles, especially for titles published in Indiana. These ISSN are vital to the functioning of article link resolvers and other electronic means of resource discovery. We also supply vernacular characters in

OCLC for Slavic and East Asian languages at the point of adding a volume to a serial local holdings record.

Library and Archives Canada

Library and Archives Canada has been using the CONSER Standard Record (CSR) for over a year now (implemented July 3rd, 2007). We have followed the guidelines and created a list of applicable notes in French used for our bilingual and French language publications. In our experience, CSR seems to be working quite well.

During LAC's fiscal year, Apr. 1, 2007-Mar. 31, 2008, ISSN Canada registered 2323 new records with the International Centre in Paris. The number of pre-assigned ISSNs was 1731. ISSN Canada undertook and completed a substantial clean-up project regarding 776 linking entries, which was requested by the ISSN International Centre. The project was completed by Mar. 31st, 2008 before the implementation of the ISSN-L.

A new LAC policy concerning CIP records for serials and integrating resources came into effect in June this year. As of that date LAC no longer provides CIP records for these types of publications. Further information on the CIP policy changes at LAC is available at the CIP Web site: <http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/cip/index-e.html>

A major decision was taken at LAC this year to begin the process of acquiring a new Integrated Library System. It will replace the current system Amicus. The implementation date of the new system is planned for sometime in 2010.

LAC is in the early stages of its plans for RDA implementation and has established an internal working group to study implementation issues as they arise. A separate working group is undertaking a review of LAC's policy on levels of cataloguing treatment for various categories of publications.

Meetings/conferences: Ivan Basar, leader of the Serials Team in the Government Publications and Serials Cataloguing Section, became the new CONSER contact at LAC. He replaces John Clark who served as contact person for many years. Ivan attended the annual CONSER Operations Committee meeting held May 1-2. In addition, Ivan also attended sessions of the 74th annual IFLA conference, held Aug. 10-14 in Quebec City. A great many LAC personnel attended the conference either as presenters, attendees for the purpose of professional development, or simply as volunteers helping out during the event. IFLA Satellite Conference on RDA, which was held on Aug. 8, was also an important attraction for a number of LAC's employees. The NASIG annual conference in Phoenix was attended by Roger Meloche, a cataloguer on the Serials Team.

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

FY 2007/2008 was a year of transitions for the MIT Libraries' Serials Cataloging Section ("SerCat"). We saw the departure of our Head, Bonnie Parks in September. In October, we welcomed a new copy cataloger into our section, Kathy Hamilton. In April, Benjamin Abrahamse became the new Head of the section. The section operated under the leadership of Jennifer Edwards during the interim.

Despite potentially-disruptive personnel changes, our section performed important work this fiscal year. Our recon team cataloged a number of older journals and serials as part of an ongoing project to deal with the materials stored in MIT Libraries' closed Dewey Decimal

Collection. This year we concentrated on serials issued by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, as well as materials devoted to the topic of industrial relations. This project led to the bibliographic maintenance of over a hundred contributed- and full-level records. Our work in the Dewey Decimal Collections will continue into the next fiscal year and beyond.

With respect to current journals and serials, we continued to create, authenticate and maintain full CONSER-level records for our growing collection of e-journals and other digital resources, as well as a smaller, yet still significant number of newly-acquired print items. As a section we continued to hone our cataloging skills, paying particular attention to CONSER Standard Record guidelines. Jennifer Edwards and Benjamin Abrahamse also participated in an online cataloging workshop on cataloging integrating resources. With these new skills, SerCat has begun providing PCC-level records for databases, websites and web-services, an increasingly sought-after class of material for MIT's scholarly user-community.

SerCat also ramped up its contributions to the national authority file, focusing on authorities for corporate bodies and conferences in the fields of science and technology. This summer we placed particular emphasis on authority records for conferences and corporate bodies associated with the IEEE and its sister organizations, creating or updating approximately 275 records.

Despite staff turnover and the extra time and effort required of the section to participate in the hiring and training of new staff members, FY 2007/2008 was a successful year for MIT Serials Cataloging Section and its CONSER-related cataloging activities. Our one regret is that circumstances prevented us from sending a representative to this year's CONSER Operation Committee meeting; we will resume our active participation in the meeting in FY 2008/2009.

National Agricultural Library

The National Agricultural Library has been active in CONSER during 2007/2008, contributing 628 original or newly authenticated serial records and enhancing or maintaining another 179 serial records between October 2007 and September 2008.

NAL's Associate Director for Technical Services, Chris Cole, participated in the Library of Congress Working Group on the Future of Bibliographic Control in 2008. As a result of the recommendations in that report, NAL, along with the National Library of Medicine and the Library of Congress, are planning a systematic evaluation of Resource Description and Access (RDA) upon its release in 2009. The results of this evaluation will determine whether or not each of the three major U.S. national libraries will adopt RDA as our future cataloging code.

The Serials Cataloging Section at NAL lost two valuable staff members in 2008, with the retirements of Angela Lee and Cheryl Moore. Rosanne Galletta, one of our monographic catalogers, has moved to serials cataloging and NAL hopes to hire a new cataloger in early 2009.

National Library of Medicine

CONSER Contribution

- The National Library of Medicine (NLM) has contributed a total of 540 new records to CONSER for FY2008, October 2007-August 2008.
 - NLM authenticated 539 records at full level and upgraded authentication to full on an additional 127 records.
 - NLM made significant contributions in updating the CONSER and OCLC World Cat database by editing 1384 CONSER bibliographic records and 2036 non-CONSER records.
- Cataloging and related activities

The Meridian Electronic Resources Management System was implemented in early 2008. The system currently contains over 2056 titles. The work to enter all existing license and title information into the Meridian ERMS should be completed by the end of the year. Staff are investigating extraction of license data from Meridian for use in NLM's automated interlibrary loan and document delivery operations. A long term project was started to actively convert titles indexed for Medline to indexing from the online version instead of from print issues. As of mid-2008, over 1000 titles (out of 5000 indexed titles) are now indexed from the online version.

In January 2007, the NLM Digital Working Group submitted its report on the functional requirements and recommendations for next steps in building an NLM Digital Repository. This year, a second Working Group has been evaluating digital repository systems and software. The group has installed and tested two open source systems, Dspace and Fedora, as well as Ex Libris's DigiTool product. The group expects to make a recommendation and selection by fall and to implement the chosen system by late 2008.

Barbara Bushman, Sharon Willis and other staff have been preparing online training courses in the use of MeSH for cataloging and use of the NLM Classification. When completed, these courses will be available for self-paced learning on the NLM Cataloging Website, and will also be made available to the PCC, as well as groups in ALA and MLA who may offer instructor-led training classes based on the content.

Standard Review and Cooperative Activities

As of Oct. 15, 2007, NLM authority records are being exported in UTF-8. NLM has collaborated with the CPSO-Unicode Task Force to implement LC's proposal and short and long term approaches for adding non-Roman data to authority records in the LC/NACO Authority File. OCLC began pre-population of the Authority File in July. NLM continues to represent the Medical Library Association in the review of Resource Description and Access (RDA). The library reviewed and commented on chapters 2-4 and 9 in January 2008. NLM also worked with LC and NAL to develop a Joint Statement on Resource Description and Access, which was issued on May 1, 2008. The statement sets forth the libraries' plans to test RDA and make a joint decision on implementation. The libraries will solicit additional partners for the testing and evaluation, which are expected to continue through the end of 2009.

Chong Chung participated as a volunteer in the CJK NACO Funnel Project and provided NACO training to a librarian at the Fresno County Free Library, Fresno, CA, and began training another librarian at the University of Southern California.

Personnel

Effective September 14, 2008, Barbara Bushman assumed the position of Assistant Head of Cataloging. Ms. Bushman previously was head of Unit IV of the Cataloging Section.

Debra Thangarajah, Iris Lee, and John Doyle were selected as senior Technical Information Specialists in the Technical Services Division Office. Ms. Thangarajah and Mr. Doyle came from positions within NLM, while Ms. Lee comes to NLM from the National Agricultural Library's Acquisitions and Collection Development Branch.

Dianne McCutcheon was elected as the CONSER representative to the Policy Committee of the Program for Cooperative Cataloging.

National Library of Wales

The NLW initiated a programme of retrospective cataloguing of Welsh journal records in January 2007. This forms part of a project, which runs from January 2007 to March 2009, to digitise the 90 most important twentieth and twenty-first century journals covering Wales and the Welsh. A total of 130 journals were catalogued or upgraded to CONSER standards.

The upgrading of records to CONSER standard ran in concurrence with the NLW's commitment to provide CONSER standard records for all new Welsh journals as part of Llyfryddiaeth Cymru (the National Bibliography of Wales).

New York Public Library

For NYPL, 2007/2008 has been another year of anticipated transition. Looming on the horizon is the joining of the Research Libraries' catalog CATNYP with the Branch Libraries' catalog LEO. If all goes well the new ILS should be in place in spring of 2009. In the meantime, many activities are directed towards gearing up for a new catalog representative of two very different collections----- a popular collection, long enjoyed by New Yorkers, and a large and bibliographically more complex research collection, respected and mostly used by students and scholars. Edith Gewertz, Chief of Cataloging, is deeply involved in coordinating these efforts, so that, in the end, catalog entries, call numbers and location codes all make a clear and seamless fit.

Lenny Breeze began managing the Serials Section in Nov. of 2007 and represented NYPL for his first time at the CONSER Operations Meeting in spring of 2008. Following the trend of further staff reductions, since last year the Serials Section is smaller yet again. In addition to Lenny, there are now only two librarians and two technical assistants. Besides the cataloging of new serial titles, catalogers often have to revisit serial records. Maintenance on a vast number of records is an on-going section activity, along with discovering unconverted old catalog titles and converting them, and finding the right bibliographic match for misplaced item records.

As for CONSER activities, application of the guidelines for the CONSER Standard Record moves ahead with special enthusiasm for the unformatted 362. For some, though, the suggested curtailed use of the uniform title as a distinguishing element is a disappointment. As faulty as uniform titles can be, some feel that their full implementation is helpful to both the cataloger and the library patron. As an example, in cases where a title flip-flops, the record of the middle title will have a 780 and 785 with the exact same entry. Without an explanatory note, the reader can only surmise that a mistake was made in the cataloging record.

NYPL is committed to the CONSER principles of creating full, clear and accurate serial records. In the past year, despite a reduced staff, NYPL contributed (including to be submitted numbers for September), 215 original records, 80 authentications of existing records and carried out 204 CONSER maintenance tasks and 588 serial enhancements.

New York State Library

With the economy struggling - particularly on Wall Street, which accounts for 20 percent of state revenue--New York State government is facing major cutbacks to programs. For the State Library, this translates to a 4% reduction in the book budget, as well as delays in purchasing of major equipment. New state-wide initiatives, such as the Digital collections initiative, will not be funded.

In spite of this dire situation, progress is being made to recruit a new state librarian following the retirement of Janet Martin Welch last spring. Onsite interviews are about to begin and Deputy Commissioner for Cultural Education, Jeffrey W. Cannell, seeks to introduce the successful candidate at the forthcoming New York Library Association annual conference scheduled for November 5-8 in Saratoga Springs, New York.

Northwestern University

During fiscal year 2008, the serials catalogers at Northwestern continued their focus on a project to update local serial records with appropriate OCLC control numbers. At the end of September 2008, approximately 1000 (less than 20 per cent) of the titles in the project remain to be processed.

The end of fiscal 2008 also marked the end of the first year that the serials catalogers were a part of the new Bibliographic Services Dept. (formerly Catalog Dept.). The new organization has not yet brought the monographic and serials catalogers together in the same room, since a library-wide space study is still underway. However, the change in reporting lines is already showing benefits. As part of a single department, both monographic and serial catalogers can more easily be included in tasks that have traditionally been kept separate--for example, some monographic catalogers are helping out in the OCLC update project. Frequent meetings of all the original catalogers, as well as the entire Bibliographic Services Dept., are helping to expand knowledge on "both sides of the hall" and to develop more unified policies.

Pennsylvania State University Libraries

Penn State, CONSER's newest Full-level member, moved to Final review status under the painstaking and much-appreciated guidance of reviewer Steven C. Shadle, Serials Access Librarian at the University of Washington Libraries, as of August 1 2008.

Serials Cataloging Librarian Christopher H. Walker represented Penn State at the May 2008 Operations Committee meeting and at the CONSER/BIBCO open meetings at ALA Midwinter (Philadelphia) and ALA Annual (Anaheim). Christopher also served on the PCC Series Task Group and (with CONSER Operations Committee colleagues Tina Shrader and Kevin Randall) on the ALCTS CRS Continuing Resources Cataloging Committee, which he will chair for the 2008/2009 term.

A large proportion of the original records input during the CONSER reporting year (Sept. 2007-August 2008) represent Penn State's holdings of union and labor movement publications from our Labor Archives. Journals in the fields of mining, engineering, forestry,

and earth sciences have been prominent among the OCLC member copy Penn State has enhanced and CONSER-authenticated.

The Penn State Serials Cataloging Team is currently bracing itself for the impact of an OCLC reclamation project and the implementation of Sirsi/Dynix's new ILS, Symphony, both scheduled before the end of calendar year 2008.

United States Government Printing Office

Personnel

Within the past year, GPO Cataloging Section hired 1 new cataloging supervisor, and 2 new catalogers. Manisha Bhattacharyya, new cataloging supervisor, was a Serials cataloger at GPO before she moved to her new position. Map cataloger Violet (Vi) Moorehouse retired after 39 years of service at GPO.

Statistics

Between October 2007 and September 2008, GPO has contributed a total of 693 authenticated records and 752 updated records to CONSER.

Achievements

GPO catalogers are cataloging new serials following CSR rules, although GPO continues to add some fields with GPO specific information at the request of depository library communities. GPO continues to create Series Authority records locally. GPO is in the process of converting the historic GPO shelf list cards. Progressive Technology Federal Systems, Inc. (PTFS) of Bethesda, Maryland has been selected to assist GPO with the process to convert the historic GPO shelf list. This contract will convert approximately 600,000 cards in the historic card catalog, covering U.S. Government documents from the 1870's through October 1992, to machine-readable metadata (MARC21). These metadata records will be available in the Catalog of U.S. Government Publications (CGP). Serials will be included in these record loads.

University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA)

Statistics

Between October 2007 and September 2008, UCLA contributed 755 CONSER records and maintained 765 CONSER records.

Staff

This year, UCLA said goodbye to one CONSER cataloger, when JaEun Ku (East Asian Library) moved to Champaign, Illinois. Another CONSER cataloger, Melissa Beck, moved within UCLA from the Cataloging & Metadata Center to the Law Library.

Training

During FY 2007/2008, UCLA staff experimented with Centra live-online training (with the assistance of Amigos). In November 2007, Peter Fletcher and Steve Shadle co-presented a two-session SCCTP CONSER Standard Record Update workshop.

At the same time, UCLA catalogers continued in-person training. In December 2007, Melissa Beck (with: Adolfo Tarango and Manuel Urrizola) co-presented the SCCTP Basic Serials Workshop in San Diego. Following this workshop, Melissa Beck, Peter Fletcher, and Valerie Bross rolled up their sleeves, divvied up modules, and sweated out a revised version of the SCCTP Basic Serials Cataloging Workshop. The three tried out the workshop in January 2008 at Long Beach Public Library. They also gave an abbreviated one-day version of the

workshop testing further revisions at UCLA on March 14, 2008. Based on comments received after the two workshops, they completed two more revisions of the Basic workshop.

In June 2008, Melissa Beck, Peter Fletcher, and Valerie Bross worked with Les Hawkins and Hien Nguyen to co-present a Train-the-Trainer review of the SCCTP Basic Serials Cataloging Workshop. Rhonda Lawrence also participated in the critique of the workshop.

PCC Activities

In fall 2007, Peter Fletcher chaired the PCC Integrating Resources Task Group, which considered issues related to the provider-neutral integrating resources record. Following the successful conclusion of this task group, Peter also served on the PCC task group to revise CCM Module 35. In addition, Peter Fletcher also served on the PCC Standing Committee on Standards (contributing specifically to the subgroup on nonroman scripts) and as the PCC representative to CC:DA.

During FY2007/2008, Melissa Beck served on a CONSER task group on MARBI proposals related to the CONSER Standard Record.

University of California CONSER Funnel

In Mar. 2008, the UC CONSER Funnel celebrated its two-year anniversary. During the first year, the Funnel steering group and liaisons developed site training resources, communications tools (a Web site and a discussion group), and procedures for the review process. This past year saw continued growth of the Funnel; development of new tools for training; and, in the end, discussion of future directions for the Funnel.

The Steering Group for the Funnel during this period consisted of Renee Chin (Communications Coordinator), Melissa Beck (Training Coordinator), and Valerie Bross (general Coordinator). Funnel Liaisons were: Adolfo Tarango (UCSD), Sarah Gardner (UC Davis), Carole McEwan (UC Irvine), Elaine McCracken (UC Santa Barbara), Lisa Rowlison (UC Berkeley), and Sharon Scott (UC Riverside).

Funnel Highlights October 2007-July 2008

Statistics

Between October 2007 and July 2008, UC campuses (not including UCSD and UCLA) authenticated 259 records for the CONSER database and maintained 1557 records.

Site Visits & Review

UC CONSER Funnel completed one site visit during FY2007/2008. In Feb. 2008, Sarah Gardner and Melissa Beck completed initial training at UC Riverside with Sharon Scott. Sarah Gardner will be working with Sharon Scott as CONSER reviewer. In January 2008, Lisa Rowlison joined Berkeley and became the Funnel liaison for UC Berkeley. Following a visit with Sarah Gardner at UC Davis, Lisa began working with Adolfo Tarango and Margaret Christean on CONSER maintenance review.

Communications

Renee Chin continued to maintain the UC CONSER Funnel Web site and discussion group. Her experiments sharing discussion notes from UCSD's Cataloging Fun Group were well received; her case studies also enhanced the usefulness of the group. In May 2008, Renee Chin developed, tested, and analyzed the results of a SurveyMonkey survey to assess communication needs of Funnel members (see

<http://libraries.universityofcalifornia.edu/hots/conser/communicationsurvey.pdf> for full report). Based on her analysis, Renee recommended some innovations to try in the coming year, to encourage greater use of the Funnel communication tools.

Members of the UC CONSER Funnel experimented with one other Web 2.0 tool for communication: Second Life. Holly Tomren (UC Irvine) and Esther Grassian (UCLA) helped plan an initial "Pre-Meeting" on May 23, 2008 to orient Funnel members to this virtual world. Esther Grassian, with the assistance of Rhonda Super, guided Antsera Galicia, Caz Zapatero, IvanGroznyi Augenblick, and Vee Milena through the SL UCLA Library. Following this initial Pre-Meeting, Rhonda Super organized a seven-part series in July and August called: "Friday at Noon in Second Life."

Celebrating the Funnel

In May and August 2008, the UC CONSER Funnel Liaisons and Steering Group held two telephone meetings to discuss future goals for the Funnel. Among the topics, the group discussed: (1) the need for further opportunities for liaisons and steering committee discussion; (2) the possibility of holding a face-to-face meeting for UC CONSER Funnel members; and (3) expansion of the Funnel.

Sarah Gardner successfully submitted a proposal for a Tactics session, "Harnessing the Spiderweb : Challenges and Solutions," for the NASIG Annual in June 2008. She, Melissa Beck, and Valerie Bross presented an overview of the UC CONSER Funnel from Pat French's original vision through current activities. Later in June, at CONSER at Large, Adolfo Tarango, Carole McEwan, Melissa Beck, and Valerie Bross shared perspectives on the UC CONSER Funnel.

University of Chicago

We have continued to be active in the implementation of the CONSER Standard Record, with Renette Davis serving on the CONSER Standard Record Monitoring Task Group. Renette was also active again this year in providing feedback on RDA through the CONSER RDA Task Force. In addition, she was a member of the PCC Ad Hoc Series Review Task Force, which submitted its final report in April 2008. She also led a discussion on PCC Series Policies and Practices at the CONSER/BIBCO At-Large Meeting at ALA Midwinter 2008.

Renette currently serves on the PCC Standing Committee on Standards, which reviewed the Recommendations of the PCC Ad Hoc Series Review Task Force, but didn't have a chance to submit a report before the PCC Steering Committee made a decision about series policy for PCC bibliographic records. Renette represents the PCC Standing Committee on Standards on a Joint LC/PCC LCRI/RDA Task Group, which hasn't actually been able to do very much since the final draft of RDA is not available yet. She also currently serves on MARBI, and introduced several discussion papers which came out of the PCC Ad Hoc Series Review Task Force at ALA Midwinter 2008.

Most of our original CONSER records were created by a serials cataloger, Renee Martonik, and two monographic catalogers, David Bade and Larisa Walsh. Our two serials copy catalogers, Mark Kennel and Jim Server, create some CONSER records for electronic and microform serials by deriving from print version records. They are also responsible for some of our maintenance of CONSER records. This year Renee Martonik served on the PCC Integrating Resources Cataloging Manual Forum and Larisa Walsh is serving on the PCC Task Group on the Provider Neutral Monograph Record.

University of Florida

Our contributions to the CONSER database fell off somewhat this year, because the large influx of agricultural serials we received through digitization projects has slowed to a trickle. As new print titles decline, and electronic subscriptions take their place, our workload is shifting. We are working with contacts at the Library of Congress to help us increase our contributions in the area of East Asian Cataloging. We are also creating collection-level records for many of our locally-digitized collections. Our most entrenched backlogs are shrinking. But of course, working with these more challenging materials is a slower process requiring more research, authority work, and time.

Locally, we have been involved in the weeding and reclassification project at our Architecture and Fine Arts Library, and as a result uncovered some beautiful old serials that had never been in the online catalog. Our largest ongoing project is the batchload of our local holdings from Aleph version 18 into OCLC. We are confident the effort will be rewarded by greater efficiencies for our Interlibrary Loan staff, and we anticipate that this information will be invaluable as we plan for a statewide storage facility shared among the State University Libraries (housed here at UF).

University of Georgia

Statistics

Between October 2007 and Sept. 2008, UGA contributed 181 original records, authenticated 1287 existing records, and performed maintenance on 1710 authenticated records. This is a large increase over last fiscal year. This is because we are now fully staffed (and trained). Also, we have been working on the APS online titles. Though many of these have been

authenticated, we are doing the ones to which we have access. We will soon finish this project.

New receipts have declined dramatically, due to budget issues. We have a healthy influx of gifts and recon projects to keep us busy, however. This year, the UGA Libraries is canceling journal subscriptions totaling \$1,660,000. We have put the titles on a Web site to inform faculty, which can be viewed here: <http://journals.galib.uga.edu/>

Activities

Beth Thornton and Sophie Dong participated in the CSR Monitoring Group (Beth was Co-Chair, with Liping Song).

Beth Thornton taught 2 SCCTP Basic Serials Cataloging workshops in the Southeast. She and Sophie Dong presented a serials cataloging workshop at Auburn University in July.

University of Maryland

Carlen Ruschoff served as a member of the CONSER Policy Committee and as a CONSER representative to the Program for Cooperative Cataloging's Policy Committee. She also served as PCC's Strategic Plan Advisor. Beth Guay served as a member of the CONSER Standard Record (CSR) Monitoring Group which presented its report at the CONSER Operations Committee meeting on May 1, 2008. On July 15-16, 2008, Jeanne Baker co-taught with Linda Geisler (Library of Congress) the SCCTP Advanced Serials Cataloging Workshop sponsored by the Potomac Technical Processing Librarians (PTPL).

University of Texas at Austin

Serials cataloging at the University of Texas Libraries this year was book-ended by the retirements of two long-time catalogers. Oscar Delepiani retired Sept. 30, 2007 and Jim Holmes will retire Sept. 30, 2008. Fortunately for us, Oscar returned to work part time, which helps keep Latin American serial cataloging afloat. Jim's duties are being redistributed, in part to a position now being advertised. Despite the reduced staff, however, UT's CONSER statistics actually increased in fiscal 2007/08 over the previous year, as everyone got past the slow-downs caused by ILS implementation in 06/07. As always, the large majority of the CONSER work involved Latin American serials.

University of Washington

This was a transitional year in the University of Washington's Serials Services Division, which saw the retirement of Jim Stickman, Head of the Division, in November 2007, and a shift to a team-based operational management, provided by the Serials Services Management Team working with Bill Jordan, the Associate Dean of Libraries for Resource Acquisition and Description/Information Technology Services.

In April 2008 in Serials Cataloging, Linda Pitts created the 100 millionth record (and a CONSER record) directly input into OCLC!

The University of Washington Libraries' participation in OCLC WorldCat Local as public catalog was a primary focus of the Libraries' efforts to provide improved access to the entire WorldCat database, with results prioritized by local and regional availability. Due to this effort, serials retrospective conversion was a renewed focus in the section. Approximately

250 "latest entry" serial records were converted in the section; machine retrospective conversion "set" holdings on 8600 serial records in OCLC; and OCLC converted 8700 serial records manually. At the same time, staff in the Serials Services Division made progress on converting holdings to MARC format, with benefits including increased effectiveness for WebBridge, greater efficiencies in the use of OCLC for interlibrary lending and borrowing, and improved holdings data in OCLC WorldCat and OCLC WorldCat Local. During this fiscal year, 80,000 records were partially converted by batch processes, and 30,000 records were converted manually.

CONSER-related committee work, etc., of UW serials staff included:

Steve Shadle:

--gave briefing at PCC Policy Committee meeting on WorldCat Local and open source development models, November 1, 2007

--served as CONSER reviewer for Pennsylvania State University

--led CONSER Standard Record half-day workshop, sponsored by AMIGOS, November 6 & 8, 2007. Given as two 90-minute online course sessions with Peter Fletcher (UCLA)

--served on CONSER Standard Record Review Group (February-April 2008)

--continued serving on CONSER Standard Record MARC Proposal Working Group

Kristin Lindlan:

--as Chair of the CONSER RDA Comment Group, Kristin (with much assistance from the Group) prepared a response to the 463 pages of draft of RDA Sections 2-4, 9 in winter 2008

--served on the PCC Ad Hoc Series Review Task Force, which prepared a discussion paper in December 2007 and a follow-up report, "Recommendations of the PCC Ad Hoc Series Review Task Force," April 2008.

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