Regina Reynolds

PCC OpCo Meeting
Library of Congress
May 2-3, 2024
Topics

- ISSN-H
- ISSN Uplink—CONSER form
- Podcasts, repositories, blogs, oh my!
- Journals and the Wild West landscape
ISSN H (Cluster ISSN)

- Clusters: ISSN-L and ISSN-H
- ISSN IC will implement later this year
- LC cannot yet implement Field 023
- OCLC agreed to delay implementation and not deprecate 022 ISSN-L subfields $l$ $m$
- Status quo for now. I will post news to the lists
CONSER Requests

CONSER is the Cooperative Serials Program of the Program for Cooperative Cataloging, an authoritative source for bibliographic records, documentation, and training materials for serials cataloging.

Only CONSER member institutions may use this form to submit requests to the U.S. ISSN Center.

You may include up to 20 titles per request form. If you are requesting ISSN for different formats of the same title, create a new row for each format and indicate the format in the Title notes field.

*Request type
ISSN Requests

Batch Notes

*Titles

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<tr>
<th>Actions</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>OCLC ID</th>
<th>Title notes</th>
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<tr>
<td>✍️ ✗</td>
<td>I wish I had an ISSN</td>
<td>#12347654</td>
<td>Nothing to say here</td>
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Title

OCLC ID

Title notes

Add Row

Cancel  Add

* Titles

Add  Remove All

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Hijacked Journals
Hijacked journals and ISSN

- Unscrupulous “publishers” take over a web site or create a new one and place unauthorized content using the same title and ISSN or…
- A bad actor requests an ISSN center to transfer a journal to themselves by requesting update of the place and publisher using a fake surrogate…or
- The editorial board of a journal takes over the journal from the publisher
- Then what???
Will the real journal please stand up?

Two different journals with the same title, same ISSN!
ISSN Challenges

- What to do? Disputes not currently covered in the current Manual
- The US ISSN center processed over 550 transfer requests in the prior 12 months
- Require confirmation from both transferring and receiving publisher before making a transfer
- Possibility of reversing the Transfer process to require/recommend the transferring publisher initiate the transfer (they have nothing to gain)
- Update the process in the ISSN Manual
Dispute resolution options?

- Ideally, request the publishers use mediation or litigation to resolve the dispute: the owner of the title gets the ISSN
- If this is not possible, Solomon’s solution is a last resort:
  - Split the ISSN(s)?
  - Cancel all disputed ISSN(s) and issue new one(s)
  - Which links would you use between old and new records: split into?

ISSN 1234
ISSN 5678
How CONSER can help

- Be suspicious!
- Before updating a record with a new place and publisher, have an issue or web page on which to view the new publishing statement
- Be on the lookout for a noticeable decline in quality, e.g., typos, articles not on the topic of the journal
- Tell us about the situation!
- If you wish, report to Retraction Watch
Submit a Title to the Retraction Watch Hijacked Journals Database

Thanks for helping make our database of cloned journals, curated by Anna Abalkina, as comprehensive as possible. Before submitting, please check https://bit.ly/3wTqdaed for the journal in question.

Sign in to Google to save your progress. Learn more

Title of journal
Your answer

URL of original journal (if available)
Your answer

URL of hijacked journal
Your answer
Don’t let the bad guys win!
Thank you!

rrey@loc.gov