Letter from the Chair

Dear Colleagues,

The year 2007 is quickly coming to an end and I have already served in my new post as chair of the Standing Committee for three months. We are facing a new year, 2008, full of interesting events and, of course, a lot of hard work.

First of all I would like to express a few thanks so some individuals who have left the Standing Committee ending their terms in 2007: Marit Vestlie, having served two full terms and Natalia Kulygina, Jaesun Lee, Cristina Ramos, and Marcia Zeng having served one term. 

I would also like to extend my warmest thanks to Judy Kuhagen, who is not leaving the Committee, but who is stepping down from the post as chair to become an ordinary member. The Committee has five new members as of 2007: Caroline Brazier, Bodil Gustavsson, Erik Oltmans, Margaret Stewart and Jay Weitz. I wish to extend my warmest welcome to them. Since some time back we also have five corresponding members and they are Catherine Argus, Minoru Inahama, Elena Gorodiskaya, Jaesun Lee and Françoise Leresche.

The minutes of the Standing Committee meetings in Durban are now available on IFLANET and the annual report for 2007 will be presented there at the beginning of 2008 as well. The strategic plan of the section was newly approved of and can also be found on our website.

Many interesting events have occurred in the section in the year that passed. I would like to stress a few highlights below:

- The IFLA Meeting of Experts on an International Cataloguing Code (IME-ICC) held its last meeting in Pretoria in August 2007. 53 experts came from 27 sub-Saharan countries. The chair of this activity is Barbara Tillelt, who will be sending the updated statement of cataloguing principles for worldwide review in 2008.
- The ISBD Consolidated edition was published during 2007. A supplement with examples is on its way and will be presented in 2008 in multiple languages.
- The ISBD Material Designations Study Group has continued its hard work and has proposed recommendations on how to continue, fully realising the need for the
GMD to be incorporated in the RDA/ONIX framework. The most important proposal of the group is an independent ISBD component for content/carrier or content/medium replacing the old GMD.

- Within the FRBR Review Group the proposal for a revised text to Chapter 3, the Expression Entity has been finalised and is ready for publication after the final approval of the Committee was given in November. The newly established subgroup on aggregates met in Durban and scrutinised a discussion paper prepared by its chair Ed O’Neill. The work of this group is very complicated and the charge of the group therefore needed to be prolonged for two more years.

- The two other FRBR-related working groups, belonging to the Bibliographic Control Division, the Functional Requirements for Authority Data (FRAD) and the Functional Requirements for Subject Authority Records (FRSAR) also continued their work. FRAD has recently been out for world-wide review and received many comments. The working group now has to go through all comments and discuss which of them to include or not.

- The Working Group on Metadata for Digital Objects had its charge somewhat changed and is now working along a line “to recommend guidelines for those who create, share and manage metadata: elements, tools, formats, protocols”. The group will deliver a final report at IFLA in Quebec City.

- The IFLANET cataloguing site will be reorganised during the coming year to become clearer and more easy to navigate.

- An IFLA working group on digital library guidelines has been established with two members from the section: Marcia Zeng and Jaesun Lee.

- Since two years back the committee has a close co-operation with the ALA Committee on Cataloging through our liaison John Hostage. This co-operation has proven very fruitful and it was therefore decided to prolong John’s term as liaison for two more years.

The theme for next year’s open session of the section will be “Sharing standards: cooperation with other actors”. We have received some interesting proposals for papers, so I look forward to a very interesting time in Quebec City, and I hope that as many of you as possible will have the opportunity to join us there. I would like to thank all the people who have helped.

Finally I just want to express my warmest hopes for a good and prosperous new year! The world of cataloguing is quickly changing and new possibilities are awaiting us. Internet and all that the web offers through all its search engines etc. also affects us and the way we build our catalogues and retrieval systems. I am convinced that our organising skills will prove to be more needed than ever in the future.

All best wishes,
Anders

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**News from the Library of Congress** by Susan R. Morris

The following is a summary of news from the Library of Congress since our most recent report in the June 2007 issue of *SCATNews* (no. 27).

**REPORT OF THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS WORKING GROUP ON THE FUTURE OF BIBLIOGRAPHIC CONTROL**

The Library of Congress Working Group on the Future of Bibliographic Control submitted its draft report to Associate Librarian of Congress for Library Services Deanna Marcum on November 30. The report was made available for public comment until December 15 on the Library of Congress public Website. Electronic submission of comments, via the Website, is encouraged; if preferred, comments may be mailed to Olivia Madison, Dean of the Library, Iowa State University, at the address shown on the Website. The comments will be considered as the working group prepares its final report, which it intends to submit to the Library of Congress on January 9, 2008.

The working group makes five general recommendations: (1) Increase the efficiency of bibliographic production for all libraries through cooperation and sharing (2) Transfer effort into high-value activity. Examples include providing access to hidden, unique materials held by libraries. (3) Position technology … recognizing that the World Wide Web is libraries’ technology
platform as well as the appropriate platform for standards. (4) Position the library community for the future by adding evaluative, qualitative and quantitative analyses of resources; work to realize the potential provided by the FRBR framework. (5) Strengthen the library and information science profession through education and through the development of metrics that will inform decision-making now and in the future.

Dr. Marcum convened the working group in November 2006 to examine how bibliographic control and other descriptive practices can effectively support management of and access to library materials in the evolving information and technology environment; recommend ways in which the library community can collectively move toward achieving this vision; and advise the Library of Congress on its role and priorities. Olivia Madison and Dr. José-Marie Griffiths, dean of the School of Information and Library Science at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, co-chaired the working group. Other members included leading managers of libraries and representatives of various library organizations in the United States: the American Association of Law Libraries, American Library Association, Association of Research Libraries, Coalition for Networked Information, Medical Library Association, National Federation of Abstracting & Indexing Services, the Program for Cooperative Cataloging, and the Special Libraries Association. OCLC, Inc., Google, Inc., and Microsoft, Inc., were also represented on the working group.

The working group’s report was informed by comments made at its three invitational regional meetings during 2007, held at Google headquarters in March, ALA headquarters in May, and at the Library of Congress in July. Each regional meeting had a different topical focus: Uses and Users of Bibliographic Data (March); Structures and Standards for Bibliographic Data (May); and Economics and Organization of Bibliographic Data (July).

Members of the Working Group presented its recommendations to Library of Congress staff at a special meeting on November 13. At that time, Dr. Marcum commented, “Instead of focusing solely on the Library of Congress, the members of the group looked at the bibliographic ecosystem and thought deeply about the contributions that can and should be made by all of its parts. We are already doing in an experimental way many of the things suggested by the working group in its presentation. Once the final report is received, our challenge will be to analyze the recommendations, decide on which ones should be implemented, and move beyond pilot projects and tests.”


D-TOC RECEIVE 20 MILLION VISITS

The Bibliographic Enrichment Advisory Team (BEAT) initiates research and development projects to increase the value of cataloging products to library users. The team’s best-known project is the creation of digital tables of contents data (D-TOC), either as part of bibliographic records or as separate files linked to them. During the Library of Congress fiscal year 2007 (October 1, 2006-September 30, 2007), software developed by BEAT enabled the inclusion of tables of contents directly in 18,023 records for ECIP galleys and the creation of 20,389 additional D-TOC for published books. The D-TOC can be accessed via the LC Online Catalog or through major search engines. The cumulative number of “hits” on the D-TOC server since 1995 surpassed twenty million over the weekend of November 23-25, 2007.

Other BEAT projects this fiscal year linked the Library’s online catalog to more than 5,200 sample texts, brief biographies of 58,862 authors, 1,239 book reviews, and publishers’ descriptions of 63,821 new publications. New projects began linking English-language summaries to catalog records for legal materials in Czech, Hungarian, Polish, Romanian, and Russian and for general titles in Chinese, Japanese, or Korean.

CIP REVIEW GROUP PUBLISHES REPORT

The CIP Review Group of the Library of Congress Acquisitions and Bibliographic Access Directorate completed an extensive report based on the findings of three surveys of publishers, libraries, and MARC Distribution Service customers that were concluded in August 2006. The report, CIP Poised for Change: Survey Findings and Recommendations of the 2006 CIP...
Review Group was published in the spring of 2007. Participation in the surveys was quite high, with responses from 33 CDS customers, 1,865 libraries, and 655 publishers. The survey results confirmed the importance of the Cataloging in Publication (CIP) program and suggested directions for enhancing its value and making it more efficient.

The final report and recommendations were presented to the CIP Advisory Group during the Annual Conference of the American Library Association (ALA) in June. One recommendation, to continue requiring publishers to print CIP data in the book, was based on survey results that showed surprisingly strong support for this aspect of the CIP program. Other recommendations would optimize advances in automation and technology in order to provide alternative methods for publishers to receive CIP data, add audio books as in-scope materials for CIP cataloging, and change the current CIP system to accept a wider range of formats from publishers. Over the next year, the CIP Division will begin to implement those recommendations approved by ABA management, with emphasis likely to be on those recommendations that would reduce costs or improve services to libraries without posing additional costs.

The University of Wisconsin-Madison became the fifth member of the ECIP Cataloging Partnership Program, cataloging ECIP galleys sent to the Library of Congress by the University of Wisconsin Press.

PRICE REDUCTIONS FOR CATALOGING PRODUCTS

Beginning January 1, 2008, the Cataloging Distribution Service (CDS) of the Library of Congress will reduce prices on all MARC Distribution Services (MDS) subscriptions to Library of Congress catalog records. Prices for new subscriptions or renewals to Cataloger's Desktop and Classification Web ordered after January 1, 2008 will also be reduced. Prices for all other products will remain the same as in 2007.

The savings to Cataloging Distribution Service customers will be significant. For example, a library or library vendor in the United States will be able to purchase all catalog records produced by the Library of Congress during the year, with weekly updates, for $19,155, compared to the price of $21,155 in 2007. A single-user license to Classification Web, the database of the Library of Congress Classification and Library of Congress Subject Headings, will be priced at $325, a reduction of $50 from the 2007 price. Prices for customers outside the United States are somewhat higher.

During fiscal 2007, the Web subscription database Cataloger’s Desktop, distributed by CDS, incorporated 40 Spanish- and 40 French-language cataloging resources, introduced a clipboard feature, and inaugurated Spanish- and French-language interfaces that allow users to navigate the product in these languages.

Two new functions were added to the subscription online Classification Web (better known as Class Web), which take advantage of unique capabilities in the Minaret system, on which the official online version of the Library of Congress Classification is based. One is a Minaret-based system for submitting classification proposals, custom-designed by the Minaret Corporation under a contract funded by CDS. It is used both by Library of Congress catalogers and by Program for Cooperative Cataloging institutions that contribute classification proposals. The system has a user-friendly interface that greatly simplifies the process of creating the vast majority of classification proposals. The second new function is a separate index in Class Web for genre/form authority headings.

The Cataloging Distribution Service distributes catalog records and related publications, tools, and resources as a cost-recovery service under the authority of 2 U.S.C. 150. Libraries around the world rely on the catalog records and tools distributed by CDS to organize their own collections for effective user access. After its annual review of product prices, CDS was able to reduce product prices because of operational cost savings.

CONSER NEWS

CONSER, the serial cataloging component of the international Program for Cooperative Cataloging, gained two new associate level members, the University of Pennsylvania and Pennsylvania State University, in fiscal 2007.

CONSER has considered potential contribution of CONSER serial records to the Registry of Digital Masters (RDM) for the past two years. Because of concerns over the single-record approach for all formats used in the RDM, CONSER members agreed at the CONSER Operations Meeting held at the Library in May 2007 not to contribute single-record-approach
records to the RDM for a year. CONSER will monitor developments in how holdings records might be used in the RDM and how institutional needs for contributing to the RDM evolve over the coming year.

The CONSER Standard Record is a new Program for Cooperative Cataloging (PCC) standard record that provides full access to serial titles yet simplifies more time consuming descriptive tasks and eliminates redundant data in the description of serials. The new standard record was approved by the PCC Policy Committee in November 2006 and implemented by the Library of Congress on June 1, with the understanding that individual CONSER members might set later dates for local implementation.

VALIDATION SUBJECT AUTHORITY RECORDS

The Library of Congress Cataloging Policy and Support Office is now able to generate subject authority records from bibliographic headings using software developed at the Library. The programs will be run on commonly used subject strings in the LC bibliographic database, i.e., strings used 50 or more times. The function of these “validation” authority records is to enable machine validation of subject access points, thereby greatly improving their accuracy and ultimately enhancing end-users’ discovery of resources as they search the LC database. Approximately 2,500 such records were created in fiscal 2007.

TRANSITION FROM RLIN TO LC ILS AND OCLC

The integration of the activities of OCLC and the Research Libraries Group (RLG), which began in July 2006, resulted in the shutdown of the RLIN bibliographic utility at the end of August 2007. The Library of Congress Acquisitions and Bibliographic Access Directorate carefully considered the question of the new locus of cataloging for the National Union Catalog of Manuscript Collections (NUCMC) and of materials in the so-called JACKPHY scripts, Japanese, Arabic, Chinese, Korean, Persian, Hebrew, and Yiddish. Management accepted the NUCMC team leader’s recommendation that NUCMC cataloging be moved to OCLC WorldCat, using the Connexion 2.0 client. NUCMC input/update in RLIN ceased on July 26, when OCLC input/update began. By the end of September, all NUCMC records had been successfully migrated to WorldCat, and the NUCMC Website had been edited to reflect the move to OCLC. With the migration of RLIN records to WorldCat, nearly 1.5 million records for archival collections and individual manuscripts are now available through the NUCMC/OCLC gateway.

In order to determine the best locus of JACKPHY monograph cataloging, the Directorate and the Library of Congress ILS Program Office undertook a comparison test of the non-roman script capabilities of OCLC Connexion and the Voyager cataloging module. The test results led ABA to conclude that cataloging JACKPHY monographs on Voyager was the better option; JACKPHY serials would continue to be cataloged on OCLC, which holds the CONSER database. Workflow considerations were a major factor in the decision regarding monographs, since working in Voyager made it possible to fully process an item on a single day, using a single system, and to perform automated changes to JACKPHY catalog records locally.

What's new with the FRBR Entity “Expression”? by Pat Riva and Anders Cato

In section 3.2.2 of the Functional Requirements for Bibliographic Records, the entity expression is defined as: “the intellectual or artistic realization of a work in the form of alpha-numeric, musical, or choreographic notation, sound, image, object, movement, etc., or any combination of such forms”. Thus each new realization of a work is a new expression. That seems straightforward enough? Or is it?

The entity expression -- how to recognize one, how to determine whether two manifestations of a work are manifestations of a single expression or of two distinct expressions -- has actually been one of the aspects of FRBR most often considered “difficult” or “controversial”. The issue was raised during the first meeting of the FRBR Working Group (which later became the FRBR Review Group).
in 2002. In 2003 the Review Group immediately created a working group charged with clarifying the issues surrounding the expression entity, with Anders Cato as its chair.

By 2005 the Working Group on the Expression Entity had determined that revisions to the text of FRBR section 3.2.2 were needed. In particular, two sentences in the existing wording, while technically accurate, were leading to problematic, and ultimately counter-productively unimplementable, interpretations.

Consider the 1998 wording:

“Strictly speaking, any change in intellectual or artistic content constitutes a change in expression. Thus, if a text is revised or modified, the resulting expression is considered to be a new expression, no matter how minor the modification may be.” [underlining for emphasis mine]

Except for exact photographic reproductions, the only way to be absolutely positive that there are no tiny differences in the words contained in two different manifestations of the same textual work is to compare the two manifestations word-by-word. This is obviously something that is not going to happen in any normal cataloguing situation, with the unfortunate result that under a strict interpretation of the definition, the entity expression could never actually be applied, thus completely loosing its potential for organizing the displays of those works with many manifestations.

While the WG continued to refine the content of their proposal to amend FRBR during 2005/2006, the Review Group realised that this would be a first; FRBR had not previously been amended. During its 2006 meeting in Seoul the RG approved a Process for the approval and publication of amendments to FRBR laying out the steps required to adopt this and future amendments. As is usual with the Cataloguing Section, the process includes a world-wide review. The "expression amendment" was issued for world-wide review from October to December 2006. Responses were received from 14 individuals or groups from a total of 6 countries, and as is often the case, the combined comment log (9 pages) is many times longer than the amended text.

During its final meeting on August 21, 2007 in Durban, the WG completed its analysis of the world-wide review comments and made final adjustments to its proposal. Following confirmation by the Review Group in September, the amendment proposal was submitted to a vote of the Cataloguing Section, which gave its final approval on November 9.

Look for the updated text of FRBR on IFLANET (http://www.ifla.org/VII/s13/wgfrbr/finalreport.htm). The main download link will always point to the latest text with any amendments incorporated. However, explicit track of amendment packages (which can also include any errata that were reported) will be maintained. We hope that these amendment packages will assist translators to keep their language versions updated with a minimum of effort.

Government of Canada Web Archive submitted by Marg Stewart

Library and Archives Canada (LAC) launched the "Government of Canada Web Archive" on November 20, 2007. The site can be found at: http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/webarchives/

The Library and Archives of Canada Act received Royal Assent on April 22, 2004, allowing Library and Archives Canada (LAC) to collect and preserve a representative sample of Canadian websites. To meet its new mandate, LAC began to harvest the Web domain of the Federal Government of Canada starting in December 2005. As resources permit, this harvesting activity will be undertaken on a semi-annual basis. The harvested website data is stored in the "Government of Canada Web Archive" (GCWA). Client access to the content of the GCWA is provided through searching full text by keyword, by department name and by URL. It is also possible to search by specific format type, (e.g., *.PDF). By the fall 2007, approximately 100 million digital objects (over 4 terabytes) of archived federal government website data will be made accessible via the LAC website.

Library and Archives Canada (LAC) has implemented this first significant Canadian Web archive through the use of open source tools, developed by the International Internet Preservation Consortium (http://www.netpreserve.org), of which LAC is a
The 5th Meeting of the Cooperative Committee for Chinese Name Authority Was Held in Beijing by Ben Gu

The 5th Meeting of the Cooperative Committee for Chinese Name Authority was held in Peking University Library, Beijing, on November 7, 2007. About 10 delegates and 10 observers from National Library of China, HKCAN (Hong Kong Chinese Authority (Name) Workgroup) and CALIS (China Academic Library & Information System) attended the meeting. There were no delegates from Taiwan to attend this meeting.

CCCNA was established in October 2003 to promote the cooperation of authority control and to realize resource sharing among libraries in China, including those in Hong Kong, Macau and Taiwan regions, and overseas Chinese libraries.

In this meeting, representatives from the three institutions reported their work in the last year, and proposed recommendations for “substantial sharing of Chinese name authority records”. Some delegates think that we should take practical and operable approaches to authority control, because authority control costs too much, and improper ways will result in the inconvenience both to librarians and users. All the delegates agreed on some proposals, such as free public display of name authority records, free download of records by members and future coordination of rules for authority records. The next meeting will be held in the National Library of China in late 2008.

Membership Update for FRBR Review Group by Pat Riva

2007 was an election year, for the FRBR Review Group as well as IFLA. Two founding members of the Review Group completed their terms in Durban: Ed O'Neill, and Carol van Nuys. We thank them both for their significant contributions over the years. Ed continues to play a key role as chair of the Working Group on Aggregates. The Review Group welcomes two new members, both of whom have been active with FRBR and the Cataloguing Section in various capacities for a number of years: Françoise Leresche and Eeva Murtomaa. The new liaisons between the Cataloguing Section and rule-making bodies will also serve as ex-officio Review Group members. In Durban we were joined by Marg Stewart, first liaison with the Joint Steering Committee for the Development of RDA.

The current roster for the Review Group is:

Anders Cato 2006-2009 (first term)
Alan Danskin 2005-2009
Françoise Leresche 2007-2011 (first term)
Eeva Murtomaa 2007-2011 (first term)
Glenn Patton 2005-2009
Pat Riva (chair) 2005-2009 (first term)
Barbara Tillett 2005-2011
Maja Žumer 2005-2009 (first term)
Marg Stewart (ex-officio, liaison with RDA)
Cataloguing Section members at the World Library and Information Congress in Durban, August 2007. Photo courtesy of Ben Gu.

Contributions to SCATNews are welcome at any time. The deadline for the next issue is May 15, 2008.

Please send news items, articles, and comments to the Editor:

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All of the Cataloguing Section's ongoing projects, activities, and publications can be found at

http://www.ifla.org

or go directly to

http://www.ifla.org/VII/s13/sc.htm