



SCATNews

Newsletter of the Standing Committee of the IFLA Cataloguing Section

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Letter from the Chair



Dear Colleagues,

The year 2008 has come to an end much more quickly than I could ever have imagined. There are so many things still left on the agenda and I can't really see how I shall be able to deal with them all. But in the end

everything usually turns out all right.

It has been an intense, but extremely interesting year. Within our section the IME-ICC work is almost finished now and presently Barbara Tillett, who is chairing this effort, is collecting the reactions to the last worldwide review. Within the next coming months the new International Cataloguing Principles (ICP), the results of this process will be ready to publish, the first new international cataloguing principles since the Paris Principles of 1961!

The ISBD Preliminary Consolidated edition was published during 2007. A supplement with examples is on its way and will be presented very soon. 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. As soon as all these proposals and recommendations have been dealt with the group is ready to publish its first real new Consolidated Edition, no longer preliminary.

Within the FRBR Review Group the subgroup on aggregates met in Québec and scrutinised a discussion paper prepared by its chair Ed O'Neill. The work of this group is very complicated but the group is hoping to have a final report ready for the Standing Committee by the meeting in Milan. Another Group related to this work is the working group on FRBRoo, the object-oriented definition of FRBR, which has been developed within the framework of CIDOC CRM. A paper "FRBRoo : Enabling a Common View of Information from Memory Institutions" prepared jointly by Pat Riva, Martin Doerr and Maja Žumer was presented at the Cataloguing Section program in Québec. 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 is right now going through all the revision proposals that were received during the last world wide review and the final report should be ready shortly. The FRSAR Group also expects to have a final report ready in 2009 or 2010. To further encourage and facilitate the uptake of FRBR in implementations, in 2007 the FRBR Review Group initiated a new project to define namespaces for FRBR in RDF. The Review

Virtual International Authority File, Update 2008

Ana Lupe Cristán, Library of Congress

The Virtual International Authority File (VIAF) has moved to its penultimate phase in the process of becoming a major tool for access to the forms of authorized personal names as represented in the world's national libraries authority files. In September of 2008, Dr. Barbara B. Tillett on behalf of the VIAF partners (Library of Congress, Bibliothèque nationale de France, Deutsche Nationalbibliothek, and OCLC) issued invitations to over 20 potential participants signaling the official start of a full-scale production of the VIAF.

In 2003 the VIAF's initial phase began when the Library of Congress (LC), the Deutsche Nationalbibliothek (DNB), and OCLC, Inc. agreed to a proof of concept project to test the viability of programmatically linking personal names in authority files from different national authority files regardless of format or cataloging rules used for the creation of such data. Sophisticated software developed by OCLC's Office of Research, spearheaded by Dr. Thomas Hickey and Dr. Ed O'Neill, developed algorithms to match personal name authority records between the two authority files.

Throughout 2004 -2007 the VIAF participants supported the development of the matching process through accuracy reviews and comments on the results. Each review resulted in some modifications that either increased the number of matches or reduced the false matches. During that time, a reasonable accurate threshold score and scoring algorithm was developed. To confirm the accuracy and effectiveness of the matching process, name matching samples were reviewed by the experienced authority catalogers at both DNB and LC. In early 2007 the VIAF partners agreed that the matching process was stable enough so that a third partner could be included in the experimental phase. The Bibliothèque nationale de France (BnF) was invited to join the core partnership and an agreement was signed by the four partners in November of 2007, and the BnF was officially welcomed as a founding member of the VIAF.

In an ongoing phase developed in order to achieve the long-term goal, an interim goal was set to develop a mechanism for the maintenance of the

Group felt that it was appropriate that this work be carried out authoritatively under the auspices of IFLA. The question was taken to IFLA Professional Board this autumn where it was approved. The ISBD community also has plans to create its own RDF Namespace.

The Working Group on Metadata for Digital Objects had its charge somewhat changed in 2007 and after that worked along a line "to recommend guidelines for those who create, share and manage metadata: elements, tools, formats, protocols". The group finalised its work in Québec and the final report is to be delivered in December 2008. The group has realised though that its work is very closely linked to another IFLA working group, the one on digital library guidelines that was established two years ago with two members from the section: Marcia Zeng and Jaesun Lee. The final report will stress the need to study the results of this working group very carefully.

The meeting minutes from Québec and the annual report of the Standing Committee are now available on IFLANET.

The theme for 2009 open session of the section will be "New Principles and New Rules for New Catalogues". We have received a few interesting proposals for papers, and I look forward to receiving more following our call for papers that was sent out in October.

Finally I just want to express my warmest hopes for a good and prosperous new year! The year that lies ahead of us is full of exciting events, not only what I mentioned above, but also other bibliographic matters, such as the new cataloguing code, replacing AACR 2, Resource Description & Access (RDA), which will be finalised during the year and implemented in the four National Libraries that so far have agreed to implement it, i.e. the Library of Congress, the National Library of Canada, the National Library of Australia and the British Library.

All best wishes,

Anders



VIAF database to include additions and changes to both the authority and bibliographic records of all participating agencies. This update and maintenance system designed around the protocols used by the OAI-PMH to request this information for the updates has been put in place with staff at LC, BnF, and the DNB actively working with OCLC to assure that the algorithms are not slowed by errors in the data files. The database and interface support Unicode and multi-language, multi-script capabilities.

Direct requests to the database provide, for example, an LC version name and the matched name in another authority file (either DNB or BnF at this point) as a simple HTML link that can be used to support semantic Web capabilities. The VIAF prototype can now be searched by linking to: <http://orlabs.oclc.org/viaf/> The long-term goal of the VIAF project, to link the authoritative names from many national libraries and other authoritative sources into a shared global authority service for persons, corporate bodies, conferences, places, etc., will soon become a reality as signaled by this new milestone in its development. In the final phase access to the VIAF records will be made via an advanced user interface on the open Web.



Development of Chinese Cataloging Standards in Progress

Ben Gu, National Library of China

Chinese cataloging experts are busy with the drafting of the national standards related to library cataloging in 2008. As a Chinese counterpart of ISO TC46 (Information and Documentation), the National Documentation Standardization Committee (China) is responsible for the organization of Chinese national standards for bibliographic description. The last edition of the Bibliographic Description for Monographs (a national standard) was published in 2007, and the last edition of the Bibliographic Description for Ancient Books is now in the review process. In November 2008, the revised versions of the General Bibliographic Description and the bibliographic descriptions respectively for non-book materials, serials and electronic resources have just been completed, are in review procedures now, and are expected to be published in the next few years.

The revision is based on the latest editions of the individual ISBDs and the ISBD Preliminary Consolidated Edition.

In China, national standards related to library cataloging are the basis for the drafting of *Chinese Library Cataloging Rules*, and experts responsible for the drafting of these national standards are catalogers from major libraries and scholars from library schools in China.



News from the Library of Congress

Susan R. Morris

The following is a summary of news from the Library of Congress since our most recent previous report in the June 2008 issue of *SCATNews* (no. 29).

Reorganization of the Acquisitions and Bibliographic Access Directorate

On October 1, 2008, the Library of Congress Acquisitions and Bibliographic Access Directorate implemented a new organizational structure that streamlines workflows, deploys staff with unusual language skills more effectively, and fully merges acquisitions and cataloging functions, based on the regional origin of materials selected for addition to the Library's collections—more than 2.5 million items each year. Approximately 615 ABA staff members, formerly working in 14 divisions, are now assigned to nine new divisions. Additionally, approximately twenty staff who catalog music and sound recordings were reassigned from the ABA Directorate to the Music Division, Collections and Services Directorate, on October 1.

The new organization, led by Director Beacher J. Wiggins, features six production divisions and three support divisions. Four production divisions have fiscal responsibilities and acquire and catalog materials from all parts of the world using methods of purchase, exchange, and gift. These are the African, Latin American, and Western European Division (chief, Angela Kinney); Asian and Middle Eastern Division (chief, Philip Melzer); Germanic and Slavic Division (chief, Linda Stubbs); and US/Anglo Division (chief, Judith A. Mansfield). The remaining two production divisions, the US and Publisher Liaison Division (chief, Maureen Landry) and the US

General Division (chief, Karl Debuz-López), catalog materials forwarded from the U.S. Copyright Office or received in the Cataloging in Publication, Electronic Preassigned Card Number, and International Standard Serial Number programs. The US General Division also houses the Library of Congress's Dewey classifiers and works closely with the owner of the Dewey Decimal Classification, OCLC, Inc., and its editors.

In addition, the Overseas Operations Division (chief, James Gentner) continues to administer the Library's six overseas offices in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; Cairo, Egypt; New Delhi, India; Jakarta, Indonesia; Nairobi, Kenya; and Islamabad, Pakistan. The reorganization established an Acquisitions Fiscal and Support Office (head, Joseph Puccio), within the Office of the Director, that is responsible for acquisitions fiscal operations, the Duplicate Materials Exchange Program, the Surplus Books Program, and oversight of materials handling contractors. The Cooperative and Instructional Programs Division (chief, Judith Cannan) combines the former Cooperative Cataloging Team, CONSER operations, the National Union Catalog of Manuscript Collections staff, and the directorate's internal training staff. This merger recognized that ABA could realize efficiencies in the provision of training both to Library staff and to practitioners in other institutions. It also groups together all ABA staff who support cooperative cataloging programs, in order to improve communications and achieve greater efficiency.

The new Policy and Standards Division (chief, Barbara Tillett) performs all the functions of the former Cataloging Policy and Support Office. In recognition of the growing importance of policy and standards for acquisitions as well as cataloging, the division has gained a fulltime policy specialist focusing on acquisitions. The product development functions of the Library of Congress Cataloging Distribution Service have also become the responsibility of Policy and Standards, while the CDS cost-recovery functions moved to the new Business Enterprises organization in the Partnerships and Outreach Programs Directorate.

Original Script in Bibliographic and Authority Records

In summer 2008 the Library of Congress began a major initiative to include Cyrillic-script text in bibliographic and authority records. For more than

twenty years, the Acquisitions and Bibliographic Access Directorate had included original non-Latin-script data in bibliographic records for Japanese, Arabic, Chinese, Korean, Persian, Hebrew, and Yiddish materials, although the Library's own catalog software could not display the non-Latin data. The merger of the RLIN bibliographic utility with OCLC in 2007 and the Library's upgrade to a Unicode-compliant version of the Voyager ILS software, which can display all scripts, created an opportunity to begin including original-script text in cataloging for other languages. The ABA Directorate chose to expand first to Russian and other Slavic languages in Cyrillic script. The former Serial Record Division led the way in 2007, adding Cyrillic-script text to records for serials that it cataloged in the OCLC bibliographic utility, and monograph catalogers began adding Cyrillic-script text in August 2008.

The Cataloging Policy and Support Office (now the Policy and Standards Division) also began adding Cyrillic-script and Greek-script data to authority records, including captions in the Library of Congress Classification schedules. As part of its contribution to the Program for Cooperative Cataloging, OCLC, Inc., undertook a project to pre-populate 497,576 name authority records with data in non-Latin scripts, working between July 2008 and November 25, 2008. The Cataloging Distribution Service is distributing the bibliographic and authority records outside the Library of Congress.

LC hopes to announce soon a process by which catalogers in other institutions who have been examining the non-Latin script references added by this project can contribute to the development of policies and practices for the future, such as the issues raised in the white paper on non-Latin script references in name authority records (see http://www.loc.gov/catdir/cpsa/nonlatin_whitepaper.html).

Three New ECIP Cataloging Partners

The libraries of Brigham Young University, Duke University, and the University of Chicago joined the ECIP Cataloging Partners program in autumn 2008, cataloging publications of their own university presses from electronic galleys submitted to the Library of Congress in advance of publication. There are now ten ECIP cataloging partner libraries; the others are at Cornell, Northwestern, and Stanford universities, Texas A&M University, the U.S. National

Agricultural Library, the U.S. National Library of Medicine, and the University of Wisconsin. As with all CIP records, the resulting catalog records are printed in the published books, and the LC Cataloging Distribution Service distributes the records for use by other libraries. The ECIP cataloging partners collectively cataloged 3,559 titles from October 1, 2007 through September 30, 2008.

BEAT Activities

The Bibliographic Enrichment Advisory Team (BEAT) in the Acquisitions and Bibliographic Access Directorate 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. In the fiscal year from October 1, 2007 through September 30, 2008, software developed by BEAT enabled the inclusion of tables of contents directly in 18,549 records for ECIP galleys and the creation of 28,596 additional D-TOC for published books. The latter were placed on a Library of Congress server, hot-linked to the corresponding catalog records, and were indexed by Google and Yahoo! Digitized tables of contents enable richer keyword searching and permit catalog users to make more informed decisions about whether to request a book from the catalog. At the end of September 2008, the cumulative number of "hits" on the D-TOC server since 1995 exceeded 25 million, including more than five million in fiscal 2008.

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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/>

Contributions are welcome at any time. The deadline for the next issue is May 15, 2009.



[World Library and Information Congress:
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Milan, Italy, August 2009

"Libraries create futures: building on cultural heritage"