# Technical Services Planning Committee Authority Committee Report

*Submitted by Nancy Williams (UF)*
*December 8, 1995*

---

Definitely the significant achievement for this year was the loading into LTLC of the total LC authority file. For those of us who have the capability of multiple screen displays, the local index can be viewed at the same time as the LTLC index. Also deriving authorities into a local file rather than exporting from OCLC facilitates index review and correct setting of use codes in one operation. And saving the OCLC export charge adds up each month.

The following individuals were designated as "authority gurus" for their institutions:

- University of Florida - Nancy Lynne Williams
- University of Florida, Law - Jean Bostwick
- University of Florida, Health Center - Mary Ann O'Daniel
- Florida State University - Virginia Kuehn
- Florida International University - Kass Evans
- University of Central Florida - Linda Sutton
- University of South Florida - Susan Heron
- University of West Florida - Bob Sun
- FCLA - Elaine Henjum

Linda Smith, Kass Evans and Nancy Williams contributed reports to the list on the authority operations at their institutions and made suggestions for future developments centrally and locally.

Some interest has been expressed in Gary Strawn's Cataloger Toolkit called CLARR which is used at Northwestern University. An agreement was worked out for UF to beta test the software on four work stations. So far only one copy has been successfully loaded and connected to LUIS. It is being used by Cecilia Botero, our NACO Coordinator, in her serials cataloging. The verification reports we are getting for bibliographic records correctly identify the existence of authority records for headings, but we have a glitch in the reporting of heading matches to other bibliographic records when no authority exists in the index. We need to have further exploration of the index and the modifications that might make our index different from Northwestern's index.

We have a loan of a 486 computer with 16 RAM from FCLA to mount another copy of CLARR. The CLARR is mounted but we do not yet have the network connection functioning. Nancy is trying to be

patient. This computer will be used by Nancy and others in the Department. It is set up for shared use and not placed on someone's personal desk. If you wish to review the structure and capabilities of CLARR, its manual can be found on the World Wide Web at http://www.library.nwu.edu/clarr/home. html.

Nancy had the opportunity over the last few months to review the authorities for hundreds of LC copy records that were being handled by several LTAs who were learning new responsibilities. For 1995 imprints it would appear that "automatic" derivation could work at an accuracy rate better than 99.5%. Examined were both new headings requiring authorities as well as headings on records that interfiled into an index with an already existing authority record. Only one heading would have incorrectly pulled an authority because of LC's error in leaving a date off a personal name on the bibliographic record.

When errors were discovered it was usually an incorrect subfield code or a typo in the name. These would be failed matches that might be identified in later cataloging or observations of guide and index screens. This review only applied to name headings and series headings. Subjects were not included. The CLARR software would facilitate some further review, especially the review of subject headings.