

TSPC Authorities Subcommittee Meeting
Minutes
September 1, 2011
2:00-3:30

Illuminate session recording: [View the Blackboard Collaborate recording](#)

In attendance:

FCLA: Mary Ann O'Daniel

FIU: Sue Wartzok; Zhonghua Du

FSU: Ruth Ziegler

NCF: Sarah Norris

UCF: Jeanne Piascik

UF: Priscilla Williams (moderator)

UNF: Susan Massey

USF: Charles Gordon (moderator); Susan Heron

Minutes: the August 9, 2011, minutes were approved with one minor correction.

Next TSPC meeting: Thursday, Sept. 8, 2-4 p.m.

Next Authorities Subcommittee meeting: Thursday, October 6, 2-3:30 p.m.

Next minute taker: Malka Schyndel (FAU)

Florida NACO Funnel update:

Priscilla Williams reported that she has been collaborating with Sarah Norris (NCF) and Malka Schyndel (FAU) about the process for joining the Florida NACO Funnel. Also, Joy Banks, who is now at the library for Bok Towers, has gotten her OCLC login. She had participated in the Florida NACO Funnel when she was at Florida Southern. She is in process of getting her authorization transferred to Bok Towers.

FCLA report:

Mary Ann O'Daniel reported that the FGCU Reclamation project was going quickly because their database is small. UWF & FAMU are next in line for Reclamation. Other libraries are concentrating on cleaning up their local authority files. She wanted to make sure that we all understand that the presence of local authority file records block updating of the headings in our bibs that should be linked to changes in LCA10 records.

Mary Ann asked us to file RTs with criteria if there are local authority file projects that we need FCLA to help us with. She plans to post to the list or put on the swiki the criteria that other libraries have been using. FCLA has been developing a new Aleph custom service to identify records that do not link to any headings in your bib file. The records are not being used and may be candidates for deletion. The new service just needs to be tested and, if it works as planned, it will be available soon. She will also be checking to see how long it takes to run and what kind of resources it takes.

There was further discussion of how to cut down on the number of local authority records. Susan Massey wondered if it's possible to get a list of local authority records that match records in LCA10—in other words, records that were created locally when an LCA10 record did not exist but for which there now is an LCA10 record. Mary Ann said that there is nothing existing now that can do that and it would take some research to determine the best way to do it. It is something that has been requested a lot over the years. Susan said that they'd been doing some manual cleanup but an automated process would be welcome. Mary Ann pointed out that local records with 010 fields clearly match a record in LCA10 but local records without an 010 field are the real challenge. Sue Wartzok said that FIU had worked with FCLA to delete all their local name and subject heading records. However, they still have thousands of local series records, some of them needed because they record a local practice that differs from the practice recorded in the authority record. Staff are working their way through the file of records to delete manually those that are not needed but it may be a decades long project.

Mary Ann had mentioned that she expects that the CSUL meetings going on now will be making decisions about the Single Bib Project. She was asked to elaborate on that statement. She said that FCLA is asking for clarification of what their priorities should be. Single Bib is such a big project that FCLA needs direction now rather than waiting for the December meeting. What CSUL decides today will have a big effect on what other projects they do. If CSUL says that Single Bib is a top priority, FCLA will be freed up to work on cleanup of local authority files as part of the single bib process.

CSUL website:

Lisa Tatum has trained Charles (with Mary Ann as backup) to use Drupal to add things to the subcommittee's website. However, if changes are needed, he has to send those to FCLA. He asked that we all make sure our entries in the membership list are up to date and let him know during the next week. The address is: <http://csul.fcla.edu/>

Statements on controlling headings in Connexion and the Florida NACO Funnel:

Charles wondered if the statement that we are preparing for the Metadata Subcommittee was open to wordsmithing and he also wondered if we should vote on the statement since it is to be included in their guidelines. He had prepared an abbreviated summary of the statement of what Susan Massey had originally written and Priscilla had recorded in last month's minutes. After further discussion, the group decided that the longer more forceful statement was needed in order to make it clear that we are issuing a guideline—a "best practice" that catalogers statewide can refer to in the future. Several libraries had discussed the statement with colleagues and the group voted to accept it in the form recorded in last month's minutes.

Authority control of E-gov records in a shared database:

Priscilla reported that she had been on a conference call last week about maintaining the records for electronic government documents loaded centrally by FCLA into an Aleph instance like DLU01. Since UF is a regional depository, UF is willing to do the work. However, if they need help she would like to know if there are other SULs who would be willing to participate. FCLA would provide the same weekly Arrow reports that they provide to the SULs for their own databases. It was also pointed out that UF is willing to provide the same level of maintenance as what they are currently providing for their own database. FSU volunteered to help. It was theorized that, if the single bib pilot project goes forward, the cooperative work of UF & FSU could provide a model for future sharing of authority work. This new bib file would initially be set up in the UX Aleph instance in Test. Mary Ann said that it would also be a

good opportunity to test how automatic updates of bib headings from authorities works when LCA10 and MSH12 are in the same Aleph instance as the bibs.

Outsourcing authority control in a single bib environment:

Priscilla has gotten questions about what would be gained if authority control were outsourced. She was also wondering what kind of reports we would need. Others in the group with historical experience with outsourcing the work said that the vendors offer various reports as part of their processing. Priscilla wondered if we would still need locally created reports for things like deleted headings and unauthorized headings. Susan Massey recalled that Marcive offered a report of undifferentiated headings and a report of split subject headings. She also recalled that the amount of work was greatly reduced but someone still needed to resolve the various categories of problems reported by the vendor.

It was pointed out that we are assuming that we can afford to send out the entire merged database and that CSUL is probably not aware that sending the entire database will be very expensive. Mary Ann found a figure from several years ago of \$228,000 for a database of 9,500,000. She also stated that we should not assume that FCLA will be able to produce reports beyond what the vendor offers. The new organization replacing FCLA/CCLA may not be able to offer the services of a Data Warehouse. There was the suggestion that we just send records from a certain point onward. It was agreed that this would be ill advised. If we do not start from a clean foundation, we will never have a clean database. Susan Heron said that she had been working on database cleanup projects and the older records were particularly bad.

The group agreed that the Directors need to know that there will be a cost associated with having a discovery system that is based on a clean database. Charles pointed out that authority control will become more important as we begin to work with linked data. The directors need to know about our changing data environment. It was suggested that we prepare an informational white paper to explain the importance of authority control so that the directors can understand its value as we go forward in a shared environment. Susan Massey volunteered to be on the drafting committee. Priscilla also volunteered saying that her Dean had asked for the cost estimates that Priscilla did 6-7 years ago.

Old Topic:

Because of pressures of other priorities, Mary Ann reported that she has not had time to send out a spreadsheet of what is in each SUL's 01 and 10 scancode.dat table.

The meeting adjourned at 3:15.

Respectfully submitted,
Sue Wartzok