

Report to the State University Library Interest Group
Authorities Subcommittee
Technical Services Planning Committee
Florida Library Association
May 7, 2009

The Authorities Subcommittee continues to use the authorities list serve for discussing, collaborating, and communicating decisions to FCLA on issues involving authority control in Aleph and Mango/Endeca. Subcommittee co-chairs are regular participants in scheduled TSPC monthly meetings and convene special meetings of the Subcommittee via conference call when necessary.

On January 21, we met in a conference call to work on the Action Plan for 2009. We discussed the progress made on action items for 2008 and made decisions for 2009 based on the current status of authority control in the SUL and what the group envisions for the future. Our goals were forwarded to TSPC and incorporated into the overall plan.

Indexing:

The Authorities Subcommittee made recommendations to FCLA on various indexing issues to support the indexing for production databases across the SUL. Based on the recommendations for indexing changes, FCLA rebuilt the bib indexes on DEV18 to link to local authority files and the DEV18 versions of LCA10 and MSH12. The Subcommittee participated in the extensive testing of the indexes in the DEV18 client and provided important feedback so FCLA could fine tune the detailed coding that defines the structure of an index.

Re-indexing:

The Authorities Subcommittee worked with FCLA and the TSPC to revise the current indexing specifications. FCLA set up a re-indexing schedule with assigned dates for re-indexing the SUL libraries. The process began in January and will end sometime this month. The re-indexing directly relates to authorities work and is very important. After the indexes are regenerated, controlled access points will be linking to headings in a current authority file (the new LC authority file that was purchased) for the first time since the migration to ALEPH.

Authority Reports:

Mary Ann O'Daniel and FCLA have worked to improve existing authority reports and generated new ones based on feedback from the Subcommittee. The last NOTIS authority report was for week 21 of 2008 (June 5, 2008). In addition to the Aleph authority reports we currently have access to institution specific reports for updates to series and subject headings that can be run using the ALEPH ARROW authority reports developed by FCLA. The Authorities Subcommittee is very pleased with these reports and looks forward to testing/using them for names with an up to date LCA10, after re-indexing.

Respectfully submitted,

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Authorities Subcommittee, co-chairs