

TSPC Teleconference Minutes 5/29/02

Present: Donna Alsbury, Daniel Cromwell, Michele Newberry, and Mary Ann O'Daniel (FCLA), Cecilia Botero (UF-HSC), Mae Clark (UF-LAW), Janice Donahue (FAU), Becky Donlan (FGCU), John Hein (UNF), Susan Heron (USF), Leanne Hillery (FIU-LAW), Allison Howard (USF-HSC), Martha Hruska (UF), Linda Sutton (UCF), Sue Wartzok (FIU), Roy Ziegler (FSU), Linda Broyles filling in for Dan North (UWF), Anne Bardolph filling in for Janice Ross (FSU-LAW)

New members Leanne Hillery (FIU-LAW) and Roy Ziegler (FSU) were welcomed.

NOTIS Conversion

The Ex Libris program for converting data was written for NOTIS version 7.2 and we're using version 4.x. We have also had some of our own conventions. Hence, the Ex Libris conversion program does not work for us. FCLA will be writing the conversion programs. This will change the timeline as to when the initial subset loads are done. At this point, no raw test loads have been done. Data will be loaded directly into Aleph version 15.2.

The process is currently behind schedule due to the fact that FCLA has needed to do more than was first anticipated. However, the data will probably be in better shape and hopefully fewer refinements of test loads will be necessary. It is expected that the process will catch up. It is anticipated that Phase I libraries will go into production in July of 2003.

CCLA is using SUN boxes and has 15.2 running now.

FCLA is using IBM boxes and has 15.2 loaded, however some sections are not working properly. The GUI client works but records can only be found via record key.

Aleph 14.2 clients are loaded at the Phase I Libraries and can be used to learn how to navigate within Aleph.

Database Cleanup

Various cleanup projects are underway at many of the institutions. Some of the projects include fixing call number inconsistencies like the use of semi-colons, inconsistencies regarding the deletion of records, diacritic errors, unlinked items (either deletion or linking).

Unlinked item records do not exist in Aleph and if they migrate, brief bibliographic records will be created. Course reserves go into a separate "library" (set of files) in Aleph. CRES records will be migrated and converted into brief records. If institutions have unlinked item records that they want to migrate, they should be either be linked to their proper bib record, or a brief record could be created. Unlinked item records not to be migrated should be deleted.

There was some discussion on how to find local authority records. Some libraries have used the 690

field to identify local headings. Mary Ann will forward the request to keyword authority 690 fields to the programmers. UF's keyword index file is quite large and is approaching the mainframe file size limit. While each institution has its own keyword index file, the same indexing software is used for everyone. If UF's keyword index size becomes a critical problem, the TSPC may be approached about not keywording a staff-use field any more, at least until UF migrates to Aleph.

Martha (UF) said she would post the URL to their web pages (this was posted as we met—Thanks, Martha!) Mary Ann said she would post the link to the ARROW unlinked item page (this has been done also—Thanks, Mary Ann!). It was suggested that as the different institutions make decisions and design web pages, that they post the link to TSPLAN and FCLA will also make a link available from their pages. UWF will also post their URL.

Copies of the test records will be placed in a separate development region of NOTIS and in essence frozen. This will allow for enhanced checking of the conversion to Aleph as the on-order, checked-out, etc. statuses will show as they were originally marked even if the original record has changed.

All types of potential problems should be included in each institution's test records as the records may have come from different places and therefore have diverse issues associated with them.

The NOTIS key numbers are migrating to Aleph.

The counter for the number of times an item has been checked out is also migrating to Aleph. There is no equivalent to "browse" in Aleph. There may be a way of migrating the browse number in a note field. The circulation statistic number and the browse statistic number should not be combined as not all institutions use the browse in the same manner.

Mary Ann will review her information from training sessions and meetings with Ex Libris to determine if there are areas, other than the ones previously identified, that will need some cleanup work done.

Aleph Hardware Requirements for Staff

Aleph workstations for staff require Windows 2000, NT, or higher. Monitors need to be 17 inches (flat screens may only need to be 15 inches). Public terminals have no such requirements. Phase I libraries, in particular, might want to look at using the FCLA equipment money for meeting the Aleph equipment requirements. Other libraries probably should wait on this as prices generally come down over time.

IE seems to work better than Netscape, at least superficially. Since not all sections are up and working yet, all differences are not known.

FCLA plans to run Aleph is set up in partitions: production, test and reports. To get to all three partitions, 3 copies of the clients need to be loaded. It was suggested that libraries might want to set up a dedicated report workstation. There is no multitasking in Aleph as there is no equivalent to "sessions." You cannot run more than one client at a time. There is more resemblance between Catalyst and Aleph

than between 3270 NOTIS and Aleph.

Mary Ann will try to give TSPC a weekly or biweekly update on what's happening with Aleph.

CAGER group update on authorities in LTQF

CAGER members who find errors in the LTQF file are forwarding them on to the contributing institutions as they may have a copy of the record they would need corrected as well. If the contributing institution cannot be determined, the changes are being sent to Mary Ann. There is not a separate authority file in LTQF.

The role CAGER will play in the new system is still evolving. More information will be forthcoming as additional knowledge is gained about Aleph.

OPAC and Indexing Task Forces

June 5-6 the OPAC and Indexing Task Forces will be meeting in Tallahassee. Our OPAC representative is Jim Michael (USF); Indexing representatives are: Linda Smith (UNF) and Kim Montgomery (UCF). These Task Forces are joint FCLA/CCLA groups.

Coordinated Cataloging of SUL Electronic Resources and Other Purchased Packages

There was discussion about developing a way in which the electronic packages that everyone purchases could be cataloged once in Aleph. Cataloging the electronic resources is very labor intensive and hard to keep current. If it were done once, with institutions doing a portion, perhaps it would help everyone. The idea would be to add these materials to the library catalog, not only as a HTML list. Libraries would still have to add the required fields to their print records themselves.

The problem is how might this be accomplished?

- As a separate database like the virtual library?
- As a subset within the libraries?
- A broadcast search setup behind the scenes?
- Database locator/e-resources locator?
- Serial Solutions has a beta text underway where they're distributing MARC records as an alternative to HTML or Excel files - Is this a basis for a shared file?

Martha Hruska will write a proposal. It is to be posted on TSPLAN for input and refinement, and a decision to forward onto CAGER. Items to look at include general information gathering such as: What are the commonly purchased resources? What's going on with the vendors? What's happening at other large institutions (The University of California seems to be doing something along these same lines)?

Authorities Subcommittee

Currently the Authorities Subcommittee is set up as an Interest Group without the usual representation (primary libraries plus representation from the law and medical libraries). There is no charge for the

group.

It was decided that the co-chairs, Cecilia Botero (UF-HSC) and Sue Wartzok (FIU) would draft a Charge to be presented to TSPC and then forwarded to the Directors. All institutions may have representatives on the subcommittee. Institutions that have several people interested and involved in the subcommittee will have a single person who is listed as the spokesperson for that institution. This subcommittee may be called on to address issues regarding the authority reference files in Aleph. The subcommittee will continue to report directly to TSPC.