TSPC Quarterly Report
February 17, 2009

The Technical Services Planning Committee met in conference calls on December 11, January 15 and February 5. During this period, the TSPC focused on three main topics—the re-indexing project, our 2009 action plan and several organizational issues including a request from acquisitions librarians to consider creating an Acquisitions Subcommittee.

Reindexing:

The need for reindexing became apparent as our experience with Aleph increased. The goals of the project were 1) to reduce the number of CPU-labor-intensive browse heading indexes; 2) to create new indexes—particularly keyword indexes—to expedite technical services work; and 3) to have more uniformity of indexes among the state university libraries. After months of preparation and discussion, Mary Ann O'Daniel set up the revised indexes on the DEV18 server. She asked the committee to complete their review of the revised indexes by Jan. 21 and to sign off officially on the final version of the indexes. This we did and a phased implementation of the reindexing began on Jan. 23 with FIU. The importance of this undertaking is highlighted by this statement from the Authorities Subcommittee quarterly report: "… [A]fter the indexes are regenerated, controlled access points will be linking to headings in a current authority file for the first time since the migration to ALEPH."

Action Plan:

An action plan task force, headed by Dan North (UWF), was formed to draft our 2009 action plan. The other members of the task force were Cecilia Botero (UF-HSC), Susan Heron (USF), Jean Phillips (FCLA), Betsy Simpson (UF) and Sue Wartzok (FIU). The final version of the plan is attached.

Action item: TSPC requests approval of the 2009 TSPC action plan.

Organizational issues:

One function of the TSPC conference calls is to share information. This function has been augmented by reports from our liaisons to various subcommittees and task forces. During our January call we decided to request a liaison to the Collections Planning Committee. The chair, Rebecca Donlan (FGCU), agreed to our request and Cecilia Botero (already a member of the CPC) will report to the TSPC on CPC activities. Subsequently, the CPC organized an ad hoc task force to look at normalizing object codes for electronic resources so that they can do some comparative collection reporting. The CPC requested a TSPC liaison and Catherine Gardiner (FGCU) agreed to serve.

Also during our January meeting the request from several acquisitions librarians for a separate Acquisitions Subcommittee was discussed. We decided to request feedback from acquisitions staff via the acquisitions listserv and we agreed that TSPC reps should invite their acquisitions colleagues to join the Feb. 5 conference call. Librarians from at least ten libraries are interested

in forming an Acquisitions Subcommittee and have identified several issues that such a group could deal with. Dan North will convene an acquisitions librarians' conference call as the next step. Other ideas were also discussed. Because of the potential overlap with CPC's activities, exploratory contact with CPC is necessary, perhaps as informal discussion at the Collection Development & Resource Sharing Conference and/or the Preconference on E-Books in late March. Another possible organizational idea is that the group could be a joint subcommittee of both the TSPC and the CPC. If a justification and an organizational fit for an acquisitions subcommittee are identified, TSPC and/or CPC would submit a formal proposal and a draft charge document to CSUL for approval.

During our February call, our new CSUL liaison, Laura Probst (FIU), participated in our discussions.

Separate quarterly reports are being submitted by the Authorities Subcommittee and the Metadata Subcommittee.

Respectfully submitted,
Sue Wartzok (FIU), Chair