TSPC Quarterly Report
May 26, 2006

The Technical Services Planning Committee met in conference calls on March 8, May 3, and May 17, 2006. This report is based on the discussions and recommendations at those meetings and on subsequent email interactions.

1.   **SULIG reports**

Dan North (UWF), TSPC chair, and Priscilla Williams (UF), Authorities Subcommittee co-chair, reported on TSPC activities and plans at the State University Libraries Interest Group meeting on April 20 at the annual Florida Library Association convention. Jim Michael (USF), SULIG chair and the previous CAGER Subcommittee chair, reported on CAGER activities.

2.   **Listserv security**

At the recommendation of FCLA, all three TSPC listservs (the TS-PLAN main list plus the Authorities and CAGER lists) were made secure in May, i.e., postings cannot be harvested by Google or other search engines; thus our members can safely discuss Ex Libris information without breaching any confidentiality agreements with Ex Libris. In addition, no one from outside the SUL will be able to subscribe to our lists.

Recommendation:

The TSPC recommends that any lists for other committees and subcommittees which are not yet secure be made so as well.

3.   **Authorities Subcommittee**

The Authorities Subcommittee has submitted a proposal for their planned Authorities Workshop to be November 2-3 at UCF, which has been approved by the TSPC (copy attached)

Action Item:

Request approval for the Authorities Workshop to be held November 2-3 at UCF.

4.   **CAGER Subcommittee**

CAGER has agreed to be charged to represent the TSPC in working with DDAC on planning for a re-focused summit meeting on cataloging and metadata (see next item for details).

5.   **Cataloging and Metadata summit meeting**

The TSPC ultimately could not agree on a rationale for a summit as originally proposed last November. On May 17 a new focus was approved at the TSPC conference call meeting, which is to "(re)define access guidelines for digital and electronic resources" and to "charge CAGER with identifying key metadata issues that need to be addressed with DDAC," including consistent application of appropriate standards and "issues related to union catalogs, digital collections, and digital collection management software that should be discussed in a cross-departmental, cross-institutional setting." In addition, the catalog/TS and digitization

staffs in our libraries need to be more aware of each other's workflows, tools, and evolving standards and systems.

The summit would be held in Fall, 2006 and a small group of CAGER and DDAC members would begin the planning as soon as possible and make a proposal back to both TSPC and DDAC.

Dan North and Naomi Young (UF), CAGER chair, have been invited to discuss this new proposal during DDAC's June 2 conference call. A proposal for the summit will be submitted to CSUL as soon as it is ready.

6.   **Interinstitutional access**

Progress has been made and this functionality, which will allow tech services staff to access other libraries' catalogs similar to the NOTIS LTRF function, is close to being implemented. Dan North has modified the guest user profile, created by Daniel Cromwell (FCLA) in January, to remove some bugs, and the TSPC has approved a description of the user's permissions which states what it can and cannot do (e.g., it has no editing rights in any module). Dan will send this profile to Daniel and to UF, who will give it a final test. Then, Daniel will work with each Aleph library to create the user in its own client. After that, any changes will need to be agreed to by the group and each institution will have to modify its own user accordingly.

7.   **EDI**

The use of EDI functionalities (Electronic Data Interchange) continues to expand in our libraries as more of us have come on to Aleph. For example, UF and UWF are using EDI serials invoicing with EBSCO; UF is also doing EDI serials invoicing with Harrassowitz and Swets; and UWF is using EDI monograph ordering with Midwest Library Service. Midwest has just initiated EDI monograph invoice testing as well. Testing with Yankee Book Peddler is also underway and more libraries and vendors are becoming involved as well.

8.   **Verde**

A consortial version of Ex Libris' Verde electronic resources management software is to be installed in June by those libraries which have bought it (FIU, UCF, UF, and USF) and the planning process with FCLA is underway.

9.   **OCLC WorldCat Collection Analysis (WCA) project:**   The TSPC continued to keep informed of developments in this CPC project as they may affect TS operations in our libraries.

10.   **Endeca**

At the May 17 conference call, Michele Newberry gave a very informative presentation on the Endeca product which FCLA is in process of buying, and discussed possible impacts on technical services operations, for example in the record deduping procedure which will be necessary as the union catalog file is created and how it and the individual local OPACs will function on top of Aleph. The TSPC will keep informed as more information becomes available and FCLA wants to create a test file catalog so everyone can see the concepts.

11.   **Internet conferencing software**

As reported in the previous quarterly report, a small group consisting of Dan North (UWF), Jason Fleming (UF) and Cecilia Botero (UF-HSC) had begun testing various products in January, and various technical problems and issues had been identified: e.g., the inexpensive products do not have enough bandwidth to handle a large number of remote participants (i.e., individual PCs or "seats") well. The specific objective was to identify a reasonably priced product that could be used to hold a TSPC webinar for training in Macro Express now and for other events later, and which could also be recommended to the other committees and FCLA and CSUL as a product for their own uses (e.g., remote Aleph training, training in other applications, meetings where shared files or websites are necessary, etc.).

Then in April it was learned that UWF had bought Breeze, a high quality, high bandwidth product, with a campus site license. Our testing group had actually had a trial with Breeze in January and liked it but felt it was far too expensive to recommend for purchase. This information was discussed in our May 3 conference call and the TSPC asked if UWF could host the ME training using Breeze. This is indeed possible and UWF has scheduled a two-part webinar on Thursday, Aug. 17 and Thursday, Aug. 24, both 1:30-3:30 pm Eastern, and Jason Fleming will be able to run the training from his PC at UF. In order to participate each PC will only need speakers for listening in, or an inexpensive desk mic or audio headset with boom mic for asking questions. This will be the first such webinar in the SULs. More information and planning will be forthcoming.

It appears that the "campus" solution, using institutionally purchased products, is the way to go with internet conferencing, rather than each library or FCLA purchasing their own copies of products. Other universities may already have such products: for example, UF has Microsoft NetMeeting, and perhaps FCLA can plug into that.

Respectfully submitted,
Dan North, Chair