

TSPC Quarterly Report August 19, 2005

The Technical Services Planning Committee has been meeting by conference call every two months in 2005. It is anticipated the group will meet monthly during the fall to finalize Committee plans for the Joint Meeting in November.

1. CSUL Restructuring

TSPC notes that in the proposed CSUL Org Structure Document, the Authority Subcommittee was left out. This group has been consistently active virtually over email advising and discussing issues related to authority control in NOTIS and now Aleph. Especially with Aleph there are now major issues and concerns that need to be addressed among the CSU Libraries and with FCLA. **We urge that the Authority Subcommittee be included as well as the CAGER group.**

Recommendation -- Chair/Vice Chair appointments. TSPC has not recently been working with a Vice Chair, but we support the plan to codify the office. We recommend that a Vice Chair/Chair Elect be appointed annually. After serving as Vice Chair, the individual would become Chair the following year and a new Vice Chair would be appointed. I am willing to continue as Chair this year and would welcome the assistance of a Vice Chair. Dan North (UNF) has indicated he would be willing to be considered for Vice Chair appointment this year. Sue Wartzok has declined for this year, given the pending Aleph STP scheduled for FIU this year.

We welcome the opportunity to codify and document the terms and expectations of office for the TSPC and its subcommittees. With the subcommittees too, we recommend an annual appointment of a Vice Chair.

Currently, Naomi Young (UF) has just started serving as Chair of CAGER, relieving Jim Michael (USF) who has ably chaired the group for many years. Priscilla Williams (UF) and Sue Wartzok (FIU) now co-chair the Authority Subcommittee and have done so for the last few years.

We also recommend that the responsibilities of office rotate among the membership on a voluntary basis and that there are limits on how long one institution will hold office.

It should also be noted in both the CPC ECC statement and the TSPC CAGER statement that there will be overlap in terms of consortial acquisition of cataloging records and therefore CAGER will have a liaison representative on the ECC. Likewise, as consortial consideration of an Electronic Resource Management (ERM) system develops, there should be a liaison relationship between the TSPC and the ECC on that initiative.

Overall, there is still no clear responsibility for coordinating the maintenance and support of SFX and Metalib. This does not seem to be a TSPC issue, but it is an important piece of the overall digital library support that FCLA is providing, currently with input from a virtual group of library participants. It seems this initiative needs to be addressed and included in the restructuring. Probably it should be included in the Digital committees.

2. Authority support

Due to the concerns of the SUL libraries regarding the difficulty of getting the LC Authority File updated in ALEPH, the Authority Sub-committee will be surveying the SUL libraries for interest in outsourcing authority control to a vendor. The Subcommittee has been monitoring the slow progress FCLA has been able to make in loading authority records. To date, only some subject authority records have been loaded. Given the painfully slow process as well as

the dim prospect of getting adequate reports on changed name headings, UF has explored the option of outsourcing the authority processing. Quotes from vendors are being shared and discussed by the committee members. While outsourcing would relieve the burden of processing from FCLA staff, there are important questions to be answered. Specifically, there are fairly major resources issues involved: how to cover the costs for the authority processing and how to budget the time to reload and reindex the processed records. It seems the system does not adequately meet our requirements for authority maintenance and the current configuration may not support major reloads of the database should we send records out for vendor processing.

TSPC forwards this item for the Directors' information, budget and system planning may be required to support the authority processing in the near future.

3. Aleph status

All the Phase 2 Libraries have now migrated to Aleph, bringing a critical mass of the CSUL into Aleph rather than NOTIS. One of the issues this has raised has been enabling Aleph access to each others' Aleph databases to see checkin information, catalog records, availability of materials, etc. With Aleph this means an account needs to be set up in each library's database to allow view access login by staff in other CSUL libraries. TSPC librarians have agreed on access that would support the kind of view access to each others' records similar to what was available in NOTIS and FCLA staff has set up these types of accounts. Some of the Phase 1 libraries have successfully begun EDI implementation in Aleph. UF successfully loaded the EBSCO electronic invoice and UWF has begun EDI ordering with Midwest for book purchase orders. YBP will be the next vendor we will work with to use EDI.

4. Macro Express

A statewide license has been set up through FCLA for Macro Express. This supports easy creation of macros that work with Aleph to reduce tedious and repetitive processes. FCLA will work on a process to monitor the number of downloads per institution to maintain compliance with the terms of the license.

5. Plans for Joint Meeting

TSPC is planning sessions on:

- Aleph functionality and workflow issues (including Macro Express, printing, cataloging, serials and acquisitions issues) (Martha Hruska and Dan North)
- FRBR/RDA (Carolyn Goolsby)
- ARROW for Aleph and Data Warehouse (Donna Alsbury)

The Tech Services Planning Committee supports planning for future CSUL events that will also include open plenary sessions on the vision of the state university library system and topical breakouts that are open to all TS staff.

Respectfully submitted,
Martha Hruska