

# TECHNICAL SERVICES LAW LIBRARIAN

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## DESCRIPTION & ENTRY

### RDA and Treaties

Robert Bratton  
George Washington University  
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In the summer of 2012, catalogers at the George Washington University Law Library began selectively cataloging with the new (and still evolving) standard: *Resource Description and Access (RDA)*. On November 13, 2012, we officially completed training for *RDA* in the Name Authority Cooperative Program (NACO) and successfully accomplished NACO recertification in December for creating and editing authority records according to *RDA*. In the course of this training, we encountered something in *RDA* that frankly shocked us: *RDA*'s treatment of multilateral treaties.

While we find most of the changes that come with *RDA* acceptable, this is a case where *AACR2* got it right and *RDA* gets it completely wrong. For treaties of two or three parties, *RDA* and *AACR2* are basically the same, but when there are four or more parties, they diverge. *AACR2* instructs, "Use as the uniform title for a treaty, etc., between four or more parties the name by which the treaty is known." *RDA*, on the other hand, treats all treaties the same, and instructs you to construct the authorized access point using "the authorized access point representing the government named first in resources embodying the work or in reference sources" combined with the preferred title for the work, which is "Treaties, etc." The only allowance for establishing the authorized access point for a treaty under its actual title in *RDA* is "If neither the resource nor reference sources provide information that can be used to determine the first signatory, construct the authorized access point representing the work using the preferred title [alone]."

This may seem like streamlining or simplification of the rules, but the results are disastrous. An example is the Geneva Convention that was signed in 1929. Under *AACR2*, the uniform title is "Geneva Convention (1929);" under *RDA* (if you have access to documents with the signatories) it is "Australia. Treaties, etc. 1929 July 27." Consider the North Atlantic Treaty which established the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO). Under *AACR2*, "North Atlantic Treaty (1949);" under *RDA* (if you have access to documents with the signatories) "Belgium. Treaties, etc. 1929 April 4."

*Continued on page 8*

*A Publication of the Technical Services Special Interest Section and the  
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## Technical Services Special Interest Section

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Now that the Presidential election is over, we can all focus on more pressing matters, such as the potential effects of the new AALL scheduling and programming changes on attendance at the Annual Meeting. Soon we will know which program proposals have been accepted by the Annual Meeting Program Committee (AMPC). Thanks to those of you who submitted proposals either to the TS-SIS Education Committee or directly to the AMPC.

The changes have prompted me to consider the following: what are the things, or the one thing, that motivates members to attend the annual conference? What do you most look forward to at the conference: committee meetings, educational programming, networking, dining out, meeting vendors, or other factors? Motivations to attend the Annual Meeting are as varied as the members in attendance.

The changes in conference scheduling and the program proposal process were implemented to improve overall quality of the educational programming offered at AALL, as well as to improve the conference experience. The results of the educational needs assessment survey (available at <http://www.aallnet.org/conference/education/future-meetings/program-proposers/survey>) will largely inform which proposals are accepted for Seattle. Each SIS will sponsor one program, and each SIS may schedule a maximum of 10 committee meetings. The selected TS committee meetings and programs will be revealed when the preliminary conference schedule is published. At that time, the picture will be clearer for making projections about possible impacts on attendance.

Our major concern is that conference attendance by technical services librarians will diminish. What if a significant number of technical services librarians are unable to justify attending AALL? With few relevant programs and/or committee meetings, will networking and vendor contact be enough for institutions to support attendance? Times being what they are, most of us will have to justify attending the conference. I wonder if many of us will no longer have a persuasive argument. Some librarians are willing to pay the cost of attendance out of pocket, but that's a minority (to say the least).

Technical services librarians are resourceful by nature. We can search for free or low-cost professional education on our own and we can participate in virtual meetings as needed. Would the gradual independence of a significant subgroup within AALL eventually undermine its mission?

My hope is that AALL continues to provide quality educational programming of relevance to *all* of its members. I don't want to see technical services librarians lose their motivation to attend the conference or become discouraged about participating in the AALL community.

*Miriam Childs*  
*Law Library of Louisiana*

## Online Bibliographic Services Special Interest Section

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For OBS, fall is a season of preparing for next summer's Annual Meeting. Though Annual Meeting Program Committee procedures changed, the OBS-SIS Education Committee collaborated as always and developed four great proposal submissions. Selections will be announced during December. Some exciting news is that the Education Committee selected, and invited, a VIP, Professor Joe Janes from the University of Washington Information School (<http://ischool.uw.edu/people/faculty/jwj>). Professor Janes writes the "Internet Librarian" column in *American Libraries*. His website states his areas of study include human-information interaction and searching. We plan to have him speak at a program, and expect he will share interesting information about how human searchers interact with online bibliographic systems.

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The OBS Executive Committee submitted the schedule for committee meetings at the Annual Meeting. We worked very closely with TS-SIS and managed to fit everything into our limit of ten spots with minimal conflicts. We were able to take a few joint meetings off the TS schedule, as they had more meetings than we did. Unfortunately, meetings can be scheduled only at the less-than-desirable hours of 7a.m. or 5:30 p.m.; so that's when we've scheduled them. But everything fits, and that's a good thing.

Finally, the work on the new OBS Strategic Plan is under way. Katrina Piechnik, OBS vice chair, is heading a committee charged with developing a new strategic plan for OBS-SIS. The committee began with a review of the current plan. The new plan will be finished by **March 1, 2013** and shared with the membership for feedback (due back April 1), with feedback incorporated by May 1. The revised draft will be sent out May 1 for member review, to be voted on at the July 2013 Annual Meeting.

That's the news from your OBS Board – have a wonderful holiday season, and we'll see you in the New Year!

*Chris Tarr*  
*University of California, Berkeley*

### **AALL's Technical Services SIS Awards Committee Seeking Nominations for the Renee D. Chapman Memorial Award for Outstanding Contributions in Technical Services Law Librarianship**

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Since 1992, the Renee D. Chapman Memorial Award for Outstanding Contributions in Technical Services Law Librarianship has been presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Association of Law Libraries (AALL) to an individual or group in recognition of achievement in a particular area of technical services, for service to AALL, or for outstanding contributions to the professional literature. The accomplishments of the 21 recipients of the Chapman Award shown at <http://www.aallnet.org/sis/tssis/awards/chapman/> are varied, but clearly demonstrate quality leadership, active participation in the section's committees, numerous program presentations, and publications relevant to technical services librarians.

Factors considered in selecting the recipients of the Chapman Award include such accomplishments as the publishing, presenting, or sharing of innovative techniques, research, analysis or commentary; or development of software, hardware, or other mechanisms that significantly enhance access to law library materials and collections. These contributions may be applied in the functional areas of processing, preservation, or technical services administration. Contributions may also consist of service to Technical Services Special Interest Section (TS-SIS) as a whole.

Members of AALL may submit the names of persons for consideration to the chair of the TS-SIS Awards Committee. Nominations must include the candidate's full name, title and current firm, company or institution name, and address; or, if retired, name and last previous place of work and home address. Letters of nomination must be signed by a person other than the individual(s) being nominated. Each nomination should include a complete list of projects, programs, and/or publications of the candidate and a description of the candidate's work with respect to improvements in bibliographic control or access to legal materials and services. All documentation must be submitted in typed form.

**The application deadline is February 1, 2013.** For further information see the Chapman Award section of the TS-SIS handbook at <http://www.aallnet.org/sis/tssis/handbook/related/chapmanaward.htm> or contact the TS-SIS Awards Committee Chair, Calmer Chattoo at [cchattoo@law.miami.edu](mailto:cchattoo@law.miami.edu). All materials in support of a nomination should be sent to Calmer Chattoo, University of Miami School of Law Library, 1311 Miller Drive, P.O. Box 248087, Coral Gables, FL 33146-2300 by February 1, 2013.

*Calmer Chattoo*  
*Chair, TS-SIS Awards Committee*

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*Ajaye Bloomstone, Louisiana State University*  
*Virginia Bryant, George Washington University*  
*Christine Dulaney, American University*  
*Jen Richter, Sacramento County Law Library*

## Charleston: A View from a Newbie

*Trina R. Robinson  
George Washington University Law Library*

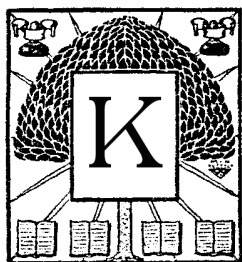
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The city of Charleston, South Carolina is full of grace and beauty—and full of librarians at least once per year. I was among them in November when I attended my first Annual Charleston Conference: Issues in Book and Serial Acquisitions. Just walking through the doors of the conference hotel made me feel like the center of attention, because it is the only conference I've attended where everything is focused on Acquisitions. I found it impossible to stumble into an irrelevant meeting. Of course it is always good to know what is going on in our profession as a whole, and I am a huge fan and advocate of exposing myself to practices of others in the library profession outside of acquisitions. But it was really nice to attend a conference that was all about what I do (Acquisitions).

I was thrilled to have been invited to the party where there was a palpable energy. Soon-to-be librarians, i.e., library students, newer librarians, older librarians, academic provosts, publishers, CEOs, and the like, were invited, and all guests were focused on various aspects of issues in acquisitions. Everyone was excited about the work they were doing and the possibilities ahead. Everyone learned from everyone else, and we were eager participants in the process. It was rewarding to have so many perspectives represented. I felt like a real part of this conference, with questions, suggestions, and input I was happy to share with other attendees and panelists as well.

It is difficult to believe I have been in this profession nearly 20 years and managed to miss this conference until now. As long as funding survives, I do not plan to miss it again. I returned to my office bursting at the seams with new energy. My excitement for my chosen profession was renewed and refreshed, and I am as eager as a newcomer to learn, to share, and to grow.

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# CLASSIFICATION

*Lia Contursi  
Columbia Law School Library*

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*This column was written with the assistance of Karen Wahl, Reference/Legal History & Rare Books Librarian, George Washington University.*

It seems obvious to us that the best classification model for American law is the Library of Congress (LC) KF Class. It is extensive, expandable, and exhaustive. And it is an undeniable truth that the Library of Congress holds the largest collection on American jurisprudence. Although the LC KF schedule has often been considered laborious and complicated, its advantages are twofold: (1) It is tailored to the most comprehensive collection of American law; and, (2) It is regularly updated to include developing legal topics in all formats, including primary and secondary sources.

However, when we turn attention to foreign jurisdictions, many reference librarians prefer alternative classification schemes for foreign legal materials if their libraries have traditionally used a different one. While some institutions have employed their own homegrown systems, a more commonly used subject based scheme is the Schiller schedule. Devised in 1933 by Professor A. Arthur Schiller, it is a decimal, alphanumeric classification scheme that has effectively served a great number of law libraries for many decades.

More often than not, such alternative options are based on mnemonic principles, frequently involving an abbreviation of a country's name with repeated parallel patterns between the different jurisdictions to differentiate topics and genres. For example, a treatise on German constitutional law might be found in **Ger 910**, while a similar treatise on French constitutional law would be found in **Fr 910**. While most mnemonic classification systems have a limited capacity for expansion, they offer the powerful advantage of being predictable, giving a library user the ability to find material intuitively. Once the user

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identifies the class number portion of a specific topic of one jurisdiction, the user can transfer the same numeric portion to another jurisdiction, therefore navigating through a collection from the law of one country to another effortlessly. This is one feature the more sophisticated and complex LC classification (LCC) does not provide as easily and consistently.

On the other hand, when we use a mnemonic and settled classification system, we sacrifice room for expansion to incorporate new or more complex legal ideas and principles that may develop in the future, as we have seen by trying to fit laws that affect computers, the Internet, and e-commerce into these established systems. More importantly, an alphanumeric, one-size-fits-all schedule fails to express the difference between a civil law system and a common law system. LCC, however, provides different layouts and tables that take into account whole codes and enactments typical of a civil legal system that may be otherwise absent in common law jurisdictions. Where else, if not LCC, can a cataloger find a detailed description/collocation for material about the many aspects of notarial law so important in many European countries? By the same token, the structure accommodating resources on judicial opinions does not need to be in layouts for civil law jurisdictions.

By using a simplified mnemonic system, catalogers fail to take advantage of the correspondence between LC class numbers and the *Library of Congress Subject Headings (LCSH)*, eliminating the benefit of using correlations available in *Classification Web*. Likewise, as the terminology of the *LCSH* evolves, so do the topics and forms represented in the LCC. So far, no alternative classification system can incorporate the complexity of the legal concepts expressed by the evolving lexicon of the *LCSH*, while simultaneously expressing the genre and form of resources. Yet, it is true that a subject based-mnemonic system such as Schiller offers considerable dexterity for shelf-browsing.

It may not be evident at first glance, but there are many symmetrical designs within the whole K Class as well. Indeed, there is a very important consistency in the nomenclature. It is in the hierarchical structure going from most authoritative law down in descending order (Constitutional law—Codes and Statutes—Statutory orders etc.), and within those broader concepts, there is a clear symmetry among areas regulated by the Common law, Civil law, and Religious law systems. Further similarities are expressed with the use of special tables of forms and subdivisions, all applied uniformly across jurisdictions of similar nature.

Furthermore, geographic areas are divided from the larger to the smaller; each is modeled according to the underlying principles of Civil, Common, Religious, or Customary law. We can observe the pattern by looking at the following examples for constitutional law in Italy: **KKH2070**; Spain: **KKT2070**; and, Poland: **KKE2070**. The same numerical portion applies to the constitutional class number for Portugal, Finland, Lithuania, Russia, and also for China, Japan, and even Egypt, and Ethiopia, etc. Latin American countries also mirror each other, but do not reflect the patterns of the countries mentioned above. For example, the numeric part of the class for constitutional law would be **2921**, all across the South American jurisdictions. This reveals clearly the two important principles of symmetry and parallelism by which LCC is arranged. Yet, the uniformity of LCC cannot be favorably compared with the high predictability of schemes such as Schiller.

An ideal system would have the ease of use of a mnemonic system, in its predictability and ability to easily identify a jurisdiction, while also allowing for the significant expansion and the complexity of legal concepts that are the hallmarks of the LC classification system. As the global community becomes more integrated, the ability to easily compare similar laws across various countries will increase in importance. However, legal systems around the world are also becoming more complex, and our classification systems need to reflect this truth:

## References

Goldberg, Jolande E. "Development of a Universal Law Classification: A Retrospective on Library of Congress Class K." *Cataloging & Classification Quarterly* 35 (2003): 355, 379.

Goldberg, Jolande E. "Fundamentals of the Library of Congress Classification." PowerPoint presentation. St. John's University, New York, N.Y. 2010.

## Microform: To Continue or Digitize?

*Karen A. Nuckolls*  
*University of Kentucky*

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It's a difficult time to write. The holidays are upon us, and these days, they gallop through in the blink of an eye.

At AALL's Annual Meeting in Boston this year, there were numerous programs on apps, e-resources, and *RDA*. But one program in particular caught my attention. On Sunday afternoon, I attended "Law Library Collections Post-Microform: Future Implications for the Newest Legacy Format." This program hit home for me, as I am in the midst of organizing and cataloging our microform collection in preparation for our American Bar Association site visit next year.

Yes, it's true that microform is a dying breed. And machines seem harder to come by (and those available are expensive.) Online access does not "fit all." Most databases for purchase either include material only up to a certain date or frequently may not go back as far as microform. On the other hand, databases can be cheaper to purchase and maintain.

What to do? Digitization can be the answer, but as in all formats that become replacement formats, there is always a question of preservation. Will it last? Ah...there's the rub!

I would like to hear your thoughts on this dilemma most of us are dealing with for a future column. Thank you in advance.

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### **Professional Development and getting ready for RDA**

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Currently, the Library of Congress Law section is using *RDA* for almost all new materials, but not for copy cataloging unless the non-LC record used is in *RDA*. Issues that arise are discussed online with the TS-SIS's Cataloging and Classification Committee. This may be challenging since *RDA* includes many more options than *AACR2* and frequently defers to "catalogers' judgment." Hopefully, a consensus on best practices for law libraries can be reached, if for no other reason than that all libraries can easily copy each other's records. Several people from non-major research libraries are reviewing LC training materials and will suggest changes for smaller libraries. Arguably, the materials prepared for the major research libraries are "overkill" for everyone else. As needed, we'll produce these materials for smaller libraries. Some free sources for *RDA* information and training include the following:

<http://www.rda-jsc.org/rdapresentations.html>

<http://www.rdatoolkit.org/training>

<http://faculty.washington.edu/aschiff/>

<http://www.loc.gov/catworkshop/RDA%20training%20materials/index.html>

<http://www.loc.gov/aba/rda/>

Hopefully by March, there will be some law-specific materials available through the AALL website.

Please note that most potential problems are not "legal" materials such as statutes and cases, but use of some of the new features introduced into cataloging by *RDA* (many of which can be ignored under *RDA* rules, but which pose serious opportunities for law catalogers to exploit.)

*Aaron Wolfe Kuperman*  
*Chair, TS-SIS Professional Development Committee*



## DESCRIPTION & ENTRY

Robert Bratton  
George Washington University Law Library

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### **RDA and Treaties, continued from page 1**

Which is better for users? Which best satisfies the four tasks spelled out in *Functional Requirements for Authority Data (FRAD)*, which are find, identify, contextualize, and justify? Treating major multilateral treaties the same as relatively minor treaties is a great disservice to our users, especially given the reality that most users (even reference librarians) begin searches as keyword searches. The law cataloging community must formulate an official change request for *RDA* to address this problem.

### **Finding the Balance: RDA Training Resources for Copy Catalogers**

Ashley Moye

As an institution that relies primarily on copy cataloging, a majority of the free *RDA* webinars and training materials available go above and beyond the call of duty, each supplying vast amounts of information ranging from vital to inapplicable for our smaller operation. Adding to the challenge of sifting through these materials, the mere act of devoting precious time to training in the midst of an efficiency-based department seems a luxury. The key is finding balance in the depth and scope of materials, spending brief stretches of time on educating ourselves as effectively as possible.

As the *RDA* point person at Charlotte Law, I've had *RDA* written into my annual goals, and I've been able to justify exploring the ever changing world of *RDA* to a degree. However, I'm still limited daily by the constraints of too few staff and too little time to delve in deeply and to take the others in the library along for the journey. That's why I was delighted to hear that the Association for Library Collections & Technical Services (ALCTS) created a webinar specifically tailored for copy catalogers, a rare event in this intricate process driven field. The webinar is freely available on *YouTube* at [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T\\_J9CaqwPew](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T_J9CaqwPew). Of course, I naturally thought of my thinly stretched compatriots—could this webinar serve as a quick and dirty training for our staff? Could the presenters actually distill the convoluted labyrinth of *RDA* into bullet points and basics?

Irina Kandarasheva and Mark Wilson, both of Columbia University, bring thirty years of experience in copy cataloging and the management and training of copy cataloging departments with them. This set me at ease, as I knew they would be uniquely suited to understanding the specific needs copy catalogers have, as well as the preciousness of their time. Mark said it best when he said that as a copy cataloging department, consistently focused on finding the best records available as quickly as possible, training in preparation for *RDA* was a non-essential luxury, and in response, they simply planned to cross the *RDA* bridge when they reached it. Many small and large organizations with full copy cataloging departments have used this approach, meaning training would come later and would need to be effective and efficient.

The webinar covered the most important basics, from learning to identify *RDA* records to highlighting the most important new MARC fields and the most notable differences between *AACR2* and *RDA* records. Attendees are taught major terminology changes, clues to recognizing *RDA* such as fixed fields, 3xx fields, and lack of familiar abbreviations. Even the 3xx fields are demystified by a simple highlighting of the three terms that will occur most often when cataloging monographs: text, unmediated, and volume. Side-by-side examples, pointing out differences as well as in-catalog examples of the new *RDA* elements showing *RDA* in action gave copy catalogers a chance to start training themselves for the visual cues *RDA* provides, allowing them to quickly distinguish between *AACR2* and *RDA* records.

Overall, the first portion of the webinar served to distill *RDA* down to a concentrate, a hurdle that all copy catalogers can overcome with the information and examples provided. The webinar then extended to wider issues, including tackling the more macro field and breaking it down into bite sized portions, such as necessary manager decisions, technical issues concerning your integrated library system, discussion of the inevitable dreaded hybrid environment, and various policy issues that emerge during implementation. This is a great summary for copy catalogers, managers of technical services departments, and supervisors of copy catalogers and acquisitions departments.



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One of the most important steps, also stressed by Kandarasheva and Wilson, is to update your cataloging practices and documentation, creating parallel instructions on how you approach editing the records. Automate as many portions as possible, including creation of macros. If you're confused about where to start and what to include, a fantastic resource is the "Copy Cataloging Policy for Accepting & Enhancing *RDA* Records" from Cornell University, available freely online at <https://confluence.cornell.edu/display/culpublic/RDA+Documentation>.

While the webinar is a great training tool, there are a few gaping holes not covered that are imperative for copy catalogers' training. While these include extended authority work and cataloging non-book items, this is a world with automated record loads, vendor provided records, and outsourced authority control. Copy catalogers may or may not need this information, depending on the workflows of their specific institution. However, two gaps that must be addressed are the elusive concepts of *Functional Requirements for Bibliographic Records* (FRBR) and *Functional Requirements for Authority Data* (FRAD) and the contents, navigation, and use of the *RDA Toolkit*. Luckily, there are some amazing free resources available online that unravel the mysteries of these two topics, specifically tailored to those less familiar with the intricacies of the original cataloging world.

To understand the true scope and purpose behind *RDA* as well as to place these changes in the correct context, one must have a fairly firm grasp of the FRBR relationship between work, expression, manifestation, and item. For many who have been out-of-the-loop, this topic is nothing but an impenetrable wall of muck and mire. I watched countless webinars and read articles galore during my trip through the mist a few years ago with little luck. However, Barbara Tillett, Chief of the Policy and Standards Division, Acquisitions and Bibliographic Access Directorate at the Library of Congress, presented in 2009 on *FRBR: Things You Should Know, But Were Afraid to Ask*, and this brilliant recording is available on the Library of Congress website at [http://www.loc.gov/today/cyberlc/feature\\_wdesc.php?rec=4554](http://www.loc.gov/today/cyberlc/feature_wdesc.php?rec=4554). Despite its age, it remains firmly ensconced in a very special place in my heart. As a presentation intended for non-catalogers, Tillett manages to make the basic concepts and implications of FRBR seem completely obvious and natural. I'd suggest exposing your copy catalogers to this video or a similar resource prior to the copy cataloging webinar, simply because the ALCTS webinar refers to FRBR concepts often enough to result in confusion if you're completely unfamiliar with the terminology and the relationships between the terms.

The *RDA Toolkit* gap is even simpler to bridge, though just as important a training topic as FRBR. The *RDA Toolkit* is your key to *RDA* and should be an essential step of the learning process for all staff that will be intimately dealing with *RDA*. Every other month, you can attend a free session of *RDA Toolkit* Essentials, an introduction and guide to using the *RDA Toolkit*. Registration is as simple as signing up at <http://www.RDAtoolkit.org/essentials>. Within an hour, staff can learn the basics of navigating and searching the *RDA Toolkit*, explore the user-created content options such as workflows, maps and bookmarks, and understand its content. Even better—the webinars are archived and can be watched at any time.

The final piece of the puzzle in keeping copy catalogers up to speed without overwhelming them in terms of excessive content or extensive time commitments is connecting to the cataloging community and staying dialed in to the newest developments and the most current training resources, the number of which is growing exponentially. As *RDA* becomes the standard, this community will continue to be more and more important, as no webinar can provide the answers and support that other catalogers can provide.

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## Taking the Plunge: Part 2 – Libraries Doing It for Themselves

THE INTERNET

Matthew R. Jenks  
University of New Hampshire School of Law

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In the first installment of this column, we examined the relationship between libraries and e-books. Were e-books, in fact, a good fit for libraries in general and law libraries specifically, given the cost factor, lack of a uniform distribution platform, and dearth of law related titles? Due to a number of developments in the last three years, which constitute a major evolution and "modernization" of the e-book market, the answer we concluded was a qualified "Yes."

With tens of thousands of law titles now translated into e-book form and available on the e-book market, and with these same titles for sale through single, one-stop shop distribution platforms – primarily Overdrive but also 3M's Cloud Library, EBSCOhost's e-books (formerly NetLibrary) and others, many law libraries are jumping on the e-book bandwagon and

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featuring e-books as a net plus for their institution. See <http://scls.typepad.com/techbits/2011/05/will-3m-give-overdrive-some-competition.html> (*TechBits*, 2012). They don't even need to supply the e-reader devices anymore; each student can use his or her own device, whether it is a Kindle, Nook, iPad, or other e-reader. He or she simply downloads the version of the e-document formatted for their own e-reader, and in a minute or two, they're on their way.

While this has streamlined the process and made the decision to offer e-books through law libraries easier, the industry itself is still in flux, encouraged by fierce competition between the big players, namely 3M, Amazon (as a third party distributor), and Overdrive. For evidence of this, see <http://www.readingreality.net/2012/01/brilliance-audio-amazon-and-the-great-un-downloading> (*Reading Reality*, 2012). In addition, the sometimes outrageous price increases imposed by the large distributors has become an increasingly contentious problem for libraries. See [http://www.libraryjournal.com/lj/home/890089-264/kansas\\_state\\_librarian\\_goes\\_eyeball.html.csp](http://www.libraryjournal.com/lj/home/890089-264/kansas_state_librarian_goes_eyeball.html.csp) (*Library Journal*, 2011).

While cost and lack of stability are indeed problems, it is the deeper, related problem we address here—that vendors like Baker & Taylor, Ingram, Simon & Schuster, 3M, ProQuest, EBSCOhost, and especially Overdrive, control the distribution of content. And those who control the distribution control the market. This is, of course, not a new phenomenon—it is, in fact, status quo for libraries, most of whom are “persuaded” to give up ownership and control of a good portion of their premier electronic content for the “privilege” of access, not to mention the convenience of a one-stop shop distribution platform (or a few). Cost comes into play here as well; vendors have never been known or selected for their amazingly low prices. Quite the contrary. There is a great deal of pushback over the exorbitant costs vendors charge libraries for access to titles, and this is especially true in law libraries. Still, the ace up the sleeve for vendors up to now has always been that, regardless of what libraries are forced to pay for access, it has still been pretty much the only choice available if a library wants to provide the latest and highest quality titles at any given moment. Going it alone was never a viable option.

Queue the Douglas County Public Libraries—[DouglasCountyLibraries.org](http://DouglasCountyLibraries.org) (DCL). In late 2009, they implemented a new system for e-book lending. This model was designed around the idea of owning e-books rather than merely leasing them. The DCL created its own e-book hosting platform on an Adobe Content Server, purchased e-books directly from the publishers, and made them available for checkout on an integrated platform which worked seamlessly with DCL's own library catalog. They agreed to protect the distribution of content through DRM (Digital Rights Management) and created an online digital “branch,” through which patrons can browse and check out e-books. What is impressive is that the digital branch “allows patrons to view and explore digital content using their hands and eyes the same way they might explore a traditional collection, with added functionality like immediate access to staff recommendations, most popular titles, and new content.” See <http://boingboing.net/2012/05/10/libraries-set-out-to-own-their.html> (*Boing Boing*, 2012).

This strategy shows a different way around the “wall” between libraries and control of their own content. In working with publishers and sharing in the marketing of new titles, the DCL model overcame the ownership obstacle (though in terms of the total number of publishers out there, including the “Big 6,” this initiative is just beginning) and established a new paradigm for creating (or recreating) inherent value. More importantly, they revealed a new way of reaching customers and patrons, which takes into account the digital society we live in and the urgent need to appeal to a younger demographic.

The result has been revolutionary. In just three short years, the Douglas County Libraries have gone from working with a few publishers to over 800 (as of May 2012), and it is still growing and gaining keen interest from ever larger publishers (*Boing Boing*, 2012). Recently, the Douglas County Libraries struck an agreement with Gale Publishing (part of Cengage Learning) to purchase numerous business titles (among others), including textbooks, to feature in their electronic content. See <http://www.thedigitalshift.com/2011/10/ebooks/douglas-county-libraries-strikes-new-deals-with-publishers-to-own-ebooks> (*The Digital Shift*, 2011). Law related textbooks are sure to follow, and a gap is open here that leaves innovative law libraries with a golden opportunity. As Douglas County's director, Jamie LaRue stated the DCL represents a “sustainable business model for the future” for all libraries (*The Digital Shift*, 2011).

The DCL still leases some content through vendors such as Overdrive, 3M, and Freegal, but ownership is the model, and the road has been paved for a new reality in content ownership and control for libraries, including law libraries. Recently, other library systems from New York to California have shown interest in implementing their own systems based on the model and in joining the DCL consortium model. The danger is that the DCL system may grow into its own sort of monster, becoming a for-profit behemoth in its own right. But there is little danger of that right now, and other institutions and libraries are already working to emulate Douglas County's model.

The Colorado State library just released eVoke, an “Internet portal for libraries wishing to replicate DCL's ebook model” (*Boing Boing*, 2012). Further afield, Califa, a library cooperative of public library systems in the state of California, is creating and hosting its own e-book lending platform, using the same model of an Adobe Content server with DRM. See <http://blogs.publishersweekly.com/blogs/PWxyz/2012/03/26/doing-it-for-themselves-libraries-and-e-books> (*PWxyz*, 2012).

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They will soon feature mobile technology, a pay-to-play model for membership, and they already have over 50 publishers who have shown strong interest in working with them.

There has been some concern lately whether library consortiums and systems provide too little in the way of aggregation of e-content. In other words, they reflect (and predict) user behavior far less accurately than the corporate behemoths like Amazon and Apple and so are not very useful in making e-book recommendations, suggestions, etc. See <http://blogs.publishersweekly.com/blogs/PWxyz/2012/03/26/doing-it-for-themselves-libraries-and-e-books> (PWxyz, 2012).

I personally think those worries are overstated. A local or regional consortium's digital content management system reflects the usage of its local or regional population, which in most cases is still a sizeable and healthy number of patrons worthy of representation and aggregation. As far as any attempt to convert this data into a national system, that has already been proposed and is in process, through the creation of the Digital Public Library of America (DPLA). See <http://dp.la> (*Digital Public Library of America*, 2012). The idea is to create a super-consortium, which can serve as a national platform provider for e-books. It remains to be seen whether this technically challenging venture will materialize. It is in the planning stages now (two years old already and still going strong), but it is indicative of a new attitude by libraries as we head further into the digital age. No longer are we allowing ourselves to just sit back and be dictated to. Law libraries need to move to the forefront of this new revolution as we embark on this new Age of the Digital Library. Let's take charge!

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## MANAGEMENT

### Make sure your new employee comes back for the second day!

Mary Lippold  
South Texas College of Law

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We all remember our first day on the job. Ideally, it is a good memory tied to feelings of optimism and confidence. Alas, when I asked people on the law-lib discussion list to share their orientation plans with me, I received very few. Actually, I received just one. What I did get was a whole bunch of "first day" horror stories. Obviously, there is a need to have some kind of orientation plan in place before your new hire arrives.

Research has shown that the first few days and weeks in a new job are critical to an employee's satisfaction and productivity. This "first impression" can mean the difference between long term job success and rapid turnover. It is essential these first impressions are positive ones. Even if things eventually turn out okay, do you really want to be the funny story about someone's first day disaster? Now is when you can set the tone for an employee's time with your organization. Make it positive, and stress the things which are truly important to your library. You want to create pride by introducing them to your library's history, mission, and values.

So what makes a good orientation? It's easy to overlook some of the most obvious, routine, or incidental aspects of how our libraries operate. Our institutional culture is second nature to most of us, but a newcomer won't have a clue about our shared habits, etiquette, and expectations.

The following are a few of the objectives you should keep in mind when planning a new hire orientation:

- Build employee identification with your organization.
- Build a positive attitude in new employees
- Communicate company culture, values, and priorities
- Encourage socialization and team building
- Help avoid misunderstandings
- Make new employees feel valued
- Prevent problems before they happen
- Relieve new employees' anxiety and set expectations

First things first. Before an employee arrives, make sure they have information about parking, building access, where and when to report, dress code expectations, and a brief outline of the first day schedule. A welcome card signed by the library staff is a nice touch.

As with most organizations, our new hires start with the Human Resource Department (HR) on their first day. They cover

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basic employee information and requirements, including benefits, ID cards, vacation policies, required employment forms, and other HR policies and procedures. HR then escorts the new employee to the library where he or she is met by their supervisor. Now it's all up to us.

Making the new employee feel welcome and valued is the day's top priority. We like to have an informal meet and greet with library staff that first day. Sometimes, this takes the form of donuts and coffee in the morning or maybe cake or cookies in the afternoon. One librarian says she always puts together a "Welcome Box" with a school mug, basic office supplies, a local map, a map of the library, copies of the various brochures of the library, and a staff telephone list. Someone suggested name tags for all library staff the first day, especially if you have a large staff.

A written plan for the day is a good idea, but don't overschedule. After meeting with several people, allow time for your new employee to explore, try out the new email system, look over the employee portal, review library and employee manuals and procedures, etc. Phone training, basic office procedures, detailed tour of the library and building, and introductory computer info (passwords, printing, email, etc.) are all reasonable things to cover on the first day.

For new librarians, we schedule time for them to meet with each librarian individually. We spread this out over a week or two. This allows them to figure out where they fit in and to ensure they feel part of the team. On that note, consider the people involved. We all have a wide range of personalities in our organizations, and each person brings unique value and qualities to the table. Think carefully about who to include on that first day or two of orientation. Remember, you are setting the tone, and you want to rely on those who are the most open, friendly, enthusiastic, and positive. Most new employees arrive that first day full of optimism and enthusiasm. You don't want someone to squash that right from the beginning.

As we go through the first few days, we rely on a checklist of "Things every staff member should know" with an addendum for "Things every librarian should know." These are the nitty gritty details, a list of things that we expect everyone to know like how to change the toner in the printers, how to find the keys for various rooms, how to find common passwords, where the schedule is posted, how to use the phone and its various functions, where to report maintenance issues, how to call security, where office supplies are kept, etc. The list is pretty long. We don't provide the actual answers on the list, but we do provide it to the new employee as an orientation checklist. They can annotate and make notes on it, and it may help trigger questions about things we forget to address.

What about lunch? Often, the horror stories I heard included a problem with lunch. Seems a lot of people didn't go to lunch their first day because they didn't know when or where to go or what the expectations were. It might be a good idea to arrange for someone on the staff to extend a lunch invitation that first day or week. If you have one, make sure they know where the employee lounge is and what is available. Let them know some of the unwritten rules, those that drive people crazy like making a fresh pot of coffee if you take the last cup or labeling anything you put in the office refrigerator. People don't want to make embarrassing mistakes, so knowing these kinds of things is very helpful.

The day should end with a relaxed meeting with the supervisor about the day – How did it go? What are the plans for the rest of the week? What concerns might there be? Ultimately, you want to be sure the employee doesn't go home thinking, "What in the world have I gotten myself into?" It also brings closure to that first day, which is more important than it might seem. When to leave for the day or what was expected at the end of the day was a common part of first day horror stories.

Regardless of how detailed your plan might be, remember orientation doesn't happen just on the first day or week. It is an ongoing process, and managers need to check regularly the employee's adjustment process. Taking care of small problems and misunderstandings early prevents big headaches in the future. A little planning and forethought goes a long way to ensuring everyone gets off on the right foot.



Here are various bits of news that our OCLC liaison Glenn Patton shared since my last column.

### **OCLC Cataloging Credits Update**

On November 8, 2012, Cathy De Rosa, OCLC Vice President for the Americas and Global Vice President of Marketing, responded to a discussion on the OCLC-CAT listserv about the possibility that OCLC might no longer offer credits for original cataloging or enhancements to records in WorldCat. What follows is most of her post, with appropriate annotations in brackets:

“An OCLC Global Council Cost Sharing Models Task Force was established in 2011 to evaluate cost sharing models currently in place for members of the cooperative. The task force published its final report [see <http://www.oclc.org/us/en/councils/documents/csmtf-final-6-3-2011.pdf>] in June, 2011. The report can be found on the OCLC Website under Global Council Resources [see <http://www.oclc.org/us/en/membership/resources/default.htm>]. One of the recommendations was as follows:

OCLC Management should conduct an analysis of the current system of financial credits for contribution and create an updated Incentives Program. Such an analysis should take into account the original purpose of credits, cost of administering the system, potential for providing incentives for new or different activities, applicability across regions, and provide projections of financial impact on OCLC and members. Global Council should discuss these findings and provide feedback on any potential changes prior to implementation.

In light of this recommendation, Global Council established an Advisory Group on Incentives, made up of representatives of 12 member libraries. The aim of the Advisory Group is to gather input and feedback from OCLC members via regional meetings and focus groups. The group aims to provide a recommendation to Global Council and OCLC management by the April 2013 Global Council meeting.

The focus group discussions currently underway are exploring a variety of questions with members, including the value of the current incentives program, how it impacts decision-making at the library, and how the program should be changed to reflect the changes in library management, and the changing needs of OCLC member libraries.

No decisions have been made at this time, and any changes that are made will take into account the input and feedback of member libraries.”

According to Glenn Patton, interested AALL members can give their feedback to the Advisory Group in one of two ways. First is to post a message to the OCLC-CAT discussion list, since the Advisory Group plans to use the discussion list archives to gather relevant messages and review them. For those who are not subscribed and do not wish to subscribe to the discussion list, Glenn is willing to gather and pass messages from AALL members on to the appropriate Advisory Group members.

To join the OCLC-CAT discussion list and participate in this or any other discussion, go to <https://www3.oclc.org/app/listserv/>.

To contact Glenn Patton directly, use this email address: [pattong@oclc.org](mailto:pattong@oclc.org).

Those who are interested can follow the entire discussion to date in the OCLC-CAT archives, at <http://listserv.oclc.org/archives/oclc-cat.html>.

The OBS-SIS Board also authorized me, as the Chair of the OBS OCLC Committee, to collect feedback from AALL members and forward those responses, with a summary, to Glenn. The goal is to complete this project in December 2012 or January 2013. Monitor the OBS and TS discussion lists for details.

### **WorldCat Resource Sharing and FirstSearch**

On January 10, 2013, OCLC will offer one more session of the webinar “Transforming Discovery and Resource Sharing with OCLC: FirstSearch, WorldCat Resource Sharing and More.” This session will provide an update on plans to expand

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and enhance the WorldCat Resource Sharing and FirstSearch services. Specifically, OCLC WorldShare Interlibrary Loan will replace WorldCat Resource Sharing in 2013, and many user-friendly features of WorldCat.org will be combined with the precision searching features of FirstSearch to provide new expert-level features in these services. Webinar attendees will learn about plans for the new functionality, timelines for migration, and how to start thinking about and planning for the transition within their libraries. The webinar is scheduled for Thursday, January 10, 2013 at 11:00 am-12:00 pm noon ET. Use the following link to register: <http://registration.oclc.org/reg/?pc=DiscoveryDelivery011013>.

### WorldShare Management Services

A recording of the September 20, 2012 WorldShare Metadata Collection Management Overview webinar is available for viewing at <http://www.oclc.org/worldshare-metadata/>. During the webinar, OCLC's David Whitehair provided an overview of new tools that automatically deliver WorldCat MARC records for electronic materials.

### PCC Guidelines for Coding MARC 21 264 Field

PCC guidelines for coding the MARC 21 264 field are now available at <http://www.loc.gov/aba/pcc/documents/264-Guidelines.doc>. The guidelines were developed with the help of staff from the Library of Congress Policy and Standards Division and other stakeholders. Now that the PCC guidelines are available, OCLC users may begin to use field 264 according to the guidelines in WorldCat records. **OCLC records that contain this field include: #794487536, #792796689, #792795546, #792794712, and #792795308.**

### New CIP Upgrade Functionality Added to the Expert Community

Additional functionality has been added to the Expert Community (<http://www.oclc.org/us/en/worldcat/catalog/quality/expert/default.htm>) to enable upgrading of Cataloging in Publication (CIP) records by OCLC member libraries, even when the records are coded "pcc" in the 042 field.

Previously, OCLC excluded all records coded as being Program for Cooperative Cataloging (PCC BIBCO records) from Expert Community replaces. Library of Congress CIP records (DLC Encoding Level 8 records) were not coded as "pcc" at the time the Expert Community began, but are currently routinely coded in this manner. Not being able to permanently upgrade master records in WorldCat for LC CIP has long been a source of frustration for catalogers. Although catalogers will now be able to upgrade these CIP records, records coded as "pcc" with other encoding levels continue to be excluded from Expert Community replaces.

As of November 5, 2012, catalogers using full level (or higher) OCLC cataloging authorizations are able **to edit/upgrade all fields in LC CIP records** that may be edited in other non-pcc master records, **with one exception**. That exception is that **the encoding level coding may not be changed. It will remain "8" until an official CIP upgrade is loaded to WorldCat from LC, from a CIP upgrade partner, or is changed by an institution with National Level Enhance authorization**. The entire record may be upgraded as needed, including description and subject cataloging; only the encoding level may not be changed. When upgrading a CIP record, never remove correct and accurate information from a master record simply because your institution does not find it useful. This includes LC or Dewey Decimal classification numbers, LC or other subject headings, or other useful fields such as summaries or table of contents information. Libraries wishing to upgrade CIP records are encouraged to **review OCLC's CIP upgrade specifications**, which can be found at <http://www.oclc.org/us/en/worldcat/catalog/quality/cip/default.htm>.

### OCLC Quality Control Tips

The following tips are adapted from a list compiled by OCLC's Luanne Goodson from discussion lists, OCLC user queries, and OCLC documentation.

#### Connexion Client 2.4 usage

**Validate a record before replacing it** to help eliminate errors. If a validation error refers to a specific character, **use Edit>MARC-8 Characters>Verify to find the offending character quickly**.

**Colors can be set** for any number of items including the Bibliographic Window, Bibliographic Text, and Bibliographic Field. Use the following path: **Tools>Options>Record Display**. You can even set a special color for Invalid MARC-8 characters so they are more readily visible in large strings of data.

To **input field 776** (<http://www.oclc.org/bibformats/en/7xx/776.shtm>), **use Edit>Insert from Cited Record**. It is acceptable to use field 776 without subfield \$w. The item referred to in field 776 only needs to exist, but there is not always a control number

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of a corresponding bibliographic record to cite in subfield \$w. In the case where you are cataloging the print reproduction of a publication, it would be acceptable to provide a field 776 link to the online version, as in OCLC record #794229502.

When you **derive records**, you can select the fields that you use often (such as 007, 034, 043, and 052 for maps cataloging) so that they will automatically transfer to the new record. Use **Tools>Options>Derive Record and select the fields to transfer**.

Want **help inputting RDA fields 336 (Content Type), 337 (Media Type) and 338 (Carrier Type)**? If so, use the macro called **Add33X** in the OCLC macro book that was issued with version 2.40 of the Connexion client.

### **OCLC documentation changes of note**

When coding the **GPub (Government Publication) Fixed Field** (<http://www.oclc.org/bibformats/en/fixedfield/gpub.shtm>), it is important to consider the status of the governmental entity. Choose a code based on the **status of the jurisdiction at the time of publication**, e.g., for Texas government publications, use code f for the period 1836-1845 and code s for the period 1845- present.

For **Field 040 (Cataloging Source)**: <http://www.oclc.org/bibformats/en/0xx/040.shtm>, the definition now includes this statement: "Historically in WorldCat the absence of subfield b has indicated that English is the language of cataloging. OCLC now recommends always coding this element."

### **Connexion**

When in doubt, check Connexion Help or consult the following Connexion documentation.

**Connexion client documentation:** <http://www.oclc.org/support/documentation/connexion/client/default.htm>

**Connexion browser documentation:** <http://www.oclc.org/support/documentation/connexion/browser/default.htm>

The following **Quick Reference guides** are meant to be used in hard copy format and provide, among other things, selected default function key shortcuts and default toolbar button information:

**Connexion Client Cataloging Quick Reference:** <http://www.oclc.org/support/documentation/connexion/client/cataloging/catquickref/connexionclientquickref.pdf>

**Connexion Client Authorities Quick Reference:** <http://www.oclc.org/support/documentation/connexion/client/authorities/authquickref/clientauthoritiesquickreference.pdf>

**Connexion Browser Cataloging Quick Reference:** [http://www.oclc.org/support/documentation/connexion/browser/cataloging/cnx\\_br\\_cat\\_quick\\_ref/cnx\\_br\\_ref\\_card\\_05.pdf](http://www.oclc.org/support/documentation/connexion/browser/cataloging/cnx_br_cat_quick_ref/cnx_br_ref_card_05.pdf)

### **Email addresses for contacting OCLC:**

**bibchange@oclc.org:** Ask questions about bibliographic records and cataloging issues in general; report bibliographic errors you cannot correct, duplicate bibliographic records, etc.

**authfile@oclc.org:** Non-NACO libraries can report authority record errors or duplicates, etc.; NACO libraries can ask questions about locked authority records; discrepancies between copies of the file; authorization number issues, etc.

**askqc@oclc.org:** Ask cataloging policy, standards, and practices questions.

**enhance@oclc.org:** The list for all things Enhance (including authorization number issues, National Enhance, etc.).

**support@oclc.org:** Ask questions about Connexion functionality problems; issues with other products; cover art; and anything not listed above.

### **Librarians' Toolbox**

The **Librarians' Toolbox** (<http://www.oclc.org/us/en/toolbox/default.htm>) contains links to OCLC's most often used Web resources, from cataloging documentation to order forms. It stores in one location links to pages you may already have numerous bookmarks for, but these links will always stay current. The Librarians' Toolbox is accessible from the gray bar at the bottom of almost any OCLC webpage. By clicking the link labeled MORE you can quickly access such tools as the OCLC Policies Directory, the Online Service Center, and the WorldCat Record Use Policy. Explore the Quality Control link under the Cataloging Tools to learn more about OCLC quality programs like the Expert Community and about external quality programs such as the Program for Cooperative Cataloging (PCC). The Librarians' Toolbox also contains a list of

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logon links to OCLC products, such as CatExpress, Connexion Browser, Usage Statistics, and WorldCat Registry. You can request more links be added to the Librarians' Toolbox by sending a note via the Feedback link at the bottom of any screen on the OCLC website.

### Updating the OBS OCLC Committee List and Webpage

The OBS OCLC webpage and the OBS OCLC Committee list on the webpage are still being updated, so there is still time to add your name to the committee list or to suggest links or other information you would find useful on the webpage. Please contact me at karen.selden@colorado.edu to add your name or make any suggestions.

The OBS OCLC Committee is open to any OBS member who has an interest in OCLC and its products or services. There is no formal committee work required of members, but it is useful to create and maintain a community of OBS members who share similar interests and concerns.

As always, please forward any questions or concerns about OCLC and its products and services to me, and I will work with Glenn Patton at OCLC to find answers or obtain clarification.

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## Results Are In From October 2011 Preservation Survey

# PRESERVATION

*Maxine Wright*

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In October 2011, I created a survey on SurveyMonkey.com entitled Preserving Legal Collections and posted it to the TS-SIS, OBS-SIS, and ALL-SIS discussion boards. Additionally, I mentioned it in this column and did my best to spread the word. The survey had three goals: (1) Discover how many libraries actively engage in the process of preserving their collection; (2) Determine how much funding libraries allocate for this purpose; and (3) Determine the level of preservation training/education provided in law libraries. The survey consisted of 10 questions, designed to provide a peek into the face of preservation at other law libraries. The tricky thing about surveys is how to increase participation. Is it about choosing a catchy phrase, limiting the number of questions, or is it all about the topic? The survey remained open for one year and received 54 responses. This is low considering AALL member libraries far exceed this number. The detailed results are as follows:

### Preserving Legal Collections

1. Please provide the name of your law library.	
Answer Options	Response Count
	54
<i>Answered Question</i>	<b>54</b>
<i>Skipped Question</i>	<b>0</b>

2. Does your library have a Preservation Librarian or Officer responsible for preservation issues?		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	2.0%	1
No	26.0%	13
We have one person on staff who works on preservation issues but is not a preservation librarian	72.0%	36
<i>Answered Question</i>		<b>50</b>
<i>Skipped Question</i>		<b>4</b>



<b>3. Does your library have a preservation budget?</b>		
<b>Answer Options</b>	<b>Response Percent</b>	<b>Response Count</b>
Yes	42.0%	21
No	58.0%	29
<i>Answered Question</i>		<b>50</b>
<i>Skipped Question</i>		<b>4</b>

<b>4. How much does your library spend on preservation each year on average (excluding binding)?</b>		
<b>Answer Options</b>	<b>Response Percent</b>	<b>Response Count</b>
\$0	20.8%	10
Not less than \$50 and no more than \$1,500	45.8%	22
Not less than 2,500 and no more than \$5,000	22.9%	11
Above \$5,000	10.4%	5
<i>Answered Question</i>		<b>48</b>
<i>Skipped Question</i>		<b>6</b>

<b>5. Has your library received a preservation grant in the last five years?</b>		
<b>Answer Options</b>	<b>Response Percent</b>	<b>Response Count</b>
Yes	8.2%	4
No	91.8%	45
<i>Answered Question</i>		<b>49</b>
<i>Skipped Question</i>		<b>5</b>

<b>6. How often does your library staff receive training/education on preservation issues?</b>		
<b>Answer Options</b>	<b>Response Percent</b>	<b>Response Count</b>
Annually	2.0%	1
After a disaster	3.9%	2
From time to time	51.0%	26
I do not recall	43.1%	22
<i>Answered Question</i>		<b>51</b>
<i>Skipped Question</i>		<b>3</b>

<b>7. Does your library rely on assistance from the main library for preservation, freezer space, for example?</b>		
<b>Answer Options</b>	<b>Response Percent</b>	<b>Response Count</b>
Yes	3.8%	2
No	75.5%	40
Occasionally	20.8%	11

<i>Answered Question</i>	<b>53</b>
<i>Skipped Question</i>	<b>1</b>

<b>8. What are the reasons your library does not pursue preservation grants?</b>		
<b>Answer Options</b>	<b>Response Percent</b>	<b>Response Count</b>
Lack of grant writing skills	8.5%	4
Lack of staff to execute projects	44.7%	21
Lack of knowledge of availability	40.4%	19
Administrative commitment	17.0%	8
Other	21.3%	10
Other (please specify)		12
<i>Answered Question</i>		<b>47</b>
<i>Skipped Question</i>		<b>7</b>

<b>9. Does your library participate in National Preservation Week?</b>		
<b>Answer Options</b>	<b>Response Percent</b>	<b>Response Count</b>
Every year	1.9%	1
Once or twice	3.7%	2
No	63.0%	34
Never heard of it	31.5%	17
<i>Answered Question</i>		<b>54</b>
<i>Skipped Question</i>		<b>0</b>

<b>10. What is your library doing to preserve legal collections?</b>		
<b>Answer Options</b>	<b>Response Percent</b>	<b>Response Count</b>
Preventative care (proper handling of materials and cleaning shelves)	24.1%	13
Acquiring conser phase boxes for damaged books	9.3%	5
Sending damaged books offsite	0.0%	0
Leaving books on shelves as-is	7.4%	4
Combination of the above	50.0%	27
Everything (digitizing, consulting conservationists & preservationists, preventative care, educating staff, etc)	9.3%	5
<i>Answered Question</i>		<b>54</b>
<i>Skipped Question</i>		<b>0</b>

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This survey provided a glimpse into where preservation stands in 54 law libraries. Could this be a snapshot of other libraries? Should AALL consider establishing a Task Force on the Future of Preservation in AALL Libraries? Could preservation gain more steam if committees partner up and establish shared initiatives?

### **Security System**

It is a challenge to preserve and maintain a collection with a full staff and a security check point system in place. However, how do you win the war to hold onto your materials without a security system? What other systems can you rely on to ensure materials make it way back to your shelves? Send me an email, and I will compile comments for sharing in the next issue.

### **Preservation Projects**

Are there any projects your library would like to take on but you do not know where to start? Perhaps you know where to start but would like information on how to keep the project moving? If so, do not hesitate to reach out to the Preservation Committee. We want to know what preservation issues you are facing in your library.

### **Year End Projects**

Your books have been through another full year of being pulled, scanned, packed, and handled. Your books got through another year of dealing with bugs, food, temperature issues, and more. Our books have done their best to be there every time a student, faculty, or staff member needed it. Why not show our appreciation in a way that really counts. Let's have a stack party. Sounds kooky? Well, when you manage a collection, you have to continually create-innovative ways to keep it in pristine condition.

Here are a few suggestions:

**Clean and Sing-Along:** Grab as many employees as you can, select a song you can get excited about, and start singing as you clean. Before you know it, everyone has a nice pace going, and books and shelves are being cleaned to the sound of music. Do not be surprised if your staff wants to clean for hours—music is a powerful motivator. The best time is before the library opens and/or at non-peak times. We are headed into the winter break—perfect.

**Cheese Cloth Competition:** Gather as many cheese-cloths as you can, divide into teams, and start cleaning those books and shelves. The team that does the best job (as determined by the Collection Management Librarian) is treated to a large pizza with “extra cheese.” Everyone likes a little competition now and again.

**One Day Pass:** Have each staff person identify a collection at their library they wish they could simply browse all day. Grant them permission to do so, but the catch is they would spend only half the day browsing and the other half cleaning and shelf-reading the very same collection.

**Brown & Red:** Solicit several staff members, and invite them to a brown bag lunch. The topic is “Red Rot.” Tell them about the substance, and then ask them to help remove all the red rot from book spines, covers, and shelves. At the end of the day, each person receives a box of six “red” velvet cupcakes with cream cheese frosting to take home. Yummy, yummy.

**Ole' Switch-er-roo:** Stack staff enjoy seeing non-stack staff (or especially librarians who rarely venture into the stacks) do stack duties. Why not grant them a wish? See if you can get librarians on board to switch places for a couple of hours. I guarantee stack staff would love it and get a few chuckles out of it too.

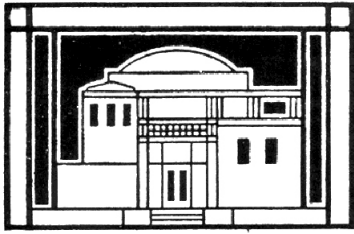
### **Preservation Week: April 21-27, 2013**

The Preservation Committee will soon start planning activities for National Library Preservation Week. Stay tuned.

### **Farewell to Sally Wambold**

Sally announced her plans to retire from the University of Richmond in February 2013, but fret not because she will forever remain connected to the world of library preservation. Sally served as the Chair of the Preservation Committee, Preservation columnist for *TSSL*, and blogged extensively on staying well-preserved. I have a feeling she will welcome preservation questions even after February 2013. She is passionate about the topic and committed to preserving collections.

Email me at [mwright102@qc.cuny.edu](mailto:mwright102@qc.cuny.edu) and let me know what preservation plans you have for the New Year.



## PRIVATE LAW LIBRARIES

*Erin Harper*                      *Allison Rainey*  
*Edwards Wildman Palmer LLP*    *Crowell & Moring LLP*

### **How does restructuring affect technical services in private law libraries?**

*Erin Harper*

In the current economic climate, law firms are challenged to find ways to save money while continuing to provide excellent service to clients. One of those ways is restructuring, during which the positions in upper management are often rewritten to redistribute responsibility in hopes that the change will create a more effective and efficient system. When law firms restructure, it is unlikely that repercussions will not reach the library. Upper management might change for many reasons, but they often do not understand where the law library fits within the larger organization. However, even the most disconnected CEO can see the value in the reference department since they provide services directly to attorneys. On the other hand, technical services (the “I don’t do reference” of the library world) can be confusing to those who do not have expertise in or even, sometimes, experience with law libraries.

In the world of private law libraries, the Library as a department is often seen as part Marketing, part Business Information Services. Many libraries do end up performing functions that traditionally fall under these departments, taking on not only the burden of work but the hit to the budget. It is important for all three of these departments to be well defined, with a managerial structure that has clear lines of reporting.

All of this seems like common sense, and hopefully the three departments will be well sorted out. But how will technical services fare at the end of the day?

When I tell people I work in technical services, I always get the follow-up question, “what’s that?” Usually I tell people I don’t do reference work, but rather work on the systems behind the scenes to make the library operate smoothly. That explanation, unfortunately, may not be enough for upper management. It is important to make it clear that technical services is the backbone of the library, without which reference services would be unable to perform their jobs in a timely manner. Without the catalog, no one can find the books; without an acquisitions workflow, those books won’t show up in the first place. Technical services librarians perform the following functions (among others) to support not only other librarians but attorneys directly:

- Maintaining MARC records of electronic resources that reflect means of access and number of users allowed by the license;
- Helping attorneys navigate their access to electronic resources, from gently pointing out the “Forgot Your Password?” button to connecting them with a technician on the vendor’s end;
- Keeping the catalog up-to-date when resources are cancelled, something that’s happening more and more often these days; and
- Processing bills and maintaining a relationship with Accounts Payable to ensure those bills are paid on time

The value technical services librarians provide is not in money directly brought in, but rather in time saved for attorneys who bill up to \$500 per hour. Upper management does not always recognize this, so it is important to have a bulleted list, elevator pitch, or other brief but comprehensive document to share with someone who has the power to cut your department, add to its responsibilities, or even leave it alone during a restructuring.

## Research and Publication Reality: A Confession

*Hollie C. White  
Duke Law School*

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I believe it is often hard for people to start writing and researching. I think we create all sorts of reasons for not writing. My hope is that maybe my story will help others participate more in scholarship. So, guess what? It is story time.

Before I began actively researching and publishing, I envisioned the process in a certain way. In my mind's eye, the process began with a person diligently slaving over books (old, dusty ones probably) to scout out the true meaning of texts. Then, there were some pretty brilliant thoughts that came like magic after reading those dusty tomes. With inspired energy, the writer would then put those brilliant thoughts down on paper. The words would be perfect, and the process would be effortless...natural, easy. Once finished, the beautiful piece would be submitted to a journal. The editor would love it and publish it right away.

This vision is not reality.

For years, expectations from the "ideal" writing process I had built up in my mind turned the real process into a disappointing task. I found it stressful to write. I felt like I was too busy, other tasks seemed more important. It always took too much time to write. It felt like I had never done enough research or that the words I typed were never quite good enough. Reviewer criticism would make me upset or were just so discouraging that I wanted to quit. I thought about stopping all my research and just "focusing on being a librarian."

But I didn't.

I realized that I wanted to write. Not just for the greater good, but for me. I had things to share and ideas I wanted to explore. This made me continue to research and write.

This past year, I finally came to terms with the reality of scholarship. This occurred due to the following reasons: (1) I learned how to collaborate better with others; (2) I learned how to take criticism; and (3) I started reading more about writing.

Collaborating with others can be stressful, but once you get the correct mix of personal skills, the process can be rewarding. I learned what I am looking for in a research partner. For me, that is specialized knowledge (that I do not already have) and willingness to try new things. I am always looking for new people to collaborate with (please email me!).

During my dissertation process, I took every committee comment or editor suggestion as if it were a personal objection to my existence. Reading books about writing and talking to other researchers helped me know the criticism was universal. Two books I enjoyed a lot are *How to Write A Lot: A Practical Guide to Productive Academic Writing* by Paul J. Silvia and *Writing Your Journal Article in 12 Weeks: A Guide to Academic Publishing Success* by Wendy Laura Belcher (both books I have mentioned in previous issues). These books have great, no-nonsense tips about scheduling writing time, staying focused, submitting (and resubmitting) your manuscript, and about how to make revisions once a piece has been accepted.

I realize writing is now a part of who I am as a librarian. I schedule time to write 5 days a week (and mostly stick to it). I write without being worried about perfection. I spend much more time happily crunching numbers and revising because I understand these tedious items are part of the publication-making process. I am no longer devastated when reviewers critique my pieces. I don't give up on a piece just because it didn't get accepted the first time around. My list of future research publications gets longer as I discover more interesting things I want share.

So I ask you, what is your research story? Do you want scholarship to be a part of your librarianship? What needs to be done to make that happen?

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## Swan Song!

# SERIALS ISSUES

Chris G. Hudson  
Emory University

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Greetings dedicated readers of “Serials Issues.” I want to wish everyone all the best as this will be my final column. Thanks for having me. And now on to the updates...

The latest issue of *The Serials Librarian* (63:3-4) contains a must read for all those devoted to the cause of Counting Online Usage of Networked Electronic Resources (COUNTER). In “Adding Value to Usage Statistics,” Lambert and Conyers describe the utility of the Journal Usage Statistics Portal (JUSP) along with recent enhancements thereto all of which runs on a foundation of COUNTER data. Admittedly, identifying publisher deal information may not be as quickly relevant to the subfield of law libraries, but it’s worth repeating the conclusion of the authors, who stated, the “JUSP enhancements project is an excellent example of what can be achieved through effective collaborative working.” Meanwhile, our field continues to struggle to convince our biggest and most relevant vendors to join COUNTER and to which you can contribute by contacting said vendors as described this summer at the Serials Standing Committee meeting at AALL and summarized in the previous issue of *TSLL*.

In the issue of *The Serials Librarian* prior to that (63:2), Terry Bucknell illustrates in “Garbage In, Gospel Out” that even if and when we begin to generate reliable usage data for electronic resources, care must be taken in the evaluation of that data beyond its face value. Specifically, the emerging cost-per-download standard is subject to multiple means of distortion, some of which include platform design, subject variation, title changes, fluctuation between publishers, platforms and more. Another satisfying read as we continue to blaze our trail through the electronic resource thickets.

Of further possible interest to serials folk, the lead editorial of the latest issue of *Serials Review* (38) argues for imperialist expansion of our professional subset into the world of e-books (“Top 10 Signs That E-books Are Like Serials”). While all ten signs posited are familiar, it’s the last sign – “User Perceptions: The Container for Both E-books and E-journals No Longer Matters” – that reinforces my belief that the future of technical services organization in libraries will be largely divided by print and electronic resources and the attendant life cycles of each format rather than focusing on points within those life cycles across different formats as we have done in the past.

And finally, if you’re looking for another article detailing the coming revolution in information discovery, check out Schreur’s “The Academy Unbound” in the latest issue of *Library Resources & Technical Services* (56:4). As a tract on the promise of linked data, it’s full of bombastic declarations like “a linked data environment . . . has the power to completely alter the way academia creates, maintains and explores data,” but it also led me to become aware of, and therefore also play with several tools at this operational forefront, most notably the Bibliotheque nationale de France. Schreur trumpets its ability to cull related information from disparate locations and to provide it in a manner in which others are free to use and build upon. More often than not, predicting the future is a fool’s errand but this particular preview is worth a second look.



# SERIALS TITLES

Barbara Bohl  
University of California, Berkeley

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The following serial title changes were recently identified by the acquisitions and cataloging staff of the University of California, Berkeley Law Library:

*ADR & the law*  
1997 ed.-22<sup>nd</sup> ed. (2008)  
(OCoLC 37779858)

**Changed to:**

*AAA yearbook on arbitration & the law*  
23<sup>rd</sup> ed.-  
(OCoLC 747714369)

*Anuario mexicano de historia del derecho*  
1 (1989)-v. 22 (2010)  
(OCoLC 22190043)

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**Changed to:**

*Revista Mexicana de historia del derecho*  
Vol. 23 (enero-junio 2011)-  
(OCoLC 748436856)

*Bulletin de droit compare du travail et de la securite sociale*

No 1 (1981)-2010  
(OCoLC 11511021)

**Changed to:**

*Revue de droit compare du travail et de la securite sociale*  
2011/1-  
(OCoLC 802290640)

*Irish student law review*

Vol. 1 (1991)-v. 17 (2010)  
(OCoLC 25309206)

**Changed to:**

*King's Inns student law review*  
Vol. 1 (2011)-  
(OCoLC 794911087)

*Missouri environmental law and policy review*

Vol. 1, no. 1 (summer 1993)-v. 18, no. 3 (autumn 2011)  
(OCoLC 28330807)

**Changed to:**

*Journal of environmental and sustainability law*  
Vol. 19, no. 1 (summer 2012)-  
(OCoLC 815789221)

*Statutory rules made under acts of the Parliament of the Commonwealth of Australia during the year ...*  
1973-2004  
(OCoLC 22193253)

**Changed to:**

*Select legislative instrument*  
2005-  
(OCoLC 224148516)

*Studii de drept romanesc*

Serie noua, anul 1, (Oct.-Dec. 1989)-Serie noua, anul 23  
(56), 4 (Oct.-Dec. 2011)  
(OCoLC 23369220)

**Changed to:**

*Studii si cercetari juridice (2012)*  
Serie noua, anul 1, 1 (57) (Ian.-Mar. 2012)-  
(OCoLC 812510280)

*University of Baltimore journal of environmental law*

Vol. 1, no. 1 (summer 1991)-v. 18, no. 2 (spring 2011)  
(OCoLC 24298756)

**Changed to:**

*Journal of land and development*  
Vol. 1, no. 1 (fall 2011)-  
(OCoLC 793916766)

The following serial cessations were identified by the University of California, Berkeley Law Library serials and acquisitions staff:

*Annual Indian Law Conference*

**Ceased in print with:** 35<sup>th</sup> (2010)  
(OCoLC 12730476)

Available on CD-ROM from 2011-

*Australian journal of Asian law*

**Ceased with:** Vol. 12, no. 2 (Dec. 2010)  
(OCoLC 44569337)

To be continued by an online journal entitled "Asian law journal"

*Cultural heritage & arts review*

**Ceased with:** Vol. 2, issue 1 (summer 2011)  
(OCoLC 669990740)

*Diritto e giurisprudenza*

**Ceased with:** Vol. 67, no. 4 (Oct.-Dic. 2011)  
(OCoLC 54480809)

*Fundstellennachweis. A, Bundesrecht ohne volkerrechtliche Vereinbarungen*

**Ceased with:** 2011 issue  
(OCoLC 35240467)

*Fundstellennachweis. B, Volkerrechtliche Vereinbarungen*

**Ceased with:** 2011 issue  
(OCoLC 25601720)

*Journal of the Suffolk Academy of Law*

**Ceased with:** Vol. 14 (2000)  
(OCoLC 6463704)

*Korean journal of international and comparative law*

**Ceased with:** Vol. 34 (Dec. 2006)  
(OCoLC 38895162)

*Law and justice journal*

**Ceased in print with:** v. 10, no. 2 (2010)  
(OCoLC 48385418)

Continued by an online, open access publication from v. 11, no. 1 (2011)-  
(OCoLC 57036612)

*Lawyer (Nairobi, Kenya)*

**Ceased with:** No. 98 (Dec. 2006).  
(OCoLC 41341760)

*Long term view*

**Ceased with:** v. 7, no. 2 (winter 2010)  
(OCoLC 25626464)

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*Loyola law and technology annual*  
**Ceased with:** v. 9, no. 1 (2009-2010)  
(OCoLC 55647516)

*Nordisk administrativt tidsskrift*  
**Ceased with:** 88. arg., nr. 3 (marts 2011)  
(OCoLC 1760435)

*Record (Harvard Law School)*  
**Ceased in print with:** v. 131, no. 2 (2010)  
(OCoLC 50983552)

*Regulae Benedicti studia : annuarium internationale*  
**Ceased with:** Bd. 20 (2001)  
(OCoLC 2058992)

*Report on the ... session of the African Commission on  
Human & People's Rights*  
**Ceased with:** 17<sup>th</sup> (1995)?  
(OCoLC 32840262)

*Resolutions and other decisions / IMO. Assembly*  
**Ceased with:** 26<sup>th</sup> session (2009)?  
(OCoLC 9586982)

*Yearbook on arbitration and mediation*  
**Ceased with:** Vol. 3 (2011)  
(OCoLC 401339049)

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## SUBJECT HEADINGS

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### RDA & Subject Cataloging: some radical thoughts

Aaron Kuperman

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**First, do not try any of this using your current system.** None of this is approved by PCC (Program for Cooperative Cataloging) or PSD (Library of Congress's Policy and Standards Division). While *RDA* has transformed the "cataloging police" into counselors on how to use catalogers' judgment – everything I'm suggesting below is at present strictly illegal. Even if you don't get busted for ignoring the rules, or for adding excessive quality to your cataloging, it might make your systems crash. This column will show possible ways we can use *RDA* as the basis to improve subject cataloging in the future. This is what we have to be discussing as we look for ways to make our metadata more useful to end users, which is what keeps us employed.

#### Use of \$e in subject headings

While currently authorized in the MARC format, LC catalogers have not been making much use of \$e, a field for indicating relationships (in a 100/700 such as, *author* or in a 110/710, *enacting jurisdiction*). With *RDA*, such subfields will be common. Interestingly enough, in Appendix I, the official list for terms for relationships between resources (read "books" if you are a relic from the 20<sup>th</sup> century) and persons (including corporations), there are a number of terms that will rarely be used for a descriptive entry, but will frequently reflect a relationship we expressed in the 600/610 access points. These include terms such as *defendant*, *plaintiff*, *appellant*, *appellee*, and *judge*.

Do we want to be able to make subject headings combining a \$e and a \$x, such as: **United States, defendant—Trials, litigation, etc.**? It would certainly clarify things for users. Given that the list is a flexible open list (though we are requested to notify PSD before pioneering with a new term), what about terms such as *defendant and appellant* (since a history of a litigation includes both trial and appeal levels) or *victim* (for a true crime book or account of the trial)? Why not include terms for *prosecutor* or *defense attorney*? It certainly would help a user to understand the nature of the book looking at our metadata. For a festschrift, which is typically a 700 rather than a 600, we are already authorized to use *honouree* (note the British spelling). There are also approved terms for *enacting jurisdiction* as well as the less common, *jurisdiction governed*, which are for descriptive headings designed for use with 110/710 access points but, for example, could be useful for subject cataloging a treatise about the British North America Act (an Act of the British Parliament governing Canada).

#### Relationships between persons in authority records

In Appendix K, there are lists of terms for relationships between creators. I believe those terms will end up in the NAF (name authority record), but some of them are loaded with relevance to subject analysis. Knowing that someone is an *employee* or an *employer*, or perhaps a *founder* or a *group member* in relation to a specific organization is significant. The list might include more detailed terms such as "manager" or "partner" (remember these are newborn lists, subject to growth). While we might include the information in the 670 of an authority record, including it in a more structured format might help. Consider someone researching the history of a law firm — current procedures don't necessarily link the firm to people



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associated with it, but if we have the data in a usable way in the NAF, our metadata could round up any books by or about a person associated with the firm. Under *RDA*, there is room in the NAF for all sorts of useful information on profession and affiliation, not to mention gender. To a much greater extent than under *AACR*, a NAF based on *RDA* is a tool for subject access.

Among the relationships in Appendix K is *hierarchical subordinate* and *hierarchical superior*. The authority record could show, in a structured and therefore searchable way, that the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the Patent and Trademark Office as well as the Census Bureau are all part of the Commerce Department even though none of them have “Commerce Department” in their heading (though it is recorded but probably irretrievably in the 670 of the NAF). A clever, yet to be designed online catalog (OPAC), could then take data on hierarchy from the *RDA* inspired NAF, and if you are running a search, say, for anything about global warming and the Commerce Department, find anything from all those agencies even if the parent agency’s name isn’t in any of the bibliographic fields.

Could the same principle used for showing relationships for corporate bodies be used for geographic headings (in the yet to be written Appendix L)? If you want everything on the United States, at present one needs to search for each state and region since the headings for states and regions do not have “United States” in the heading (which can be done now only by searching for “n-us?” in the 043 field). Could *RDA* principles make it so that the OPAC knows not only that Baltimore is part of Maryland (which the OPAC could in theory recognize under current rules), but also that Baltimore is part of the United States, that it is in a mid-Atlantic state, that it is in North America, and that it is part of an English-speaking common law jurisdiction? I believe that new *RDA*-inspired techniques would make it possible to use our authority records in new and powerful ways (if we can figure out how).

**Commentaries.** At present, a commentary is entered in a subject field, typically as a 630 or a 6xx author/title heading. It still will be after *RDA* goes “live.” However in Appendix J, there are all sorts of terms for relationships between resources (translation: “between bibliographic entities”, or if you are really old, “between books”). Appendix J.4.3 includes *analysis of, commentary on, critique of, evaluation of, and review of*. Elsewhere, there are terms for abstracts, digests, imitations, etc. They aren’t really describing the work in a traditional sense, but are telling the user what the item being cataloged is about. While we can put them in the 7xx fields, they are really subject relationships and perhaps they belong in the 6xx fields.

**Summary.** While *RDA* doesn’t purport to address subject cataloging issues, and even leaves space for future chapters relevant to subject cataloging and makes only trivial changes in the form for those access points controlled by the NAF, *RDA* opens up new opportunities for improving the usability of metadata produced by subject cataloging. This raises a challenge for us to determine how to do so.

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## Joint Research Grant

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Do you have an idea for a research project but could use a little money to get started? Maybe buy some statistical software? Hire a research assistant? Subscribe to SurveyMonkey or Zoomerang? Then you are in luck! The AALL Online Bibliographic Services Special Interest Section (OBS-SIS) and Technical Services Special Interest Section (TS-SIS) Joint Research Grant Committee (JRGC) is now accepting applications for the 2013 Joint Research Grant!

The purpose of the research grant is to provide support to AALL members conducting research specific to technical services law librarianship with the goal of enhancing law librarianship service to our clients.

Qualifications: AALL membership is required. Preference will be given to applicants who are members of the OBS-SIS and/or TS-SIS at the time of application. Evidence that the research and publication will directly or indirectly benefit technical services law librarianship must be shown.

Grant Awards: JRGC annually awards grants of up to \$1,000 at its discretion, pending final approval by the OBS-SIS and TS-SIS Executive Boards.

Deadlines: Complete applications are due to the JRGC Chair **no later than March 31, 2013**. Grant recipients will be announced at the annual AALL Annual Meeting. Award amounts will be mailed to successful grant recipients as soon as final approval is received by the JRGC Chair.

For more information on the grant and the application process, please visit <http://www.aallnet.org/sis/obssis/research/researchinfo.htm>.

If you have any further questions, please email the JRGC Chair Hollie White at [hollie.white@law.duke.edu](mailto:hollie.white@law.duke.edu).



*Contributing Authors: Dan Blackaby, Marlene Bubrick, Yumin Jiang, Jackie Magagnosc, Jean Pajerek, Christina Tarr*

Please welcome our new contributing author, Dan Blackaby. The *TSSL TechScans Blog* is available at <http://www.tssltechscans.blogspot.com/>.

### ***Acquisitions/Collection Development***

#### **Terms: Techniques for Electronic Resource Management**

[http://library.hud.ac.uk/wikiterms/Main\\_Page](http://library.hud.ac.uk/wikiterms/Main_Page)

Jill Emery of Portland State University and Graham Stone of the University of Huddersfield have created a wiki of best practices in electronic resources management. A complete menu of steps is presented for each segment of the electronic resources management life cycle: investigation, acquisition, implementation, evaluation, review and cancel/replace. This is an evolving project intended to be updated and edited by contributors.

#### **Data-Informed Collection Management**

Davis, Hilary and Annette Day. "Data-Informed Collection Management at the NCSU Libraries." *Against the Grain* 24, no. 4 (September 2012).

This article describes how North Carolina State University Libraries analyze data collected from the library, vendors, and the campus to inform their collection management decisions. Details covered include types of data collected, tools to blend the data, and a few specific projects illustrating how they used the data to assess their collection and cope with budget cuts.

#### **Using Tag Clouds to Visualize Circulation Patterns**

Hassler, H. Caroline. "Using Tag Clouds to Visualize Circulation Patterns and Inform Acquisitions." *Against the Grain* 24, no. 4 (September 2012).

The author describes how she used four, free tag cloud generating services to analyze the circulation snapshot data she pulled from the ILS. Tag clouds can be generated using top-level LC classification numbers or words in the titles.

#### **Assessment of a Collaborative eBook Project**

Huddy, Lorraine. "Striving for Insights and Contending with Limitations: The Assessment of a Collaborative eBook Project." *Against the Grain* 24, no. 4 (September 2012).

Starting in 2010, three liberal arts institutions in Connecticut participated in an eBook patron-driven acquisition (PDA) consortial project. Their project assessment focused on measuring users' acceptance of eBooks, and evaluating PDA as a viable collection development model.

#### **E-Books in Libraries**

[http://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract\\_id=2111396](http://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=2111396)

O'Brien, David R., Urs Gasser and John Palfrey. *E-Books in Libraries: A Briefing Document Developed in Preparation for a Workshop on E-Lending in Libraries*. Cambridge, MA: The Berkman Center for Internet & Society, 2012.

This is a good overview of the current state of the e-book industry and the licensing of e-books in libraries.

From the abstract:

"This briefing document was developed with helpful inputs from industry stakeholders and other practitioners in preparation for the "E-Books in Libraries" workshop, hosted on February 24, 2012, by the Berkman Center for Internet & Society with the generous support of the Charles H. Revson Foundation.... Beginning with a brief overview of the history and the current state of the e-book publishing market, the document traces the structure of the licensing practices and a business model used by distributors to make e-books available in libraries, and identifies select challenges facing libraries and publishers. Where possible, we have made an effort to incorporate stakeholder perspectives and real-world examples to connect analysis to the actual questions, issues, and challenges that arise in practice. The document concludes with a number of informative resources – including news articles, whitepapers, stakeholder and trade association reports, and other online sources – that might inform future conversations, investigations, pilot projects, and best practices in this space."

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## Cataloging

### MarcEdit Adds *RDA* Support

<http://people.oregonstate.edu/~reaset/marcedit/html/index.php>

The latest update to MarcEdit adds an enhancement called “*RDA* Helper.” *RDA* Helper is an in-development tool that provides the ability to “*RDA*’ize” *AACR2* records. It is intended to ease the transition between *AACR2* and *RDA*, especially when working with vendor batch records and legacy data. The functions of *RDA* Helper allow users to batch auto process records, adding field data including the 3XX fields. It includes an option to evaluate the 260/264 fields, breaking out copyright dates as appropriate. *RDA* Helper can also expand abbreviations. *RDA* Helper includes an automatic GMD generation function for libraries wanting to continue use of GMDs. More information and a video demonstrating these new functions is available at Terry Reese’s MarcEdit page.

### Is *RDA* the Only Way?

<http://blog.jweinheimer.net/2012/02/is-rda-only-way-alternative-option.html>

Weinheimer, James. “Is *RDA* the Only Way? An Alternative Option Through International Cooperation.” *First Thus* (February 13, 2012).

“The ultimate goal of the Cooperative Cataloging Rules Wiki is a bit on the radical side. It does not declare that no changes are needed, but rather that the changes needed are much deeper and far more profound than the superficial changes suggested by *RDA*. In addition, these changes can come from the cataloging community as a whole, instead of being decided by a few libraries in the most important libraries and trickling down to everyone else. The entire Web2.0 movement allows these sorts of grass-level initiatives now and all kinds of new tools can be built.”

James Weinheimer, in his blog *First Thus*, takes the stance that (1) it is going to be very expensive for every library to implement *RDA*; (2) *RDA* is based on FRBR, which is of unproven usefulness for library patrons, if not for catalogers; and (3) *RDA* doesn’t actually do very much other than muck around with 300 fields and spell out a few words which were formerly abbreviated.

### PCC Launches *RDA* Training for NACO Participants

[http://www.loc.gov/catworkshop/courses/rda\\_naco/index.html](http://www.loc.gov/catworkshop/courses/rda_naco/index.html)

The Program for Cooperative Cataloging (PCC) Secretariat has announced the availability of a “free, comprehensive and authoritative web-based training series for catalogers making the transition to the new *Resource Description and Access* (*RDA*) protocol.” The training modules include videos, demonstrations, quizzes and exercises, and live “real-time” webinars that will be facilitated by PCC *RDA* catalogers. The training is designed for current NACO program participants who require training in order to create *RDA*-compliant NACO authority records. Although the training modules are freely available for the use of any library, current NACO members must make formal training arrangements through the PCC Secretariat and undergo a mandatory review period after training is completed. The training is not designed for new NACO Program members with no previous authority experience. A list of NACO institutions currently scheduled for formal training can be viewed at [http://www.loc.gov/catworkshop/courses/rda\\_naco/Scheduling/NACO%20Institutions%20and%20Funnels\\_Schedule.pdf](http://www.loc.gov/catworkshop/courses/rda_naco/Scheduling/NACO%20Institutions%20and%20Funnels_Schedule.pdf).

### PCC Issues Guidelines for the 264 Field

<http://www.loc.gov/aba/pcc/documents/264-Guidelines.doc>

On June 11, 2012, the Program for Cooperative Cataloging issued guidelines for the use of the 264 field in the *MARC 21 Format for Bibliographic Data*. The 264 field is used for encoding information pertaining to the production, publication, distribution, manufacture, and copyright date associated with resources. The repeatability of the 264 field allows for separate encoding of each of these different functions, which were previously all rolled up into the 260 field. The enhanced granularity of these data will facilitate machine processing and hopefully improve discovery and retrieval of resources. While acknowledging that 260 and 264 fields may coexist in pre-*RDA* records and in *RDA* records created prior to the implementation of the 264, the guidelines state that all new original *RDA* records should use the 264 field. In an email dated June 12, 2012, Jay Weitz of OCLC confirmed that OCLC users may now begin to use the 264 field in accordance with the PCC guidelines (<http://listserv.oclc.org/scripts/wa.exe?A2=ind1206b&L=oclc-cjk&D=1&F=P&P=408>). If your library uses records downloaded from OCLC, you may already have records with 264 fields in your catalog, even if you didn’t create those fields yourself! Catalogers will want to make sure their ILS recognizes the 264 as a valid field. You will also want to check out how this new field displays in your online catalog. In my library’s OPAC, we discovered that the 264 will not appear in the “brief” display without some tweaking.

### Program for Cooperative Cataloging Task Group Issues List of *RDA* Training Materials

<http://www.loc.gov/aba/pcc/sct/documents/Final%20Report%20of%20the%20SCT%20RDA%20Training%20Materials%20Task%20Group.docm>

The PCC Standing Committee on Training Task Group on *RDA* Training Materials submitted its final report to the PCC

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Standing Committee on Training in May 2012. The Task Group was charged with collecting existing *RDA* training materials to be used for PCC training. The 36-page report contains an extensive list of freely available *RDA* training materials created by a wide variety of libraries and organizations. After gathering and evaluating more than 100 resources, the Task Group created an annotated list of 38 recommended resources. The recommended materials are divided into the following six categories: (1) general documentation; (2) theoretical foundations; (3) introductions to the *RDA Toolkit*; (4) *RDA* for general cataloging; (5) *RDA* for special formats; and (6) *RDA* authority records. Libraries nationwide will benefit from the wide dissemination of these *RDA* training materials, regardless of whether they are PCC members or not.

### **ALA's Association for Library Collections & Technical Services Hosts YouTube Channel**

<http://www.youtube.com/user/alctsce/>

ALA's Association for Library Collections & Technical Services (ALCTS) launched a YouTube channel in February 2012 to host its growing collection of webinar presentations. Currently, there are five playlists available (some webinars are featured on more than one playlist): (1) Collections; (2) Cataloging; (3) Preservation; (4) Institutional Repositories; and (5) *RDA* Series Webinars. Within each playlist is a wide variety of presentations. For example, on the "Preservation" playlist, there are videos addressing topics such as disaster preparedness, mold prevention and remediation, and digital preservation. The topics covered on the "Collections" playlist include effective subscription management, the rise and fall of reference collections, evaluating e-resources, and buying library materials on the out-of-print market. The "Cataloging" playlist includes a presentation with the memorable title "Cataloging Icky Things, or, If You Can Catalog a Book, You Can Catalog Anything!" Those who are preparing for the implementation of *RDA* will appreciate the 19 webinars featured in the *RDA* Webinar Series, including "Cataloging Law Materials with *RDA*."

### **Cataloging Futures: The Importance of Quality Data**

<http://www.catalogingfutures.com/catalogingfutures/2012/05/the-relevance-of-quality-cataloging.html>

<http://librarylab.law.harvard.edu/blog/2012/05/24/quality-rules/>

A recent *Cataloging Futures* post spotlights Paul Deschner's letter to the Harvard Library community about the importance of quality cataloging for the development of new library applications. Paul is the Applications Developer at the Harvard Library Innovation Lab. "One of the primary challenges in this work is getting data describing books and periodicals (catalog records) to relate to data from non-library sources, such as data about book talks on YouTube or to NPR broadcasts of author interviews or to archival collections. It's all about connections in the data. The barer the data, the less described it is, the more it falls flat.... No software can create these connections if the underlying data hasn't been carefully composed into richly structured records, based on solid analysis and comprehensive description. The difference is like that between reading a newspaper consisting of headlines only and reading one which also has accompanying articles. It is dramatic."

### **ALCTS/LITA slides available**

<http://connect.ala.org/node/182336>

PowerPoint slides from the LITA/ALCTS Authority Control Interest Group Programs from ALA Annual 2012 are now available on ALA Connect.

The following were speakers:

Janis Young, Library of Congress — LC update to the Authority Control Interest Group

Gary Strawn, Northwestern University — *RDA* and the LC/NACO authority file

Ana Cristan, Library of Congress — Name authorities - What's new?

Karen Anderson, Backstage Library Works — Planning for *RDA* authority conversion

### **SkyRiver Launches eMARC Express**

<http://www.librarytechnology.org/lrg-displaytext.pl?RC=17296>

"SkyRiver Launches eMARC Express to Streamline E-material Acquisitions." *Library Technology Guides* (October 12, 2012).

SkyRiver announced the launch of a new record delivery service called eMARC Express. eMARC Express introduces a new approach to efficient processing of e-materials at an attractive price. This new service provides MARC files for e-materials ordered from OverDrive and 3M Cloud Library.

### **Linked Data Tools**

<http://www.alatechsource.org/taxonomy/term/106/linked-data-tools-connecting-on-the-web>

"Linked Data Tools: Connecting on the Web." *Library Technology Reports* 48, no. 4 (May/June 2012).

This issue of *Library Technology Reports* is devoted to linked data. Library activities in recent years, particularly those that have contemplated the future of bibliographic control, have given libraries a theoretical basis for the move from traditional

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catalogs to the Web as a data platform. Library catalogs have already evolved to federated resources from external locations and bring in data from remote sources. FRBR, *RDA*, and the commitment of the Library of Congress to a new bibliographic framework all point libraries in the direction of shared, linked data.

### **Getty Institute Compiles a Cultural Objects Name Authority Online**

<http://www.getty.edu/research/tools/vocabularies/cona/about.html>

The Getty Institute is compiling a Cultural Objects Name Authority (CONA) online, a new authority file for works of art and architecture. The website states: “CONA is a structured vocabulary containing authority records for cultural works, including architecture and movable works such as paintings, sculpture, prints, drawings, manuscripts, photographs, textiles, ceramics, furniture, other visual media such as frescoes and architectural sculpture, performance art, archaeological artifacts, and various functional objects that are from the realm of material culture and of the type collected by museums. The focus of CONA is works cataloged in scholarly literature, museum collections, visual resources collections, archives, libraries, and indexing projects with a primary emphasis on art, architecture, or archaeology.”

CONA is not exactly an authority file as we think of one, but a database that gives works of art and architecture unique numerical IDs, linking these IDs to all kinds of information. “The focus of each CONA record is a work of art or architecture. In the database, each work’s record (also called a subject in the database, not to be confused with iconographical depicted subjects of art works) is identified by a unique numeric ID. Linked to each work’s record are titles/names, current location, dates, other fields, related works, a parent (that is, a position in the hierarchy), sources for the data, and notes. The coverage of CONA is global, from prehistory through the present. Names or titles may be current, historical, and in various languages.” Fields in the authority record will give information about alternate titles, LC Authority File headings, history, date of creation, size, provenance, and other information. A sample record for van Gogh’s *Irises* is provided in the description on the website. (*Catalogablog*)

### **National Library of Medicine on Name Authority Records**

<http://comments.gmane.org/gmane.education.libraries.autocat/46107>

From PCC list:

A post by Diane Boehr on the PCC list states that, “NLM has decided to follow the British Library’s lead and try to avoid creating any further undifferentiated NARs for NACO, nor to add any further identities to existing NARs.” (PCC list)

### **News about Romanization Tables**

<http://www.loc.gov/catdir/cpsd/roman.html>

The ALA/LC Belorussian and Arabic romanization tables have recently been revised. Both tables (along with all LC romanization tables) are available on the LC webpage, ALA-LC Romanization Tables. (*Catalogablog*)

## ***Information Technology***

### **New Bibliographic Framework: Update with Eric Miller**

[http://www.loc.gov/today/cyberlc/feature\\_wdesc.php?rec=5605](http://www.loc.gov/today/cyberlc/feature_wdesc.php?rec=5605)

On July 16, 2012, Eric Miller of Zepheira made a presentation at the Library of Congress entitled “Bibliographic Framework Initiative Update: MARC Linked Data Model.” Miller is co-founder and president of Zepheira, which “provides solutions to effectively integrate, navigate and manage information across boundaries of person, group and enterprise.” Miller urges his audience to be active participants in the shaping of the new bibliographic framework by learning everything we can about linked data, and sharing it with others so that they too can get involved. We should look outside the library community for answers to some of the questions that arise as we work to develop the new framework. The slides that accompanied the presentation are available at <http://de.slideshare.net/zepheiraorg/bibliographic-14207718>.

### **App-titude**

<http://charleston.publisher.ingentaconnect.com/content/charleston/chadv/2012/00000014/00000001>

In its July 2012 issue, *The Charleston Advisor* launches a new regular column focusing on “apps of interest in the library community.” The initial column provides a brief overview of vendor mobile apps with the promise of closer examination of specific apps in the future. Additionally, formal reviews of some apps will be offered in the review section of this publication.

### **Using Phones as Scanners**

Cunningham, Andrew. “The Power of Two: Use Your Phone as a Document Scanner.” *ArsTechnica* (September 10, 2012).

<http://arstechnica.com/information-technology/2012/09/the-power-of-two-use-your-phone-as-a-document-scanner>

Ever need to scan something without removing it from the stacks? Or is the book just too unwieldy to put on the scanner?

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You could use a wand scanner or try lugging a portable scanner around, but this recent article on ArsTechnica.com discussed a different possibility—using a mobile phone as a document scanner. In the article, Andrew Cunningham discusses the different apps that are available and their advantages and disadvantages, including how to use direct on-device OCR to create documents on the fly from photos. Other such apps include FasterScan, TurboScan, and Prizmo. The functionality is even available through the Google Drive app by creating a document from a photo.

### **RFID Use in Libraries**

<http://alatechsource.metapress.com/content/j57645363nn8/?sortorder=asc>

“RFID in Libraries: A Step toward Interoperability.” *Library Technology Reports* 48, no. 5 (July 2012).

This issue of *Library Technology Reports* focuses on RFID use in libraries. So much has changed for libraries in the last decade. Ten years ago, it seemed like RFID was poised to take off and become a standard piece of library technology. But standards were slow to develop, and e-books were not. While libraries waited for RFID standards to develop, the iPad and Kindle emerged. As a result, libraries are struggling more with DRM, discovery interfaces, and patron authentication systems than with new technologies focused on their physical material.

### **Prototyping Library Websites**

<http://journal.code4lib.org/articles/7394>

Ellis, Shaun and Maureen Callahan. “Prototyping as a Process for Improved User Experience with Library and Archives Websites.” *Code4Lib Journal* 18 (October 3, 2012).

This paper describes how the prototyping process was used in redesigning the Princeton University Library Finding Aids website. The librarians used a flexible subset of Agile practices (for software development) based around measurable goals, iterative prototypes, meetings with institutional stakeholders, and “discount usability testing.” The end result is a much-improved library website and user experience.

### **How to Search Google**

<http://www.johntedesco.net/blog/2012/06/21/how-to-solve-impossible-problems-daniel-russells-awesome-google-search-techniques/>

Tedesco, John. “How to Solve Impossible Problems: Daniel Russell’s Awesome Google Search Techniques.” (June 21, 2012). This fascinating article by John Tedesco, a writer for the *San Antonio Express News*, describes a demonstration given for a group of investigative journalists by Daniel Russell on how to search Google like a pro. The problem Russell posed for the journalists was, given a photo of a cityscape, which includes a view of a skyscraper, how would you find the phone number of the office from which the photo was taken. Tedesco’s article details Russell’s Google searching techniques and gives a link to Russell’s blog, *Search ReSearch*, where the riddle about the phone number is answered. Russell’s blog is full of many other research puzzles. Russell works for Google, but claims that his blog reflects his own thoughts. He calls himself an “anthropologist of search.”

### **Local Systems**

#### **Open Access**

<http://www.dlib.org/dlib/november12/knoth/11knoth.html>

Knuth, Petr and Zdenek Zdrahal. “CORE: Three Access Levels to Underpin Open Access.” *D-Lib Magazine* 18, no. 11/12 (November/December 2012).

The last 10 years have seen a massive increase in the amount of Open Access publications in journals and institutional repositories. The open availability of large volumes of state-of-the-art knowledge online has the potential to provide huge savings and benefits in many fields. However, in order to fully leverage this knowledge, it is necessary to develop systems that (a) make it easy for users to discover and access this knowledge at the level of individual resources; (b) explore and analyze this knowledge at the level of collections of resources; and (c) provide infrastructure and access to raw data in order to lower the barriers to the research and development of systems and services on top of this knowledge. In this paper, the author argues why these requirements should be satisfied and that current systems do not meet them. Consequently, the CORE (COncnecting REpositories) system is described, a large-scale Open Access aggregation, outlining its existing functionality and discussing the future technical development. It is demonstrated how the system addresses the above needs and how it can be applied to the benefit of the whole ecosystem that includes institutional repositories, individuals, researchers, developers, funding bodies and governments.

### **OCLC’s WorldShare Metadata Collection Management**

<http://alatechsource.metapress.com/content/r47343705626/fulltext.pdf>

“OCLC Launches WorldShare Metadata Collection Management.” *Smart Libraries* 32, no. 1 (November 2012): 2.

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OCLC continues the expansion of new applications available on its new strategic WorldShare Platform with the release of WorldShare Metadata. WorldShare Metadata collection management joins other major applications that OCLC has developed on its new WorldShare Platform, including WorldShare Management Services, which offers functionality to displace a locally-installed integrated library system; and WorldShare License Manager, which provides tools for managing a library's subscriptions to electronic resources.

## ***Management***

### **California Digital Library and Partners Launch DataUp**

<http://www.cdlib.org/cdlinfo/2012/10/02/california-digital-library-and-partners-launch-dataup/>

The University of California's Digital Library (CDL) and its partners launched DataUp, a free data management tool. Researchers struggling to meet new data management requirements from funders, journals and their own institutions now can use the DataUp Web application and a Microsoft Excel add-in to document and archive their tabular data.

### **Primer on Institutional Repositories**

Schatz, Bob. "A Brief Primer on Institutional Repositories." *Against the Grain* 24, no. 3 (June 2012).

This article briefly outlines issues librarians need to consider when planning for an institutional repository.

### **Print Management at "Mega-scale"**

<http://www.oclc.org/research/publications/library/2012/2012-05.pdf>

Lavoie, Brian F. *Print Management at "Mega-scale": A Regional Perspective on Print Book Collections in North America*. Dublin, Ohio: OCLC Research, 2012.

Using a mega-regions ("geographical regions defined on the basis of economic integration and other forms of interdependence") framework to model regional consolidation of shared print book library collections, this report explores a counterfactual scenario where local US and Canadian print book library collections are consolidated into regional shared collections. The analysis in this paper builds upon findings from the OCLC Research report, *Cloud-sourcing Research Collections: Managing Print in the Mass-digitized Library Environment* (2011), and draws upon bibliographic and library holdings data from the WorldCat database.

### **Technical Services Statistics and Assessment**

<http://www.ala.org/alcts/turning-statistics-assessment-how-can-technical-services-measure-value-their-services>

ALCTS e-forum hosted a two-day discussion on technical services statistics and assessment, August 22-23, 2012.

## ***Preservation***

### **Digital Preservation in a Box**

<http://blogs.loc.gov/digitalpreservation/2012/07/digital-preservation-in-a-box-have-a-look-inside/>

<http://dpoutreach.net/>

Manus, Susan. "Digital Preservation in a Box – Have a Look Inside!" *The Signal* (July 12, 2012).

The National Digital Stewardship Alliance just unveiled a new resource, Digital Preservation in a Box. This is an online collection of resources for the learning and teaching of digital preservation.

The site contains the following resources

- \*Digital Preservation 101 – introductory materials, including videos, articles, and tutorials explaining the concepts involved in digital preservation
- \*Glossary – collection of glossaries from various institutions and programs, containing explanations of relevant terms
- \*Preservation by Format – where to find information for specific digital formats including photographs, audio, video, email, etc.
- \*Digital Preservation Tools – basic tools listed for either the "consumer" or "information professional"
- \*Digital Storage – some options geared towards personal archiving or the basic knowledge needed to understand preservation storage technology.
- \*Resources for Educators – curriculum guidance and teaching materials
- \*Marketing and Outreach – links to marketing materials that can be adapted to support specific events
- \*Event Guidance – what you need to know to prepare a digital preservation event at your institution
- \*Brief Introduction to Digitization – all about scanning and making the distinction between digital preservation and digitization

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## Preserving Moving Pictures and Sound

<http://dx.doi.org/10.7207/twr12-01>

Wright, Richard. "Preserving Moving Pictures and Sound." *Digital Preservation Coalition Technology Watch Reports* 12, no. 1 (March 2012).

This report is for anyone with responsibility for collections of sound or moving image content and an interest in preservation of that content. The report concentrates on digitization, encoding, file formats and wrappers, use of compression, obsolescence and what to do about the particular digital preservation problems of sound and moving images.

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## Add a little TLC to Your Professional Life

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We all need a little TLC. TLC is the portion of your career which needs care and feeding as well as your daily grind activities. I'm talking about Techie Leadership Commitment. A little TLC gets you out of your "office sphere" and allows you to increase your sphere in ways that positively impact your colleagues. There are many degrees of leadership, but you already know that. You may not have taken on a leadership role yet, maybe because you weren't sure where or when to start. That's no longer a reason to avoid some TLC.

Sometime in early February 2013, you will start seeing emails from Brian Striman, vice chair/chair-elect, to badger, no.... cajole, no.... request nicely (at first), that you take a few minutes to fill out the Annual Volunteer (pretend you didn't see the word "volunteer") Technical Services Special Interest Section (TS-SIS) Membership Survey. From what I understand, there is a compounding of fears when you combine the words "volunteer" and "survey" in the same sentence—a latent fear which grips a lot of folks in a kind of stranglehold. It's understandable, but not necessarily something that should cause numbness and the inability to act.

I know how it goes with surveys. They vacuum up a few minutes of time. They make you stop more important things, and then you may choose to click the link to the website to do the survey, and THEN you have to \*think\* about a commitment of your already precious time. Yes? Am I right? Those things are true!

I'm asking you to fill out this survey when announcements pop up in your email inbox this coming February. It's important that you fill out the survey. You can say no to all the options allowing you to step into a leadership position for our SIS. Actually, you are safe. You won't be fired if you don't fill out the survey, but you may sense a deep, almost imperceptible guilt and remorse for not doing it. Your anxiety will fall away like snowflakes on a cold winter's night. This is an "enabler" survey, because it's surveying YOU, and in the questions it asks, it is also asking for what you might consider making a commitment—that means another responsibility.

As vice chair of your SIS, I want to reach out especially to newer members in our SIS. I promise there is no better way to form the building blocks of a rewarding career than by working with colleagues to accomplish tasks. The strength of our SIS for you comes from other volunteers who stepped up. I know you don't have time to do any more stuff. To find the time, you may have to wedge it, mold it, brew it, cook it, or squeeze it.

Incidentally, there is no other way that your TS-SIS officers know what you're thinking and wanting from your SIS, than relying on the results of surveys. Oh, AND, we have an ambitious new strategic plan that.... uh oh.... that's another fear-gripper word, isn't it? Sorry about that. Forget the sentence before this one. \*Whew!\* that was close. I almost lost you forEVER.

There probably won't be a direct link to the survey in the email announcement because of the migration of all AALL sponsored websites to their Content Management System (CMS) format. Instead, the direct link to the upcoming survey will have to go through the *TSLL* website.

A TEST: (1) Do you think this survey might help you grow professionally? (2) Will it be available in February 2013? (3) Will Brian keep nagging you until you complete it? And, finally, (4) Do you go through the TS-SIS website for the link to get you to this year's survey?

*Brian Striman*





#### ***TSLL EDITORIAL POLICY***

Technical Services Law Librarian (ISSN 0195-4857) is an official publication of the Technical Services Special Interest Section and the Online Bibliographic Services Special Interest Section of the American Association of Law Libraries. It carries reports or summaries of AALL annual meeting events and other programs of OBS-SIS and TS-SIS, acts as the vehicle of communication for SIS committee activities, awards, and announcements, as well as current awareness and short implementation reports. It also publishes regular columns and special articles on a variety of topics related to technical services law librarianship.

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