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October, 2009

# Adding Web 2.0 Features to the Library's Palette: LibraryThing for Libraries

Barbara Strauss, *Cleveland State University*



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## Adding Web 2.0 Features to the Library's Palette: LibraryThing for Libraries

by Barbara Strauss, Assistant Director for Technical Services, Cleveland State University

Attending "The Future of the Catalog Conference" in September 2007 proved to be more than just an adventure for colleagues from the Michael Schwartz Library at Cleveland State University (CSU). Library Director Glenda Thornton, and colleagues Yuezeng Shen and Barbara Strauss, found that the experience boosted their quest to bring more Web 2.0 technology to the library, in order to create a rich palette of offerings for users. As a direct result of that experience, CSU Library implemented *LibraryThing for Libraries* (<http://www.librarything.com/forlibraries/>) to help users find books in our collection related to a title they already found, and *Elf* (<http://www.libraryelf.com/>), to help users manage their library materials borrowed from multiple libraries. At the start of the spring 2008 semester CSU launched a new version of Scholar, our Innovative Interfaces Inc. (IIL) WebPAC Pro public catalog. The catalog had a new design and some new features, including tag clouds from LibraryThing for Libraries.

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## TechKNOW on the Web

For the first time ever, the entire run of *TechKNOW* is now available on the Internet at the *TechKNOW* mirror site at Kent State University (<http://www.library.kent.edu/TechKNOW>). Direct access to the current issue is available near the top of the screen. The red *TechKNOW Archive* link at the bottom accesses all other issues.

*TechKNOW* has been in publication for 15 years, starting out as a print publication. Previously only issues from 2002 to present were available online. Older print issues had to be scanned, brought online and described. Work also progresses to mount the missing issues to the OLC site. The entire run is also being indexed to improve access.

Love the three holes punched in the oldest issues! Who knew?

**CONTINUED from page 1**

We became convinced that adding value to our products and services was the right thing to do for our campus community, for the public catalog as well as all other services in the library. We wanted to find ways for students and faculty to use our physical collection more frequently by providing discovery tools for items already in hand. Services from LibraryThing are passive, yet dynamic; that is, once ISBNs are loaded to the service, library staff do not have to do anything. The constant changes made by subscribers to LibraryThing make the responses in our catalog change constantly. This is all about new ways of discovering materials in our own collection.

Students can use these tools to quickly find similar items on their topic. The LibraryThing tags are natural language access, unlike Library of Congress Subject Headings. With these tags, the catalog picks up another set of vocabulary that is displayed in an attractive Web 2.0 format.

In order to implement, we thoroughly read the LibraryThing for Libraries website and looked at catalogs that had implemented the service. We contacted the staff at LibraryThing for a quote, which came with a reasonable price for the service, based on our circulation and student population. They recommended that we look

again at several catalogs that had already implemented the service. They maintain a list of customers at [http://www.librarything.com/wiki/index.php/LTFL:Libraries\\_using\\_LibraryThing\\_for\\_Libraries](http://www.librarything.com/wiki/index.php/LTFL:Libraries_using_LibraryThing_for_Libraries).

When we decided to proceed with the service, we found the implementation was easy. We decided to subscribe only to the catalog enhancements and not to the review enhancements, since we used another review service product provided by OhioLINK. We had to complete three basic tasks to implement the service: decide which options to use; install the catalog enhancements; and upload our ISBNs to LibraryThing. We decided to use all three catalog enhancement options: *Other Editions*, *Similar Books* and *Tag Clouds*.

**CONTINUED on page 3**

**Figure 1**

The screenshot shows a LibraryThing record for the book 'Rayuela' by Julio Cortázar. The record includes fields for Author, Unif Title, Title, and Publisher. Below the record, there are buttons for 'Copy Status', 'Find Similar Items', 'Full Record', and 'Print Version'. The 'Find Similar Items' section lists several books by Cortázar and Borges. The 'Tags' section lists various genres and themes associated with the book.

Record: [PREV](#) [NEXT](#)

**Author** Cortázar, Julio  
**Unif Title** Rayuela. English. 1975  
**Title** Hopscotch / Julio Cortazar ; translated from the Spanish by Gregory Rabassa  
**Publisher** New York : Avon, 1975

[Permalink](#)

**Copy Status** **Find Similar Items** **Full Record** [Print Version](#)

**Similar Books**

- [62: a model kit](#) by Cortázar, Julio
- [Ficcionario](#) by Borges, Jorge Luis, 1899-1986
- [Doctor Brodie's report](#), by Borges, Jorge Luis, 1899-1986
- [All fires the fire, and other stories](#), by Cortázar, Julio
- [El libro de arena /](#) by Borges, Jorge Luis, 1899-1986

**Tags**

20th century **Argentina** [argentine](#) [argentinian](#) [literature](#) [experimental](#) [experimental fiction](#) [Latin America](#) [latin american](#) [latin american literature](#) [magical realism](#) [metafiction](#) **Paris** [postmodern](#) [Roman](#) **Spanish**

*TechKNOW* is published on the Internet by the Technical Services Division of the Ohio Library Council. It is available to Technical Services Division members at the Ohio Library Council's Technical Services Division Web site at <http://www.olc.org/TechnicalServices.asp> (password required)

and at the *TechKNOW* mirror site at Kent State University Libraries at <http://www.library.kent.edu/techknow>. For more information, to submit articles or book or product reviews, or to be placed on an email announcement list for new issues please contact Margaret Maurer at Kent State University at 330.672.1702 or at <mailto:mbmaurer@kent.edu>. ISSN: 1939-1641. The

*opinions expressed in this publication are the responsibility of the authors alone and should not be interpreted as the opinions of the OLC.*

**CONTINUED from page 2**

*Other Editions* are links to other editions or translations of a work, which are found in our catalog. In theory, these links create a FRBR-like service for our users. The Other Editions information is derived from the LibraryThing database, where members of that service tag other editions (and their ISBNs) to identify one master work. These other editions may be in the same or different languages. Since our start of service in March 2008, statistics show that users have found only three instances of another edition or translation. We have not yet identified those three, or found others.

Similar Books Links are like reader's advisory links, pointing to similar books available in our library. The recommendations come from the LibraryThing database with its member input ratings and tags. The LibraryThing software uses the ratings, tags, subject headings and call numbers to offer up recommendations of similar books in our collection. Similar Books appear after our subject headings on the tab *Find Similar Items*, just before the tag cloud. The title/author label has been relabeled *Similar Books*. These appear with much more frequency than the Other Editions feature.

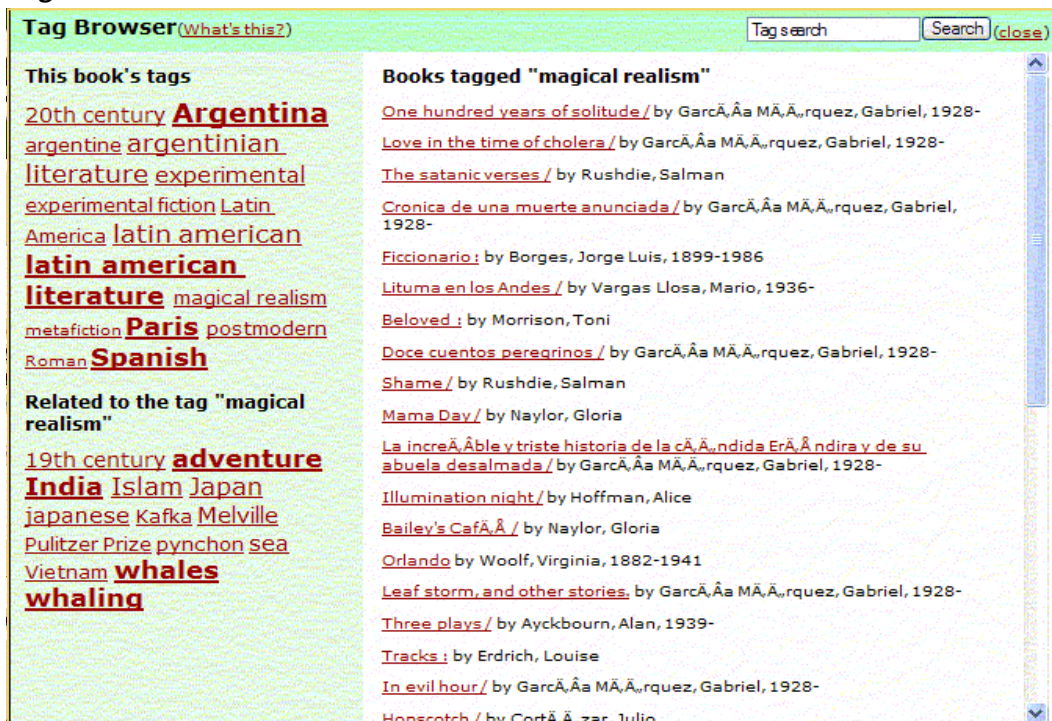
Tag Cloud Links are derived from over 55 million tags added by over 850,000 LibraryThing members to over 43 million books for over 4 million unique works. Tags are keywords and labels used by regular people to describe a book. Tags are meaningful to the tagger and provide them with a way to organize their own library. When LibraryThing for Libraries displays a tag cloud in our catalog that is related to a specific work, the software creates a visual organization of tags (or words) applied by LibraryThing users. This serendipitously provides new ways of connecting our library materials for our users. The larger the size is for text for the tag, the more people have tagged that item with that word. We are using the wisdom of the many to benefit the action of the individual researcher.

So, how does this work? A widget (a software script) is added to the part of our III catalog that displays pages in the catalog. In our public catalog, the bibliographic information is split among three tabs – Copy Status Tab, Find Similar Items Tab, and Full Record Tab. We chose to display the three enhancements under the tab labeled *Find Similar Items*. See *Figure 1* for an example of enhancements for Julio Cortázar's *Hopscotch*. The widget offers up similar items and a tag cloud to help the user find similar items. In the tag cloud, the term "magical realism" is a

valuable addition to this record, identifying a literature genre. *Figure 2* shows the results of clicking on the tag "magical realism", yielding a long list of other "magical realism" titles in our library plus additional tags related to "magical realism." A library user can click on other titles generated by the tag to check the status of that title in our catalog.

LibraryThing for Libraries may or may not pass all tags input by members of LibraryThing. Highly

**Figure 2**



**CONTINUED on page 4**



**CONTINUED from page 3**

personalized tags or risqué words may be filtered, depending on the rating selected in the configuration. The Motion Picture Association of America's film rating system is used to rate the tags. We selected rating NC-17 (no one 17 and under admitted) as the rating level. Other libraries have chosen to pass all tags to the users. At this time both our catalog and LibraryThing for Libraries are not equipped to allow anyone to add tags.

We decided in September 2007 that we wanted to explore LibraryThing for Libraries. It was on March 11, 2008 that we loaded the first set of ISBN files. My goal at the beginning was to load monthly files of new ISBN numbers as I completed the monthly collection statistics. However, I realized that cleanup in the catalog was changing the mix of new records and updated records. In 2009 I started doing a quarterly total reload of ISBN files. We are seeing a steady increase in the overlap of our catalog and the LibraryThing database.

LibraryThing for Libraries offers convenient one-stop information shopping on our account page on their website. We can see basic account information and activity information. For example:

ISBN Upload:

Distinct ISBNs uploaded: 323,802

Overlap with LibraryThing: 184,466 (57%)

Last upload: September 1, 2009, 12:55pm

We can view our current settings and the actual script (widget) used in our catalog. There is a portal where the ISBN files are uploaded to the LibraryThing for Libraries computer. There is a page for usage statistics, today's and cumulative. The statistics track coverage and feature use, breaking these down by coverage such as similar items, tags, other editions, and features such as tags clicked, recommendations browsed, etc.

There are also links to an extensive FAQ and a tour of the product.

One of the interesting things we have found is that while these catalog enhancements automatically show in a logical place, under the tab labeled Find Similar Items, the user has to actually click on the tab to see them. Unfortunately we have found that many catalog users do not go deeply enough into individual records to find these rich resources.

Implementing features from the LibraryThing for Libraries service is one among many steps the Michael Schwartz Library at Cleveland State University has taken to provide expanded paths for information discovery.

## Cutting-Edge Readings on LibraryThing and User Tags

Mendes, Luiz H., Quinonez-Skinner, Jennie, and Danielle Skaggs. "Subjecting the catalog to tagging." *Library Hi Tech* 27, no. 1 (February 2009): 30-41.

"A Quizzical look at LibraryThing." *Multimedia Information & Technology* 35, no. 3 (August 2009): 9-10.

Rolla, Peter J. "User tags versus subject headings: Can user-supplied data improve subject access to library collections?" *Library Resources & Technical Services* 53, no. 3 (July 2009): 174-184.

Sibley, Roberta. "The librarian who loves LibraryThing." *School Library Media Activities Monthly* 25, no. 8 (April 2009): 20-21.

Steele, Tom. "The new cooperative cataloging." *Library Hi Tech* 27, no. 1 (February 2009): 68-77.

Stover, Kaite Mediatore. "Stalking the wild appeal factor." *Reference & User Services Quarterly* 48, no. 3 (Spring 2009): 243-246.

## Coordinator's Corner

by Andrea Christman, Dayton Metro Library, Technical Services Division Coordinator

Since the last issue of TechKNOW, a lot has changed for Ohio public libraries and for the OLC. I think I can safely say that every public library (and library employee) in Ohio has been touched in some way by the budget crisis.

While the Technical Services Division Action Council would like to continue on with "business as usual," we recognize that this is just not possible. The issue that we're dealing with right now is the same issue that the OLC and the other divisions are facing—how can we provide our members with quality programming and continuing education opportunities in light of reduced budgets and staffing at our libraries? We examined what we'd planned to do in 2009-2010 and had to make some difficult decisions. Fortunately, some projects can go forward. We have volunteers working with back issues of TechKNOW; when they're finished, the entire run will be indexed and available online. We're also revising our brochure that describes the work done in technical services. We will keep you posted on the progress of these endeavors.

The most difficult decision for us was to cancel our biennial Technical Services retreat. We'd already begun the planning process for the spring of 2010, but felt that it would be impossible for many (if not most) to attend due to budget and staffing constraints. We would like to re-focus our efforts in the coming year on alternative methods of providing you with continuing education opportunities. We've begun to speak to the OLC staff about training for RDA, perhaps some sort of distance learning experience. We would very much like your input. If you have any suggestions for what you'd like to see from RDA training, the format you'd be likely to take advantage of (webinar, tutorial, etc.), or any other continuing education topics you'd like us to consider, please send me (or any member of the Action Council) an email.

I'd like to take this opportunity to congratulate Christine Burroughs (Shaker Heights Public Library), Deborah Malecha (Delaware County District Library) and Marilyn Zielinski (Toledo-Lucas County Public Library) on their election to the Action Council. They officially begin their duties in January. Welcome!

### *NOTSL Fall Program: Snatch and Batch: Tools for Doing More With Even Less!*

Featuring Terry Reese, Oregon State University  
And Roman Panchyshyn, Kent State University



November 13, 2009, Cuyahoga County Public Library  
Administration Building, Parma, Ohio

Bring your laptop and join us for an educational day

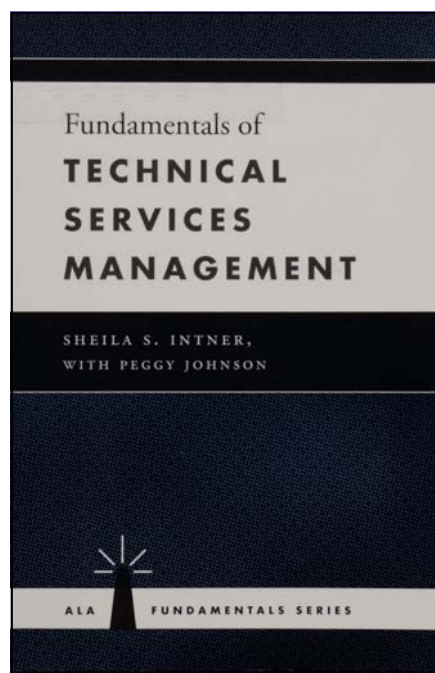
Registration form available at: <http://www.otsl.org>

Sheila S. Intner with Peggy Johnson. *Fundamentals of Technical Services Management*. Chicago: ALA, 2008. 158 p. ISBN: 978-0-8389-0953-9 \$37.80 for ALA members, \$42 for nonmembers.

Sheila Intner and Peggy Johnson are well known, indeed renowned, library managers, educators and writers. They speak from extensive personal experience in technical services. Their advice is solid, and imminently practical. Happily, all of this is reflected in *Fundamentals of Technical Services Management*.

There is a lot of management information in this book on current standard operating procedures in technical services. It includes information on departmental organization, vendor relations, staffing and evaluating, budgeting and finance, and those all important relationships beyond the department.

The book is cleanly and attractively laid out and organized. Each chapter includes sidebar dialogues, stories from the field and lists of tips that flesh out and contextualize the advice provided in the main text. Each chapter ends with a summary, a list of recommended readings and endnotes. The entire book is indexed at the back for ease of access.



Most impressive is the collegial tone encouraged throughout the volume. Technical services units have undergone great change in the last decade. The tendency among some technical services managers has been to become defensive in the face of new challenges. Intner and Johnson connect technical services to the library's mission, and encourage technical services librarians to take on the consultative role that is precisely theirs.

Many times technical services books focus on a single type of library. This is not the case here, and public library technical services managers will find this book useful. Although this concise volume is also intended to be used as a textbook, its dual purpose is to function as a practical manual for technical services management team members, whether new or well seasoned. In our opinion, it accomplishes both.

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## LC Cataloger's Learning Workshop Materials on Web / iTunes U

<http://www.loc.gov/catworkshop>

Last year LC announced that they would discontinue selling training materials from the Cataloger's Learning Workshop, and would make them freely available for downloading at <http://www.loc.gov/catworkshop>. These authoritative training materials are useful in sponsored group settings, but can also be viewed independently. Available materials include all of the Cataloging Skills (CCT) workshops, all of the Digital Library Environment (Cat21) workshops and all of the SCCTP Continuing Resources workshops. Most

workshop PDFs include a trainee manual, an instructor's manual, workshop slides, and exercise answer slides. For each workshop there are also guidelines for sponsoring a workshop, a needs assessment form, and a list of trainers.

Now LC has announced that these valuable workshops will also be available via iTunes U, an area of the iTunes Store offering free education content. Download the iTunes application at <http://www.apple.com/itunes> to access these courses.

# Series Authority Experiences at the Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County: NACO Work Continued

*by Roger M. Miller, Cataloging Services Department Manager, Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County*

The Cataloging Services Department of the Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County (PLCHC) has been an independent member of the Name Authority Cooperative Program (NACO) since February 2006. An article describing our NACO experience was published in the September 2006 issue of [TechKNOW](#).

As readers will likely remember, 2006 was also notable as the year that the Library of Congress (LC) announced that it would no longer create series authority records (SARs). Libraries belonging to the Program for Cooperative Cataloging (PCC) determined, however, that they would continue to create and revise SARs, although in 2008 this became optional.

Public libraries acquire many materials that are multipart titles or part of monographic series. Based upon our experience of working with librarians who deal with fiction and juvenile materials, we determined that access to series was an important service provided by our local catalog, and that if possible we aspired to continue providing that service. Academic libraries, which represent the majority of PCC libraries, shouldered much of the series work abandoned by LC, but there are seemingly few libraries that have staff trained and certified to contribute SARs of interest to public libraries. It was clear that if we were to continue providing series authority control we would have to take the additional training from the PCC.

## Offsite Training

Series authority training is still offered at the Library of Congress, but perhaps only once annually, so it was a challenge to find a training opportunity. Late in 2008 a training event was announced at the Mt. Prospect Public Library in Mt. Prospect, Illinois, and I ventured to northern Illinois in early February 2009 for the event. The trainer was Margaret Smith, from the St. Louis

University Law School. All of the other trainees were from Illinois public libraries.

Our NACO training in 2005 had spanned five days. The PCC series training takes a full three days to complete, and a grueling three days it was! The first day of training included five sections. The first section provided general information and an overview of the training. The second section focused on the prescribed sources for series and transcrip-

*CONTINUED on page 8*

## Ohio NACO Funnel Project News

*by Melanie McGurr, The Ohio State University Library*

The Ohio ACO Funnel consists of three institutions: Cleveland Public Library, Kent State University Libraries, and Cleveland State University's Michael Schwartz Library. Melanie McGurr from the Ohio State University is the coordinator and the trainer for the Funnel.

Training for personal name authority records was held at Kent State University on March 2, 2009 for ten attendees. Funnel catalogers from Cleveland Public Library and from Kent State University Libraries have been contributing records.

This pilot project has been a success, and the group is ready to implement the next phase of the project. Plans are underway to organize training for the next group to join the funnel. Watch for announcements for training opportunities, or send a message to <mailto:mcgurr.2@osu.edu>. An FAQ on NACO Funnels can be found on the Program for Cooperative Cataloging page at <http://www.loc.gov/catdir/pcc/naco/funnelfaq.html>



**CONTINUED from page 7**

tion of series statements. Other sections included formulation of headings, searching for SARs in the authority file, and tagging conventions. On the second day of training we moved on to making treatment decisions (using tags 644, 645, and 646), subseries, qualifiers, and see references. The third and final day of training covered multipart items, series-like phrases, successive entries and "see-also" references, and making revisions to existing SARs.

Each section of training was followed by a set of exercises, which proved very helpful in clarifying the concepts that had just been discussed. Another set of "general exercises" were worked on throughout the training, and these were reviewed on the final day.

While having the previous NACO experience was certainly helpful, especially with regard to authority tagging and construction of 670 (Source Data Found) notes, I found the series training to be much more difficult than we had experienced in the general NACO training for personal, corporate, conference, and geographic names. The number of rules, rule interpretations, and exceptions for series is overwhelming, to say the least.

### **In-house Training and Review**

At the end of February, I offered the training to our professional cataloging staff. Taking on the role of trainer so soon was difficult, but made considerably easier due to the completeness of the training materials provided by the PCC. As they had done before, our catalogers did a great job of working through the training and within a few days we were ready to begin making our first contributions to the authority file. We modified our cataloging procedures to identify new materials that require series authority work, and it was not surprising to discover a steady volume of materials in need of series authority records. Copy catalogers photocopy series information from the new items and attach it to a bibliographic record printout. The copies and printouts can then be used to

formulate the new SAR when time allows, without causing any delay in cataloging or speeding materials into the collection.

As with NACO training, the library is assigned a reviewer by the PCC. I provided the initial review of all new SARs, and then submitted them using OCLC Connexion client to our assigned reviewer, Mr. George Prager, the Head Cataloger at NYU Law. The review process took only a few months, and the Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County was granted independent status for contributing series authority records on May 4, 2009.

*Because we have minimal professional staff in Cataloging, Roger's lists of SARs are invaluable to us, saving us hours of staff time. His monthly emails with new SARs enable us to quickly add authority records to our online catalog, and to keep our catalog up to date. We use a minimum of 50% of the records Roger and his staff make available to us and frequently 100% of them." —Jeanne Poole, Assistant Manager, Technical Services/Catalog, Toledo Lucas County Public Library.*

### **Outcomes**

In the seven months that have elapsed since our PCC series training, we have contributed 207 new series authority records and revised a number of existing records as well. We have found that the vast majority (75 percent) of our records are for multipart titles ("Series"='b'), while the remaining 25 percent are monographic series ("Series"='a'). Nearly all of the multipart titles cataloged are fiction, and since we typically acquire fiction in regular print, large print, and in audiobook form the SARs can become fairly complex. Every couple of weeks or so we post a list of new SARs to the [SERIES-L](#) list to inform the list subscribers of new records that they may wish to download for their local catalog. Responses received from fellow subscribers to SERIES-L indicate that other libraries welcome the contribution of these new records.

If you work in a public library and believe that access to your collection through series is something worth preserving and enhancing, consider applying for acceptance into NACO. While the training for NACO and PCC series is daunting, it's well worth the investment of time and effort. Improving the local catalog would be justification enough, but when you consider the positive contribution made to libraries around the world it's a great opportunity

## Morning Crew

Dark silence as footsteps  
echo in the hallway.  
Florescent lights  
stir the hush, flickering,  
crinkle-sounds scatter in  
succession across the ceiling.  
Passing by the stacks,  
the shelves of possibilities and  
memories rest in beams  
of early morning sunshine.  
A motor begins to hum  
pulling dust from the carpet,  
catching remnants of yesterday.  
The copier awakens  
running through a sequence,  
warming up to a new day.  
Books, DVDs and CDs sit silently  
in rows on carts and stacked  
on Circulation shelves, waiting  
for someone to carry them  
to their shelf location, like  
mail carriers delivering the  
package to its proper address.  
Trash is emptied, dust is captured,  
desktops are readied.  
Someone taps the window  
as faces appear at the door  
impatiently waiting for a chance  
to discover, or communicate,  
investigate and retrieve information.  
Clock hands tick forward as  
books tumble into the bookdrop,  
while staff climb the stairs,  
stow belongings, say their greetings,  
log in, prepare and take a breath  
as the entry doors are unlocked,  
right on time.

Jennifer Bull

## New OCLC WorldCat Record Use Policy Council is Formed [http://www.oclc.org/worldcat/ catalog/policy/council/default.htm](http://www.oclc.org/worldcat/catalog/policy/council/default.htm)

A new Record Use Policy Council has been convened by the OCLC Board of Trustees, charged with developing the next generation of the WorldCat record use policy. The new policy will replace the *Guidelines for Use and Transfer of OCLC Derived Records* that was developed in 1987. OCLC withdrew the most recent attempt to update this document, *Policy for Use and Transfer of WorldCat Records*, amid controversy. OCLC wants the new Policy Council to develop a document that "...incorporates the broad views of the global library community and looks ahead to the future of the information landscape." They are also charged with developing a policy that will "...enable expanding the role and value of WorldCat in the broad information ecosystem." Six members of the new Council also serve on the OCLC Review Board on Principles of Shared Data Creation and Stewardship, including the new Council's Chair, Jennifer Younger. They are expected to submit a new draft policy and recommendations by midyear 2010.

## Mohican 2010 Cancelled

Late this summer TS Division Coordinator Andrea Christman regretfully announced the cancellation of the Mohican Technical Services Retreat that was scheduled for the spring of 2010. This difficult decision was made after the planning process was well underway. State funding for public libraries in Ohio has been greatly reduced, and libraries have been forced to make deep cuts to their travel and continuing education budgets. We are dedicated to using professional development offerings to help members be more efficient and effective in their work. The Action Council plans to create educational opportunities that do not involve travel costs. If the normal conference rotation is followed, the next opportunity for the popular Mohican conference will be in 2012.

# Resource Description and Access (RDA) Timeline

Resource Description and Access (RDA) is the content standard currently being developed as a replacement for the Anglo American Cataloging Rules, Revised 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. (AACR2R). Founded on the Functional Requirements for Bibliographic Records (FRBR) model, it has been under development since 1997. It is very different from AACR2 in some ways, and very familiar in others.

When thinking about RDA records, it is useful to think about how AACR2 catalogers think about records cataloged to earlier standards. These records exist and are useful, although they do look a bit odd. Libraries have local policies regarding accepting them and upgrading them. At some point in the future it is predicted that RDA records will enter our catalogs in much the same way. AACR, AACR2 and RDA records will all coexist in the same databases, and policies regarding accepting and upgrading AACR2 records will be written.

## Internal LC Group Distills *On the Record Report* into Actions

[http://www.loc.gov/bibliographic-future/news/OTR\\_rep\\_response\\_final\\_091509.pdf](http://www.loc.gov/bibliographic-future/news/OTR_rep_response_final_091509.pdf)

*On the Record Report: Recommendations the Library of Congress Should Pursue Over the Next Four Years* was released on September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2009. It is the product of an internal Library of Congress (LC) working group chaired by Regina Reynolds and Bruce Knarr. This is an important report because it distills the recommendations from the 2008 Library of Congress Working Group on the Future of Bibliographic Control (<http://www.loc.gov/bibliographic-future/news/lcwg-ontherecord-jan08-final.pdf>) "...into activities that LC should include in its planning process over the next four years." Check it out!

RDA is a content standard that will live inside MARC21 quite comfortably for the time being. Necessary changes have been made to MARC21 and to OCLC MARC to accommodate new RDA fields and coding. In the future, the data can and should be moved to new data content standard(s) that will more fully exploit the potential linkage benefits inherent in RDA. In the mean time, libraries should verify that their integrated library system can ingest the new fields and exploit the new fixed field coding.

Throughout the process of development for RDA, many deadlines have been missed, often for very good reasons. As of this writing, the most recent timeline for the implementation of Resource Description and Access (RDA) has not slipped. The first release of the Web product is scheduled for late November 2009. It will be available through Cataloger's Desktop and by subscription from the Web product's publishers, which include the American Library Association. No pricing information is available as of this writing.

In response to concerns about RDA raised by the *Library of Congress Working Group on the Future of RDA*, the three U.S. national libraries (LC, NLM, and NAL) have committed to a nine month testing process for RDA and for the Web product (<http://www.loc.gov/bibliographic-future/rda>). The Ohio State University Library is one of the testing libraries. Testing libraries will spend three months familiarizing themselves with the Web product and three months developing test records. The last three months will be spent analyzing the test results. Based on this analysis, a decision will be made by national libraries regarding the operational, technical and economic feasibility of RDA. RDA could be adopted by our national libraries during 2010. Libraries in other countries will be earlier adopters.

Making the transition to RDA will be the bumpy part. Catalogers will benefit from monitoring national developments regarding RDA and from spending time now familiarizing themselves with RDA. A print version of RDA is available on the

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Web at <http://www.rda-jsc.org/rdafulldraft.html>. The Joint Steering Committee for the Development of RDA main page is available at <http://www.rda-jsc.org/rda.html>. Much material is also available at the American Library Association, Canadian Library Association and the Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals' RDA page at <http://www.rdaonline.org>. MARS Automation Services has another good example of Best Links for RDA, available at <http://ac.bslw.com/community/blog/2009/09/best-links-for-rda/>. Professional associations are beginning to discuss needed training. The professional literature has also begun to discuss transition issues. Familiarity with this new content standard will not come easily. The more time spent now, the greater the benefits to be realized later

## TS Division Election Results

Congratulations go out to Christine Burroughs, Shaker Heights Public Library, Marilyn Zielinski, Toledo-Lucas Public Library, and Deborah Malecha, Delaware County District Library, our newly elected TS Division Action Council Members. Each year we elect new Action Council members as serving members either rotate off, or are appointed to other positions. Division leaders as of January, 2009 include:

**Coordinator:** Fred Galeck, Ohio Reformatory for Women

**Past Coordinator:** Andrea Christman, Dayton Metro Library

**Assistant Coordinator:** Kathleen Webb, Elyria Public Library

**Secretary:** Michael Farmer, Ohio University

**Action Council Members:**

Laura Kinner, University of Toledo  
Christine Burroughs, Shaker Heights Public Library

Marilyn Zielinski, Toledo-Lucas Public Library  
Deborah Malecha, Delaware County District Library

Contact information for current TS Division officers is always available at <http://www.olc.org/TechnicalServices.asp>.

## Cooking—>See Cookery??

The Library of Congress (LC) is in the initial planning stages of a project to revise headings used for the treatment of cookbooks and cooking, according to Janis Young, Policy and Standards Division, Library of Congress.

Now that we have all stopped dancing in the aisles, let's do our part. In recognition of public interest in the topic, and the amount of work involved, LC is actively seeking comments on their initial planning. To help frame our comments, a discussion paper has been posted to the Web at <http://www.loc.gov/catdir/cpsol/cooking.pdf>. Comments on these plans may be sent to Libby Dechman at the Library of Congress at mailto: [edec@loc.gov](mailto:edec@loc.gov).

## R2 Consulting Report on MARC Records Marketplace is Released

[http://www.loc.gov/bibliographic-future/news/MARC\\_Record\\_Marketplace\\_2009-10.pdf](http://www.loc.gov/bibliographic-future/news/MARC_Record_Marketplace_2009-10.pdf)

In January 2009 the Library of Congress contracted with R2 Consulting to study the current state of MARC Record Production in the United States and Canadian Libraries. In October 2009 the *Study of the North American MARC Records Marketplace* was released by R2 consultants Ruth Fisher and Rick Lugg. The purpose of the study was to describe the current state of MARC record production, and in particular the degree to which sources other than LC create records in significant quantities. Check it out!



M.P. (Mohinder Partap) Satija. *The Theory and Practice of the Dewey Decimal Classification System*, Oxford, England: Chandos Publishing, 2007. 206 p. ISBN: 1-84334-234-0 (paperback). £39.95. ISBN: 1-84334-235-9 (hardback). £59.95.

Dr. M.P. Satija is Professor of Library and Information Science in Guru Nanek Dev University, Amritsar, India, and head of the department of library and information science. His professional career has included much work in library classification, and he has been writing about the DDC for twenty years. He has collaborated with two chief editors of the DDC, and is one of the authors of *Dewey Decimal Classification: A Practical Guide*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. That's why this book is a good place to go for help with the *why* of number construction in DDC.

The title is part of Chandos' Information Professional Series, and as such is designed to be easy-to-read and practical. Satija's sparse and clear writing style facilitates the transmission of infor-

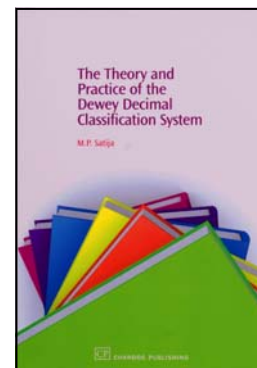
mation about the DDC. It is aimed at beginners, but could appeal to a more experienced cataloger.

While this title is already three yrs old, it is not dated. This book is about the principles of structure and number building, not the number assignment for the newest topic, and therefore it will be useful for some time to come. Occasional specific references to the print version's structure do not preclude its theoretical usefulness in conjunction with WebDewey.

Dr. Satija first contextually grounds the reader by providing a brief history of the DDC, and an explanation of the governance and revision of the DDC. Before tackling the specifics of number building, he introduces the types of entries, the structure of the notation, and the basic organization of the disciplines. The chapter on subject analysis and locating numbers is noteworthy. Separating the treatment of this topic from the more structural aspects of number building does emphasize its importance to the novice cataloger. Next Satija outlines the process that professionals use to determine subject placement in the collections, weaving together concepts such as vague titles, multifaceted works, and author viewpoints.

He then provides easy-to-understand instructions on building numbers using tables one through five, using lots of examples. He is particularly good at outlining the relationships between number-building decisions, turning much of the intellectual work into a step-by-step process. His chapter on multiple subject synthesis is cohesive and quite easy to follow.

The reader is provided with a broad chronology of the DDC and a table of DDC print editions for reference. There is a set of tutorial questions and answers that could be useful for courses, but which do not assess number building itself. An glossary of terms, a list of references for further reading, and an index complete to work.



## LC/PCC Guidelines for Repeatable 260 Field

<http://www.loc.gov/catdir/cps0/260field.html>

The Library of Congress (LC), the Program for Cooperative Cataloging (PCC) and OCLC have implemented the repeatable 260 field as of September 1, 2009. Continuing resources catalogers have long been aware that the publisher can change over time. Now this information can be more prominently expressed through the bibliographic record. LC and the PCC have also made the LCRI guidelines available on the Web. These guidelines provide clear information on when and how to insert additional 260 fields for records describing multipart monographs, serials and integrating resources. Copy catalogers will begin finding these records in bibliographic utilities and at LC, and should know that they are properly cataloged. It is recommended that libraries verify that their integrated library system is able to load, index and display repeated 260 fields.

## Web Sites for Cataloging Continuing Resources

Serials and integrating resources cataloging can be challenging. Regardless of whether evaluating copy or providing original records, the sheer interconnectedness of the work adds a layer of complexity that requires a unique cataloger mindset, and extensive knowledge of standards and practices. Increasingly this work also involves remote electronic resource cataloging. Catalogers that only occasionally dabble in continuing resources cataloging may need basic resources to get up to speed. Check out these Web sites when looking for that help.

### CONSER Web site (Cooperative Online Serials)

<http://www.loc.gov/acq/conser/>

Part of LC's Program for Cooperative Cataloging (PCC), CONSER exists as a source of high quality bibliographic records, documentation, and training materials. CONSER catalogers establish new cataloging standards and create a voice for continuing resources issues in the larger library community. The CONSER Web site pulls together many items of interest to serials catalogers. For example, there's nice list of online resources for serials catalogers, access to the *CONSERline* newsletter, and lots of information on developing standards.

### Serials Cataloging Cooperative Training Program (SCCTP)

<http://www.loc.gov/acq/conser/scctp/scctp-home.html>

While the *CONSER Editing Guide* is not freely available on the CONSER Web site, the Serials Cataloging Cooperative Training Program (SCCTP) materials are. Access is provided to the instructor PowerPoint presentations, trainee manuals and exercises. There is also information about sponsoring workshops, and about workshops that have already been scheduled. The Basic Serials Cataloging Workshop has proved to be very popular.

### CONSER Standard Record Documentation

<http://www.loc.gov/catdir/cpsoc/conserdoc.pdf>

Implemented in 2007, the CONSER Standard Record (CSR) defines a set of elements that are required on each serial record because they were identified "...as having the highest value in supporting users' efforts to find, identify, select, and obtain the resources they need...." This is a baseline standard for bibliographic records that allows for the addition of needed elements and information based on cataloger judgment.

### North American Serials Interest Group (NASIG) Web site

<http://www.nasig.org/>

NASIG is an independent professional organization focused on fostering communication and building professional relationships between anyone interested in any aspect of serials. They hold annual conferences, sponsor workshops, set standards, advocate for serials issues and grant awards. Quite a bit of serials cataloging information is available on the NASIG Web site, but NASIG members may also access the online membership directory for networking purposes, the Proceedings archive and the discussion forums.

### NASIGuide MARC Coding for Serials

<http://frank.mtsu.edu/~bgeckle/MarcSerials.html>

*MARC Coding for Serials* provides guidance on how serial MARC records differ from records for other formats. The guide is limited to serials, and therefore excludes integrating resources such as Web sites and loose leafs. The focus is principally on MARC tagging, although some cataloging rules and practices are referred to. Organized by MARC tag number, the guide is current with the new CONSER Standard Record.