Enhance Sharing Session with Jay Weitz

ALA Midwinter, Dallas, January 20, 2012

News from OCLC

- Can now control more headings in WorldCat. OCLC made significant improvements in controlling headings, especially music uniform titles.
- Records processed in WorldCat go through a mechanism to control headings. Headings should match cross references, and the system will flip the heading.
- There are some limits, most notably unqualified personal name headings. Controlling these requires human intervention.
- There will be another Connexion release (2.40) in March/April. Included in the enhancements will be new RDA work forms to accommodate RDA elements.
- Connexion will have a new field, 264, which is coming in mid 2012.
- New macros coming too.

Enhance Program – Expert Community

- Last year allowed NACO institutions to lock and replace PCC records
- Talking about possibly expanding to Enhance participants the ability to merge duplicate bibliographic records.

GLIMIR

- GLIMIR = Global Library Manifestation Identifier.
- Taking matching algorithms we use for DDR, tweaking them, and clustering records with like content, similar to FRBR, therefore, bringing together "e," print, microform, etc. of same individual content.
- Field 936 – how does GLIMIR play with this tag? Is this tag of any use? Some people don't understand purpose of field. OCLC is considering no longer using field 936 for identifying parallel records. Expect an announcement soon.

Connecting with library schools

- Has OCLC engaged with professors at library schools on changes, like Expert Community? There doesn't seem to be interest with older faculty, but can we engage newer faculty now? Cataloging attracts a certain type of student.

Algorithms

- Does OCLC put its algorithms for merging records on the website? No, we're constantly tweaking algorithms and try to learn from every single incorrect merge. We do encourage reporting any incorrect merges no matter how old the merge.

AACR2/RDA records

- Headings in RDA records are subject to controlling.
- Question on AACR2 records and locally updated to RDA – Institution Records (IRs) – anyone can have the ability to create an IR – currently, there is an extra charge for the ability to create Institution Records – anyone can look at IRs at no charge.
- OCLC has posted policies for AACR2/RDA records (http://www.oclc.org/us/en/rda/default.htm).
  - Update since the Enhance Sharing Session: "As a part of preparations for the future implementation of RDA, OCLC staff have been discussing how RDA data and practices might be incorporated more fully into WorldCat. A discussion paper, *Incorporating RDA practices into WorldCat* (http://www.oclc.org/us/en/rda/discussion.htm), laying out potential policies and actions is now available for comment. Please send your comments on these proposed policies and actions, as well as your thoughts on any other possible policies in regard to bibliographic records and RDA, to rdapolicy@oclc.org by April 15, 2012."

Encoding Levels

- Can we trust that field, someone asked. There have long been issues on the usefulness of Encoding Levels, but no conclusions.

Subject Headings

- Some subject headings won't control. Will the new program for controlling headings help with this? The controlling function cannot validate the legitimacy of the heading, simply checking each part individually. Jay doesn't think there's logic to take care of doing more than a simple check/match. The algorithm will try to control where it finds a match.

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(with light editing by Jay Weitz)