

Minutes of the
OCLC Enhance Sharing Session
Friday, June 28, 2013
10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
McCormick Place Chicago

1. OCLC Credits and Incentives

The OCLC system of credits and incentives hasn't changed much in the last forty years, although everything else has. The credits and incentives have always been given on a transaction basis, but since the OCLC fee structure changed several years ago from transaction based to subscription based, the credits and incentives have been out of sync with the new structure. A task force was appointed to recommend new policies. Its report has been submitted to the Global Council and both the Council and the OCLC Board have accepted its recommendations. OCLC will decide in August how to implement them. The first finding of the report is that the current policies are indeed out of sync with the current situation and they will be phased out beginning in July 2014. Second, it is important to encourage global cooperation and participation in those practices which OCLC would like to see become normative. When they have become normative, the incentives should be discontinued. The new policies should be adaptable and flexible and under continuing review. Though the credits and the Enhance program as we know them may go away, there will probably still be meetings like this one for Enhance and Expert Community participants.

2. New CEO

Skip Prichard will take office on Monday (2013 July 1) as the new President and CEO of OCLC. He has previously been at LexisNexis and ProQuest and most recently the Ingram Content Group.

3. Three Major Milestones

OCLC has recently passed three major milestones: the 300 millionth record was added to WorldCat, the 30 millionth record was added to WorldCat via the WorldCat Digital Collection Gateway, and the WorldCat database reached 2 billion holdings records.

4. Major Technical Upgrade

On June 6 OCLC completed the work to convert the underlying structure of the WorldCat database to the Apache HBase, using the Apache Hadoop Software, a distributed platform which OCLC will run across 150 servers in 3 clusters. This distributed processing is much better suited than the old platform to a database as huge as WorldCat and allows for many new options and faster service.

5. 2013 OCLC-MARC Update

OCLC has implemented the 2013 OCLC-MARC update, as detailed in Technical Bulletin 262

(<http://www.oclc.org/support/services/worldcat/documentation/tb/262.en.html>).

Among the features implemented: the ISMN can now be input correctly in the 024 field; subfield \$q has been validated in the 028 field; the 261 field for films has been eliminated; some 262 fields have been eliminated, but this field was

much more complex and harder to convert and many will have to be done manually; the obsolete indicators in the 511 field have been removed.

6. *Bibliographic Formats and Standards Document Undergoing Revision*

OCLC is now in the very early stages of revising the BFAS to reflect the changes documented in Technical Bulletins 261 and 262. A new content management system makes it much easier now for many staff members to work on the document at the same time, so this should go much faster than previous updates. The whole document will be reevaluated in the context of RDA and the accompanying LC-PCC Policy Statements. Existing examples will be updated and new RDA examples added as needed. Users are encouraged to send in suggested new examples. The PDF forms of BFAS are being done away with because they were little used and difficult to maintain.

7. Q and A

Q: Is the 264 field up in BFAS?

A: It was activated just a few days ago.

Q: Will the RDA guidelines for dissertations be available soon?

A: The RDA guidelines for dissertations and reproductions are currently under discussion within the PCC. In BFAS, Chapter 3 (“Special Cataloging Guidelines”) contains OCLC’s recommendations on cataloging “Theses and Dissertations.” Because of their complexity, Chapters 1-5 of BFAS will be updated last, although smaller changes are already being made. For example, because the 261 field is no longer found in WorldCat and has been removed from BFAS, all references to 261 from the first five chapters as well as the remainder of the document have also been removed. Even seemingly small changes can be very labor intensive.

Q: [There was a question about LC’s Bibliographic Framework and BFAS]

A: BibFrame is still in the very early stages and is part of a much larger initiative intended to lead eventually to the Semantic Web. OCLC is helping to frame it, but it is not yet known what effect it may have on the BFAS. For more information on the LC Bibliographic Framework Initiative, see <http://www.loc.gov/bibframe/>.

Q: Will the popularity of BISAC prompt OCLC to do a major overhaul of DDC?

A: I don’t know of any such plans, but I’m not a DDC specialist.

There were questions and discussion about how to create Provider-Neutral records for digitized books without creating duplicates and what can be done about the many duplicate records already otherwise created for these materials. There was discussion of where to load records from the Digital Gateway locally. Do libraries really want to integrate all these nonstandard records into their local catalogs?

Respectfully submitted by
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July 3, 2013