

TECH NOTES

Technical Services Chapter

Volume 14, No. 4

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

According to my latest count, our Chapter has conducted nine very successful Technical Services Chapter programs throughout our State this year! The CLA Conference in Oakland, November 16-19, is proof that we are not done yet.

Our own President Elect, Roy Ortopan and his Program Committee have planned three programs on relevant, practical topics pertinent to expanding our perspectives on issues facing technical services in today's information environment. If the recession and library budget cuts are causing you to hesitate on registering for the Conference, I would like to encourage you to attend. Especially at this time, when we are being asked to further streamline our operations, the value of the exchange of ideas and support between colleagues becomes more important. The programs promise to be stimulating, and it would be great to see you!

At this point, I would like to thank everyone who has served the Chapter in top form this year. It was a pleasure for me to participate with such a professional and hard-working group -- particularly, Vice President Roy Ortopan, Treasurer-Membership Coordinator Ruth Boyer, Secretary Vivian Pisano, TechNotes Editor Nancy Neal, Discussion Group Leaders Sandra Smith, Martha Childers, Edward Asawa, Stephanie Beverage, Kathy Cresto, Cecilia Chen, Derry Juneja, James Matthews, Susanne Sweeney, Patricia Vanderberg, Jessica Marshall, Armanda Boni, Aimee Algier-Baxter, Lynnea Kleinschmidt and Randy Brandt. As you can see, it takes tremendous participation of our members to provide the high quality programs the Chapter has been able to present.

*Diane Bebbler, President
CLA Technical Services Chapter*

SERIALS IN TRANSITION

"Serials in Transition" was the topic of the fall 1991 Southern Region Serials Discussion group meeting held on September 6, 1991 at West Covina Public Library.

Three speakers addressed various aspects of serials work. Derry Juneja, Head of Technical Services, Riverside City & County Public Library, discussed the viability of

serials departments in an online environment. Two major concerns facing serials librarians today are automation and the rising price of periodicals. Ms. Juneja presented some of the requirements necessary in automated systems, what a system profile should include, as well as what a serials module should be able to do.

Teresa Malinowski, Serials Coordinator at California State University, Fullerton, provided a case study of serials automation at CSF. The installation on INNOVACQ system significantly channeled workflow in their serials department as well as staff responsibilities. While some processes were eliminated or streamlined, others were expanded or added. Some staff positions were reclassified to higher levels. Ms. Malinowski shared some of her observations of the past and future of serials automation.

Serials standards and their impact were the topics of Sally Tseng's address. Ms. Tseng, Serials Cataloger at the University of California, Irvine, advocated adapting standards in serials, especially in an automated environment. Ms. Tseng discussed NISO standards with emphasis on Holding Statements for Bibliographic Items. This proposed new standard includes holdings for both monographs and serials.

Submitted by Kathy Cresto

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SERIALS WORKSHOP AT BERKELEY

The Serials Workshop, co-sponsored by the Northern Region Technical Services Chapter and the School of Library and Information Studies, University of California, Berkeley, was held Friday, September 13, at The General Library on the University of California, Berkeley campus. The program, attended by fifty participants, was a full-day workshop which concentrated on serials on a very broad and basic level.

The morning session included four guest speakers whose presentations concentrated on current issues in serials automation. Kay Thorne, San Jose State University, described her experiences planning for and working with INNOVACQ's serials control module. Jeannette Glynn, Bank of America



Technical Library, discussed her experiences planning for and working with a micro-based serials control module by Data Trek. Steve Salmon, Carlyle Systems, introduced Carlyle's Acquisitions and Serial Control System (CASS).

Kathy Bales, Research Libraries Group, brought the group up-to-date on the issues of format integration and its effects on the USMARC bibliographic format. The last hour of the morning session involved demonstrations of the INNOVACQ serials control module, Data Trek's serials control module and Carlyle Systems' CASS.

The afternoon session of the workshop included four guest speakers whose discussions concentrated on basic issues in serials cataloging. Elizabeth Steinhagen, Humboldt State University, presented a broad overview on serials cataloging standards providing definitions, disadvantages and advantages to the use of standards. Kay Thorne returned to the afternoon session to discuss the topic of multiple versions in relationship to serials (i.e., the bibliographic control of serials issued in different physical formats). Daniel Pitti, University of California, Berkeley, spoke on the topic of series authority control. He discussed the basic rules and concepts related to the creation of series authority records. The final guest speaker, Randal Brandt, University of California, Berkeley, spoke on the topic of seriality in media. Randal's discussion centered on such topics as the importance of the catalog for access to media, criteria for decision-making, serial elements in media formats, and the impact of format integration.

The workshop proved to be a success, so the workshop may be repeated in the spring sometime, if possible. If so, an announcement will be published in TechNotes. The workshop was taped and the tapes are available to those who

are interested for \$20.00. If anyone is interested, please send a check made out to California Library Association to Armanda Barone, Serials Cataloging Division, Rm. 212, Doe Library, University of California Berkeley, Berkeley, CA 94720.

Submitted by Armanda Barone

1992 TECHNICAL SERVICES ELECTION

The ballots are probably being counted as you read this! The election for Technical Services President/Vice President Elect is in process and votes are being tallied. The deadline for the submission of ballots was October 18th. Election results will be announced at the Technical Services Chapter business meeting at the annual conference on Sunday, November 17, 1991, from 8:30 - 9:00 a.m.

Thanks to candidates Lorraine Allerhand and Arlene Schwartz for running for our highest office. And, many thanks to Jim Dwyer, Brenda Crotts, and Juliann Rankin for serving on the nominating committee.

Submitted by Vivian Pisano

SUBJECT HEADING DEVELOPMENTS

Beautiful weather and a great location at Cerritos Public Library set the stage September 25, 1991 for the meeting of the California Library Association Technical Services Chapter Southern Region Cataloging Discussion Group. 140 attendees from sixty-five institutions gathered to hear four speakers address the topic "Subject Headings: New Developments and Their Impact."

The first speaker was Lee Leighton, Head, Original Cataloging Dept., UC Berkeley, who reported on the Library of Congress Subject Subdivision Conference held in May of this year. Invited conference participants discussed four position papers, each one covering the pros, cons, and systems implications of one of the following topics: 1) limiting free-floating subdivisions and simplifying the rules for sets of headings; 2) abandoning restrictions on the use subdivisions and allowing for more judgement by catalogers; 3) alternatives to subdivision strings; and 4) establishing topical subdivisions as needed. Mr. Leighton reported that the three days allotted for the conference were not enough to cover all the papers and the discussion that resulted, but that there was agreement that the Library of Congress needed to get a handle on 1) form subdivisions (approximately 350), 2) that the forty lists of pattern headings should be reduced, 3) that some subdivisions should be normalized, e.g. "Description" under cities could be changed to "Description and travel", and 4) that chronological subdivisions under cities should be dropped.

Dr. Marcia Bates, from UCLA's School of Library and Information Service, next spoke on the "interaction between the Design of the Online Catalog and the Design and Rules of LCSH." She emphasized that with automation,

we now have the capability to separate cataloging description from access. As we get more and more powerful, sophisticated computer access, we need a front end thesaurus to link the tremendous variety of terms that people use to search for a concept. Changes can be made in the thesaurus and then pointed to in the bibliographical records with a link. She also said that the interaction between your indexes and what the system design of the online retrieval system must be integrated with the intellectual access. The Library of Congress needs a proper design for a new system. Many of the suggestions for improvement are hindered by the system in current usage at LC. Her suggestion for new designs include a faceted approach by isolating out features and then having the user put together the pieces.

Presenting a view from the perspective of a public services librarian, Steven Brewster, Adult Services Coordinator from Orange County Public Library spiced his presentation with a series of interesting quotes from librarians. His main focus was that LCSH is problematical in that it is not comprehensive in its coverage of knowledge and that it is constantly obsolete, chauvinistic, racist, etc. The cost to the user in failed searches is incalculable. As a result of his personal experience, Steven prefers and advocates using keyword searches to access established subject headings when searching.

The final speaker was Pat Luthin, Associate Research Librarian, Chevron Oil Field Research Company, who spoke on "Fiction Subject Headings -- A Status Update." Guideline on Subject Access to Individual Works of Fiction, Drama, etc. was published by the ALA/ALCTS/SAC Subcommittee in 1990. These Guidelines form the basis for much of Pat's report. While the Library of Congress has determined that it could not assign subject headings across the board to individual works of fiction, other libraries can use the Guidelines to assign headings in a standardized way. OCLC has undertaken a project to enhance bibliographic records for works of fiction. In this project, a small number of libraries have volunteered to enhance OCLC records by adding fiction subject headings in accordance with the Guidelines.

After a delicious box lunch, attendees dispersed to group discussions by library type on possible implementation of subject heading changes. The academic library group was facilitated by Buckley Barrett, CSU San Bernardino and Dr. Barbara Tillett, UC San Diego. The group focused on the concept of the front-end thesaurus and the need for communications with Public Services staff to build vocabulary by commonly used terms. The idea of tying commercial mega-thesauri to LCSH was discussed. The public library facilitators were Irene Vavrin Hunt and Nancy Neal from the Palos Verdes Library District. This group was particularly interested in keeping options open with system technology and design architecture. Systems must be flexible to allow for the range of users' skill levels. Again, an increase in communication with public services staff was desired with one potential result of supplying cross references. Martha Childers from San Diego County Law Library facilitated the special libraries group discussion.

The focus of this group was reported to be making access to collections user-friendly by using key word access and analyzing transaction logs on a regular basis to determine commonly used access terms.

Kudos to program chairs Sandy Smith, Fullerton College, and Martha Childers, San Diego County Law Library, for an extremely well-planned and well-arranged workshop.

Submitted by Becky Ringler

CONFERENCE PROGRAMMING

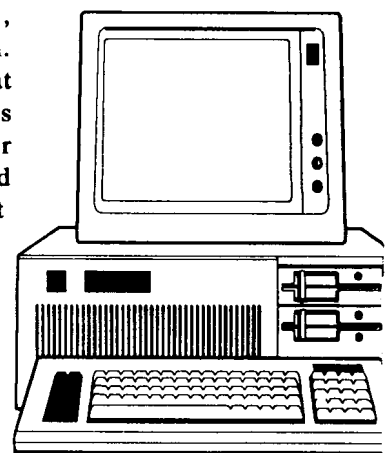
The Technical Services Chapter will be sponsoring three programs and a business meeting at the Annual Conference this November in Oakland. Plan now to attend so as not to miss any of the new and exciting information to be presented.

The program meeting of the Chapter will take place on Sunday November 17, 9:00 - 12:00 noon. It will begin with a preliminary business meeting presided by Diane Bebbler, Chapter President, at 8:30 a.m. Refreshments will be served at this early morning business meeting to encourage your attendance. Election results and Chapter news will be given at this time. The business meeting will be followed at 9:00 a.m. by the main program entitled "Cooperation in the Technical Services." Program chairperson for the main meeting is Roy Ortopan, President Elect. The speakers

are Kay Thorne, San Jose State University Library, who will present an update on the California State Serials Project; Charles Piazza from EBSCO who will describe the X12 standard; and Clifford Lynch, Head of the Division of Library Automation, University of California, discussing the "Future of Networking for Cooperation in the Technical Services."

The Northern Region combined Acquisitions and Serials Discussion Groups are sponsoring a program on Monday, 18 November, 10:30 a.m. - 12:00 noon on the continuing "Interdependence of Vendors and Libraries." There will be hands-on vendor demonstrations of electronic ordering and claiming systems for serials (EBSCONET and Faxon DATALINX), followed by discussions by practitioners of these systems. At this meeting the use of electronic mail over the INTERNET will be demonstrated for dial-up access to various online catalogs and computer bulletin boards. Nancy Slight-Gibney, Head of Acquisition, Orradre Library, Santa Clara University, is the Program Chair for this meeting.

"Quality of Library Databases" is the topic for the panel discussion sponsored by the Northern Region Cataloging and Microcomputer Discussion Groups on Monday,



18 November, 2:30 p.m. -4:00 p.m. Refreshments, courtesy of the Chapter, will be available at the start of the meeting. The panel discussion includes the topics of continuing retrospective conversion, authority control, database cleanup, and quality control of bibliographic records. The speakers are Claudia Chester, John F. Kennedy University Library, speaking on the use of MARCHIVE for retrospective conversion; Mary Olson, Technical Services Librarian, College of Marin, speaking on the use of OCLC Micro-Con software in retrospective conversion projects; Pat Thomas, Head Cataloger, Stockton-San Joaquin Public Library, speaking on CD-ROM cataloging possibilities; and Dorothy McPherson, Division of Library Automation, discussing authority control in MELVYL. The Program Chair for this meeting is Patricia Vanderberg, Cataloger at UC Berkeley.

These three meetings plus an opportunity to meet with vendors and see new products at the exhibits await you in Oakland. Take the time to network with colleagues from many types of libraries and gain new ideas by attending the annual conference. Feel free to contact the Program Chairs should you need further information regarding the meetings..

Submitted by Roy Ortopan

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CALENDAR

November 16 - 19, 1991
California Library Association
Annual Conference
Oakland Convention Center

November 14 - 17, 1992
California Library Association
Annual Conference
Long Beach Convention Center



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