NASIG 2000 - Making Waves: New Serials Landscapes in a Sea of Change

Poster Sessions

EDITORS' NOTE. This is the first year that the poster sessions have been included in the conference *Proceedings*. The sessions were popular and well-attended, and the NASIG Board felt that it was time to acknowledge the hard work of the individuals involved. Rather than a report on the sessions, we have included the proposal abstracts submitted to the conference planning committee. The sessions included posters on electronic journals and publishing, journal collection management, NASIG Web, serials acquisitions, serials cataloging, and serials public services.

ELECTRONIC JOURNALS AND PUBLISHING

Cooperative E-Journal Web Page Development for a Consortium

Carol Stephenson
University of Waterloo
Linda Cracknell
Wilfrid Laurier University

In 1995, three universities (University of Guelph, Wilfrid Laurier University, University of Waterloo) in southwestern Ontario formed the Tri-University Group of Libraries (TUG). Although TUG has cooperated on many consortial purchases of electronic resources, until 1999, each institution maintained separate Webpages listing electronic journals (e-journals). With the rapid growth of e-journals, it was clear that maintenance of separate ''hand-coded'' Webpages was becoming problematic. In the summer of 1999, a small group of TUG staff approached the problem of how to share and facilitate Webpage maintenance of the rapidly growing collections and provide users with a highly configurable Web interface. Each institution's listings of e-journals were compiled into one shared Excel spreadsheet, which remains the primary maintenance tool. The Excel file is then saved as a tab delimited text file, which is uploaded to a UNIX environment. A perl program generates an XML formatted file and runs the indexing process. The XML file is indexed using Opentext Livelink software. What users see is the TUG E-journals Webpage (http://www.tug-libraries.on.ca/ejournals/) which allows them to select a listing for their own institution and search by either exact title, title keyword, a series of general subject breakdowns or by the starting letter in the e-journal title. The result is a relatively simple process

that can dynamically deliver Webpages listing the three libraries' e-journals in a variety of formats. The TUG E-journals Webpage has almost 5,000 titles and is one of the most heavily used Websites for the three institutions.

Electronic Serials Workflow Management

Kathryn Ellis
University of Tennessee

Electronic resources present an opportunity for libraries to offer greater access and new materials to their users, but they also provide new challenges for workflow management. As the number of electronic serials at the University of Tennessee has increased, we found that our ad hoc methods of dealing with them were no longer adequate. We pulled together representatives from most departments of the library to figure out how to manage all the different types of information associated with selecting, ordering, licensing, cataloging, providing access to, and even cancelling electronic serials. We created an internal e-mail list to provide an easy communication path. We learned much about how different parts of the process had been handled and decided whether to continue or change those operations. We learned who needed to know different types of information. We tried to develop a flow-chart of how a request would pass through different parts of the library, but found the variety of ways electronic serials present themselves made this difficult. I illustrate some of our decision-making processes, our various means of communication, our flow-chart and workflow guidelines, and the kinds of information needed by different departments. Both the process and the end result may be interesting to other libraries.

Integrating Full-Text Aggregate Periodical Databases into your PAC: A Public Service Perspective

Lisa Roberts
Bill Budge
California State University, Sacramento

Increased use and reliance on full-text electronic databases poses difficult problems for both catalog and public service librarians. Many libraries have created a separate list of electronic full-text periodicals indexed in aggregator databases that are searchable from the library's Webpage. As helpful as such listings can be, they are a resource outside of the OPAC. A user, citation in

hand, approaching the OPAC to determine if a periodical is available will be unsuccessful if the library has access only to the full-text version, or if the print version of a periodical once held by the library has been cancelled.

This poster session demonstrates how use of the 856 MARC field to link to full-text journals available in aggregator databases can enhance user satisfaction with the OPAC. Links to the search screens of these databases present the searcher with a variety of interfaces and little direct assistance in finding a particular article in a journal. With the multiple server access provided by browser framing, local catalogers can facilitate the end user's search by providing instructions in the same window as the periodical database to which it links from the OPAC. Instructions remain in the left frame while performing a search of the database in the right frame. The help screen, as well as the database search screen, appears beneath the library's OPAC, which is accessible in the top frame. These three frames come from three different servers, but appear to be in the OPAC.

Internet Processing Working Group:
Voyaging through Strange Seas of E-Resources

Sylvia Goldberg
Tim McAdam
University of California, Irvine

This poster session presents an overview and working dynamics of the Internet Processing Group [IPWG] at the University of California, Irvine Libraries. The IPWG membership consists of staff from Acquisitions, Cataloging, Collection Development, Reference and Instruction, and the Systems Departments.

IPWG is responsible for developing and implementing an efficient and effective workflow for the processing of Internet based resources. The IPWG has developed a workflow to identify, acquire, license, catalog, test, provide access to and maintain Internet based resources. The workflow includes purchased, free, free with print, bundled and California Digital Library Internet resources. The IPWG is also developing a process for checking and maintaining URLs in the Libraries Web-based catalog (Innovative Interfaces Inc.).

The Poster Session includes the Internet Processing Working Group charge, a featured list of electronic resources, e-resources error reporting form, workflow for paid subscriptions to electronic resources, sample of broken link report, and the table for processing different categories of e-resources.

JSTOR's Impact on Access to Older Scholarly Literature: What Usage Statistics Can Tell Us

Carol MacAdam
Sharon Nahra
JSTOR

With extensive usage statistics now available, JSTOR has an interesting opportunity to study the impact of electronic technologies on the usage of the literature in its archive. By December 1999, JSTOR contained the complete backruns of 117 scholarly journal titles in 15 academic disciplines, a collection numbering nearly 5,000,000 pages. More than 650 academic institutions from 25 countries have access to JSTOR, with approximately 200 having had access since early 1997.

Our poster session shows statistics on the overall usage of JSTOR during the last two years, 1998 and 1999. These statistics illustrate some of the trends in online usage that we are seeing in the way the materials in JSTOR are used. We compare usage in different disciplines. We show examples of the different ways JSTOR is being used by students and faculty, including the kinds of searches being made and the uses being made for teaching. We use graphs and charts to illustrate the composite statistics and also display sample statistics that JSTOR supplies to participating libraries.

A Sea of Change: Facilitating Access to a Blended Collection of Print and Electronic Journals

Lillian N. DeBlois
Mary L. Holcomb
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Arizona Health Sciences Library

A new serials phenomenon, engendered by the rapid proliferation of electronic journals, is making waves in today's libraries. Serialists and library users alike now deal with blended journal collections, consisting of both print and digital materials, where information about what is available (purchased or licensed) to users is not necessarily reflected in the library's online catalog nor housed or managed within its physical location. The well-known vagaries of print journals seem magnified in their electronic counterparts and rapidly changing technology adds degrees of

both complexity and opportunity to the work of the serialist. For example, libraries are licensing Web access to electronic journals from several different publishers and aggregators, each with its own search engine. A library user may have to search several different publisher/aggregator sites to determine whether the desired journal is available electronically. In order to assist users in finding digital resources and to facilitate access to the electronic journal collection, the Arizona Health Sciences Library has developed an electronic journals Webpage, with searchable title, keyword, and subject indexes. The Webpage, underpinned by a Microsoft Access database and Cold Fusion Web application server, dynamically responds to queries from users. Serials personnel are responsible for creating and maintaining parallel records in both the Access database and in the Library's online catalog, ALOE. Successful navigation in today's changing ''sea of serials'' depends on understanding the print world along with daring to surf the digital waves.

A Vendor Assisted Solution to Electronic Journal Subscriptions: The Drexel/Swets Experience

JoAnne Sparks
Mary Alice Robinson
Stephanie Sutton
Drexel University

Electronic publication of scholarly journals and the availability of full-text resources through the Internet have created new demands on academic libraries and new expectations from our users. Drexel University, like many other academic institutions, has realized the importance of providing ''access'' to these rapidly expanding resources. The Library has committed to transitioning their print journal collection to an all-electronic collection (for titles available in both print and electronic formats). As of January 2000, the Drexel journal collection now consists of 953 print titles and almost 5,000 electronic full-text journals.

This new model for acquiring journals has a major impact on the service role of our subscription agent. In the fall of 1999, Drexel entered into a collaborative effort with Swets Subscription Service to work together to redefine and better understand our respective roles in this new environment. Swets is now our chief vendor for both print and electronic journals and understands our deliberate and aggressive goal is to move away from the print format. What services can the subscription agent provide in this arena? The ordering process is similar but most definitely involves new elements, chiefly with respect to access to the journal. Journal publishers have many different procedures and requirements for access. Swets has expanded the concept of traditional vendor services and has been working with Hagerty Library to acquire ''Internet Only'' journal subscriptions and handle post-purchase communications with publishers. This poster describes the issues we have identified thus far and explains our progress in this collaboration with our

subscription agent.

JOURNAL COLLECTION MANAGEMENT

Scanning for Accountability:
Electronic Inventory of a Bound Periodical Collection

Laura Turner
Washington and Lee University

Washington and Lee University maintains around-the-clock access to its undergraduate library while school is in session. With minimal nighttime staffing and the absence of an electronic security system, the library addresses the need for accountability of the collection by relying on the strong tradition of the student honor system and by using an electronic inventory function embedded in the Innovative Interfaces library system. This electronic inventory function allows staff to pinpoint volumes that are mis-shelved, missing, or contain discrepancies in the online catalog. Although the library completed several cycles of electronic inventory in the classified sections of the collection, limits of the inventory function had discouraged electronic inventory of unclassified material. The cataloging staff pioneered an electronic inventory project in Fall Term 1999 to determine the loss ratio of the 43,000 volume, unclassified bound periodical collection. Student workers scanned each bound volume in the separately housed periodical collection with a portable barcode scanner. The file of barcodes downloaded into the system only allowed staff to add an inventory date to each bound volume's item record, rather than compare the item against a shelflist of call numbers. The staff then created a report in the system to extract any item records that did not contain an inventory date. Several cleanup scanning sessions followed, reducing the list to only 49 volumes that were truly missing at the project's completion. Electronic inventory of an unclassified collection may not utilize the traditional features of an ILS inventory component, but this project illustrates the benefits of creatively testing the limits of electronic inventory functions for alternative uses.

NASIG

Redesign of the NASIG Logo

Beth Toren

ECC NASIGWeb Task Force
University of West Virginia

This poster session unveils the new NASIG logo that is part of the redesign of the NASIG Web. Included is information about how/where to get the new logo for people who work on NASIGWeb. Also included is information about the NASIG logo redesign.

SERIALS ACQUISITIONS

A Bottom-Line Look at Serials Vendors

Paula Sullenger
Auburn University

Auburn University Libraries recently contacted serial vendors for price quotes for handling our serial subscriptions. We did not undertake a full review, but merely asked for an estimate of service charges to determine if there would be any financial reason for conducting a full review. After we received the service charge estimates, we could not make a direct comparison of terms as received by the vendors, because each vendor applied service charges and incentives differently. We needed a way to make them all ''look'' the same so that we could see the effects each policy would have on our serials budget. With feedback from the vendors, we constructed a formula that we could use with all of the estimates so that Auburn could determine the bottom line cost of each estimate and compare them. This poster session presents the steps involved in devising the formula and the results of the process.

Grinnell College Serials Project:
Achieving a Dynamic Collection on a Static Budget

Rebecca Stuhr
Cecilia Knight
Grinnell College

This poster illustrates Grinnell College Libraries' implementation of a campus-wide review of our journal collection. Our goals were to evaluate how well our collection met the needs of the

curriculum and faculty, to develop a balanced method for making sound collection decisions, and to help us make a strong, concrete case to the administration for adequate funds to maintain and enrich our collection. We began by asking faculty members to list the top journals in their field for student and classroom use and for personal research. Departmental chairs were asked to provide this personal list as well as one for the field generally. Divisional meetings followed this step with representatives from all appropriate departments. At this meeting we discussed various issues and trends, including serials inflation and electronic journals. We explained that we wanted each department to review the journals in their discipline to which the library currently subscribes and to decide whether or not any titles could be canceled. We also asked them to provide us with the two or three journals they would most like to add. This poster will present the fruits of the first year of this project, changes we are making to our budget structure, some of the problems we've encountered, what we've learned, and what our next steps will be.

An Irresistible Force Meets an Immovable Object: QC Serials Review at the University of Arizona

Lori Critz
University of Arizona

This session delineates the path followed, and the pitfalls encountered, as a new librarian encountered the inevitable – a departmental (Physics) Library Committee requesting an overhaul of the serials collection. An increase to the budget was, of course, out of the question (the immovable object) – yet, the Committee felt that there were substantial content ''holes,'' an issue they were insistent on addressing (the irresistible force). A database was created to assist in the review process. Data on local journal use (including the number of citations by local faculty and a count of articles written by faculty), global data from ISI (such as Impact Factors, Immediacy Indexes, and total cites), and cost data were included – along with general ''identifiers'' (e.g., ISSN, publisher, format, etc.). Other data points were considered – such as manual use statistics from the current periodicals room and interlibrary loan data, which was eventually excluded. After the data were collated, numerous attempts were made to synthesize the data into a viable decision-making tool. Ultimately, a ''formula'' was developed which utilized both global and local data points, cost, and an ''equalizing'' coefficient. A cutoff point was determined for both new selections and cancellations, but further pitfalls ensued. For example, small, yet vocal, enclaves within the department deemed several special interest serials as indispensable despite their low calculated ''score,'' while others in the department wished to employ a more visionary approach to add low ''score'' journals to the collection in up-and-coming research areas.

SERIALS CATALOGING

Bridging the Gap Between Chinese Language Journals on the Internet and Their Bibliographic Access

Selina Lin
University of Iowa
Shu-Chen Tu
Bridgewater State College

Most libraries today are concerned with how to access and integrate Internet resources with their own collections. Several collective and individual efforts have made contributions in this shared concern. In American libraries, foreign language materials, particularly the non-Roman ones, have always required more effort in accessing and cataloging. One cannot help but wonder how the newly emerged Web resources in Chinese language are managed in the library world.

An increasing number of journals in Chinese language are entering the Internet today. One magazine index site lists the number at more than 200 currently. Many of these online journals are the digital extension of their print counterpart, while others reside only on the Internet. By browsing several Chinese studies Websites and searching the corresponding records in widely used bibliographic utilities, such as OCLC and RLIN, one discovers easily that there is definitely a gap between bibliographic access and the Chinese electronic journals themselves.

This study explores the current status of the published Chinese language internet journals to evaluate the access and content as well as related issues, to investigate the bibliographic utilities and cataloging tools used for providing access, and to offer future perspectives or suggestions.

Design and Delivery of Project Muse Metadata

Elizabeth W. Brown
Johns Hopkins University

Focusing on the Eisenhower Library's role in the successful publishing venture Project Muse, this poster session outlines a project on design and use of metadata in electronic journals publishing. This project demonstrates an example of a new ''non-traditional'' role for librarians, particularly serials catalogers, in application of skills and expertise in the arena of metadata design. Since the

launch of Project Muse in 1995 by the Johns Hopkins University Press in collaboration with the Eisenhower Library, the Library's cataloging department has coordinated descriptive indexing for articles, including LCSH headings and name authorities. This role has grown from simply providing this indexing to the design and implementation of a standards-compliant article-level format encompassing descriptive but also administrative metadata. These metadata ''headers'' are used to distribute article-level information to vendor partners, to set up searching and linking on Muse, and to develop integration of Muse into customers' local resources. The poster will display general information about the development of this metadata project, standards, Muse descriptive indexing, the Muse metadata scheme and its accompanying SGML DTD, and the use of this metadata both locally at Project Muse and by external partners.

Downloading MARC Records from EBSCO into OPAC

Jina C. Wakimoto
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California State University, Northridge

California State University, Northridge Library is among the first libraries to successfully download full MARC records provided by Ebsco. The set of MARC records supplied reflects the full-text titles included in Academic Search Elite, an aggregator database within EbscoHost. Ebsco is the first aggregator vendor to furnish MARC records to its customers. They did so as a response to their work with the PCC SCA Task Group on Journals in Aggregator Databases and pressure from their customers. CSUN's goal in this project was to include all titles from this aggregator database, as well as other electronic journal titles, in its online catalog. The poster session details the steps taken in downloading these records, as well as an analysis of the results.

A Picture is Worth a Thousand Words:
Using a Local Serials Sampler as an Aid in Serials Cataloging

Wendy Baia
University of Colorado

Serials catalogers today have many excellent standard resources to assist in their cataloging, such as OCLC's Bibliographic Formats and Standards, CONSER Cataloging Manual and CONSER Editing Guide. Many libraries also have numerous local procedure manuals. One additional type of

resource that can be helpful to serials catalogers is a locally prepared looseleaf of annotated sample bibliographic and checkin records illustrating a variety of problems and solutions. Such a sampler serves the purpose of assisting the collective memory when a problem is encountered that, ''We know we had one like that about a year ago, but we can't exactly remember the serial's title or how we solved it.'' Through the sampler's table of contents and index, serials catalogers can find examples of solutions that they can apply to current cataloging and problem solving. The complexities of serials cataloging today, particularly with electronic resources and the idiosyncrasies of local practices, make such an additional local resource a practical tool to help keep catalogers informed and updated on local practices and solutions.

SERIALS PUBLIC SERVICES

Teaching on the Fly:
Tools for Helping Patrons Understand the Relationships Between Serial Literature, Indexes, Databases, and Online Catalogs

Jeff Bullington
University of Kansas

Following the serials chain from information need to a few specific articles that match that need is a very complex process; one that can cause frustration for patron and staff member alike. The ultimate goal is to help library patrons identify information needs, search for relevant article citations, and ultimately find those articles in serials. This session addresses information and materials that can be used ''on the fly,'' when patrons are lined up waiting for assistance. The session will also address classroom settings, where the librarian has the benefit of actually preparing a library instruction session. Topics include: brainstorming to define a research question, developing search terminology, picking appropriate search tools or databases, distinguishing among types of serial literature (scholarly vs. popular literature), and the research process.

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