



ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHEASTERN RESEARCH LIBRARIES

Steering Committee Conference Call Notes

ASERL Collaborative Federal Depository Program

February 27, 2013 - 3:00pm EST

Attending:

Chelsea Dinsmore, University of Florida
David Durant, East Carolina University
Santee McAninch, University of Kentucky
Stephanie Braunstein, Louisiana State
University

Judy Russell, University of Florida
Bill Sudduth, University of South Carolina
Cheryle Cole-Bennett, ASERL

AGENDA

Addition to agenda – Stephanie Braunstein raised the issue of the NAPA Recommendations for GPO, asking Committee members for input. She particularly noted the mention of the ASERL COE model on page 39, Footnote 72. David Durant was also referenced in the document.

Disposition Database – Discussion of whether to seek SuDoc numbers for monographs and monographic (numbered) series when offering materials from an agency that has no COE assigned.

Judy Russell indicated that she had shared Santee McAninch’s detailed comments on this issue to the Deans’ FDLP Steering Committee. The committee has not yet had time to schedule a conference call, though she has received some comments expressing concern with creating a burden on the disposing library. The Deans’ Steering Committee is also concerned with retrospective collecting without focus.

Bill Sudduth agreed that he would like monographs to be listed with more specificity. He was concerned that until additional COEs are established, important materials could be lost through discards. He also indicated that in states where there has been greater adoption of the COE model, people have been willing to make the changes to the discard process with greater detail to their lists. Judy noted the burden on the discarding libraries that do not have existing cataloging records is the primary concern of the Deans FDLP Steering Committee. Many library directors have expressed a concern that if the library does not have the resources to catalog these items in the first place, they don’t have the resources to create a detailed list in order to discard. Santee indicated that though her selectives may have uncataloged materials, they have historically created detailed lists as part of their discard process without any difficulty.

There was discussion about making the level of specificity a “best practice” rather than a requirement. Judy was concerned that allowing libraries to implement only parts of the Disposition Plan they like would defeat the purpose of creating a common set of practices. Bill suggested that the true solution to the issue is to increase COEs – how can we incentivize becoming a COE?

Santee reiterated that asking for full titles and call numbers allows for the match in the database. She explained that the database does not currently have a way for users to see needs lists other than their own institution. This led to a

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discussion of adding an enhancement to the database to allow a discarding library to see open needs, shifting the focus from an “offers” perspective to a “needs” perspective. Judy will check with Winston Harris to determine the possibility.

Enhancements to Disposition database (“no variations logic”, tabbed interface)

Committee members discussed enhancements to the search features in the disposition database to improve results – the current search logic looks for the keyword or phrase anywhere in the title regardless of the other letters, blanks or spaces around it. For example, a Needs search for “mine”, gives results matching things like “exaMINE”, “deterMINE”, “MINerals”, and “methamphetaMINE”. Winston Harris has been experimenting with a search logic that will differentiate between extra letters around the keyword and punctuation around the keyword.

Example -

- A search through all items (even expired ones) for the keyword “mine” using the original logic: matched **2760** offers
- A search through all items (even expired ones) for the keyword “mine” using the “no variations” logic: matched **330** offers.
- So 330 offers matched the word “mine” exactly, allowing for punctuation, but not allowing for extra characters on the front or back.

Of the 2430 offers that got weeded out

- 604 were weeded out due to an extra “s” (mines),
- 36 were weeded out due to an extra “d” (mined),
- 47 were weeded out due to an extra “r” or “rs” (miner or miners),
- 1993 seemed to be correctly eliminated due to having nothing to do with mining (e.g., determine, examine, mineral, etc)

After some discussion, it was agreed that the “no variations” logic as described would weed out too many relevant materials. It was suggested to adjust the logic to use a wildcard at the end of a string of text to allow for variant endings. Cheryle Cole-Bennett will share this recommendation with Winston.

There was also some discussion regarding the suggestion to change the Disposition Database interface to a tabbed format. Members felt there was little perceived value in making that change at this point.

Sandee raised an issue regarding an inability for users to edit their submissions to the database. The only way to make changes is to delete the record and resubmit. This resets the 45 day time period and causes some problems with workflow process for those monitoring the offer lists. Winston has requested input on the process, asking a series of questions to which he requests members to respond. Cheryle will forward Winston’s email for comment.

Process for considering future enhancements to Disposition database

After some discussion, it was recommended that the Steering Committee serve as the first round of review for future recommended/suggested enhancements to the disposition database. Depending on the level of resources required to implement an enhancement, a recommendation may be forwarded to the Deans’ FDLP Steering Committee, or shared back through email distribution lists for informational purposes or for comment before being implemented.

Cheryle noted an inability to communicate information directly to all registered users of the database. Email addresses of the users were obtained for registration purposes only. It was suggested that UF might send an email to registered users asking them to sign up for a distribution list if they chose to get information and/or news regarding future enhancements. Cheryle will run this suggestion by Winston.

Meeting adjourned at: 4:10pm

Next conference call is Wednesday, March 27, 2013 at 3:00pm EST