******************************************************************
CONTENTS

******************************************************************
MIDDLE EAST LIBRARIANS ASSOCIATION

    An-Chi Hoh Dianu was elected the 2005 Vice President/Program
Chair at the Middle East Librarians Association's annual business
meeting on Nov. 19, 2004, in San Francisco, Calif.. She and her
program planning committee will be responsible for the planning and
organization of a joint conference with African Librarians Council
on Nov. 18, 2005, in Washington, D.C. Dianu is an Arabic cataloger
on the Middle East-North Africa Team, Regional and Cooperative
Cataloging Division, Library of Congress.
******************************************************************
ENCYCLOPEDIA OF RUSSIAN HISTORY

    Paul Crego, Ph.D., senior cataloger, Regional and Cooperative
Cataloging Division, with responsibility for cataloging Georgian
and Armenian materials, has contributed ten articles to the
__Encyclopedia of Russian History__ (Macmillan Reference USA,
2004).  Four of the articles concern ethnic groups in the North
Caucasus: "Avars," "Balkars," "Dargins," and "Lezgins"; two are
about Christian Churches in the South Caucasus: "Armenian Apostolic
Church," "Georgian Orthodox Church"; three general articles cover:
"Dagestan," "Georgia and the Georgians," "Caucasus"; and, finally,
one biographical article treats "Pestel, Pavel Ivanovich," a leader
of the Decembrist Revolution of 1825.
******************************************************************
PCC 2004 POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING

    Roxanne Sellberg (Northwestern University) chaired the PCC
Policy Committee (PoCo) meeting, Nov. 4-5, 2004.  Each
bibliographic utility reported on the current state of database
migration at the respective organizations, and specified times that
implementation for planned improvements is expected.  The chairs of
the PCC standing committees on automation, standards, and training,
also reported on the activities of their committees during the last
year.  Each report is available on the PCC Web site at,
respectively, <http://www.loc.gov/catdir/pcc/scaannual04.html>
[January 2005]; <http://www.loc.gov/catdir/pcc/scsannual04.html>
[January 2005]; and
<http://www.loc.gov/catdir/pcc/sctannual04.html> [January 2005].

Les Hawkins, CONSER coordinator, updated the group on the CONSER program, with particular emphasis on the CONSER Summit of March 2004.  The recommendations from that meeting became the focus of CONSER discussion and activity throughout the year.  CONSER members worked on several recommendations, including expanding coverage of electronic serials within the CONSER database, ideas for improving displays of multiple versions for OPAC users, and ISSN related issues. CONSER members and the PCC Steering Committee will continue to address other summit recommendations throughout 2005.  LC Serial Record Division chief, Maureen Landry, spoke to the group about that division's new copy cataloging procedures. The announcement of its new procedures in Aug. 2004 sparked concern from CONSER members about the cooperative environment, standards for cataloging, and quality of records.

Carolyn Sturtevant, BIBCO coordinator, updated the group on the BIBCO, NACO, and SACO programs, explaining that the fiscal year's lower numbers are attributable to the database transition at one of the PCC's largest contributors and to the necessity at LC of an earlier-than-usual deadline for the receipt of Sept. 2004 statistics from various member institutions.  Sturtevant, however, pronounced all three programs healthy and thriving.  Summary statistics for the PCC fiscal year 2004 are available at <http://www.loc.gov/catdir/pcc/stats/totalstatsfy04.html> [January 2005].

The main focus of the meeting, however, was the revision of the PCC tactical plan for 2004-2006.  Each member of PoCo participated in various exercises designed to identify those tactical items that are of the highest interest to the organization under the current strategic plan, 2002-2006.  Those items of the highest interest were delegated by the PCC Steering Committee to various PCC members for refinement, including the writing of action items, specific responsibilities, and time frames.  Preliminary work also began on the revision of the strategic plan for 2006-2010.

As a matter of final business before adjournment, Mark Watson (University of Oregon) was elected unanimously to serve as the PCC chair for the term, Oct. 2005-Sept. 2006.
**********************************************************************
BIBLIOGRAPHIC ACCESS STRATEGIC INITIATIVES FOR FISCAL YEARS 2005-2006

The Bibliographic Access Divisions (BA) finalized its strategic plan for fiscal years 2005 and 2006.  This new strategic plan will guide BA as it works to integrate cataloging and metadata for digital and traditional library materials into the larger universe of information and creative knowledge.  The plan defines twenty-three strategic objectives for the period as related to the following five goals:

I. Make it easy and fast for end users to find, identify, select, obtain, and use a complete range of information and creative resources.

II. Lead and collaborate globally in the development, promotion,

and dissemination of policy, practice, standards, and programs for
bibliographic description and access and inventory control.

III. Leverage opportunities presented by the service unit
realignment to realize efficiencies that will optimize service to
users.

IV. Reduce overall costs to meet appropriations targets and to free
resources for exploring and implementing innovations in the
Bibliographic Access Divisions.

V. Prepare managers, team leaders, and team members for successful
performance in the hybrid analog and digital environment.

        Details regarding the strategic initiatives are available at
<http://www.loc.gov/catdir/stratplan0506.pdf> [January 2005].
********************************************************************
                    SERIALS COPY CATALOGING

        Maureen Landry, chief of the Library of Congress Serial Record
Division (SRD) announced a new workflow for the copy cataloging of
serials at LC in September 2004. According to the announcement sent
to the CONSER email list
<http://www.loc.gov/acq/conser/new-docs/announceLCcopycat.pdf>
[January 2005], cataloging technicians will perform all copy
cataloging for roman alphabet-language serials. The technicians are
working with unauthenticated OCLC records as well as authenticated
CONSER records. Formerly, the only records handled by technicians
for copy cataloging were records that were already authenticated by
another CONSER library.

        The focus of SRD's new serials copy cataloging workflow is on
providing sufficient access to, and identification of, the serial.
Name and subject headings are verified and authorities are
established as needed. Generally only obvious or egregious errors
that impede access and identification are corrected. These records
contain the authentication code lccopycat in the 042 field and have
been authenticated as part of the CONSER database.

        Serial records authenticated by CONSER institutions are
reviewed for conformance to standards and the level of
authentication they represent. Authenticated records are also made
part of the CONSER database through the addition of an
authentication code and a valid Library of Congress Control Number
(LCCN). These elements cause the records to become part of the
database distributed to subscribers through the Cataloging
Distribution Service.

        CONSER members expressed concern that SRD didn't involve other
CONSER members in this decision that has an impact on the content
of the shared CONSER database. It was unclear to members whether
these records meet existing standards. Members were unsure of what
elements to expect in the records, how problems found in copy would
be handled, and the implementation timeframe.

        The Program for Cooperative Cataloging Policy Committee (PoCo)
and the PCC Steering Committee discussed the controversy at the

annual PoCo meeting. Les Hawkins, CONSER coordinator, worked with
the PCC leadership to develop a plan to provide a means for CONSER
members to make recommendations on the process.

A group of CONSER members is being organized to look at the
records and procedures in terms of existing CONSER cataloging
standards. They will make recommendations about the need for
further standard development and record content.

Work will begin in January 2005 and the group will give
recommendations or an update at CONSER Operations in May 2005.
Cataloging managers at LC will consider the recommendations of the
group in advising PoCo on whether lccopycat records should continue
to be added to the CONSER database.  LC will continue to use copy
cataloging as one of its means to carry out its serials cataloging
whether or not the records are added to the CONSER database.
*******************************************************************
LC TO TEST CORE DATA SET AND GUIDELINES FOR CATALOGING ELECTRONIC
                            RESOURCES

In order to provide bibliographic control and access to remote
access electronic resources of research value, the Bibliographic
Access Divisions (BA) of the Library of Congress currently employ
an array of methods: Use of Web guides, created by subject area
specialists in reference areas to identify and collocate resources
useful for reference and research; use of the Metadata Object
Description Schema (MODS) for certain Web resources that LC has
harvested from the Internet and archived at LC; use of MARC/AACR
catalog records for resources selected to appear in the LC online
catalog.

MARC/AACR cataloging is a resource intensive proposition as
currently applied at LC (full or core level catalog records). With
a realistic understanding that the resources available for
cataloging electronic resources are unlikely to increase, and that
the volume of requests to catalog such resources will increase, BA
began investigating ways to provide catalog records that support
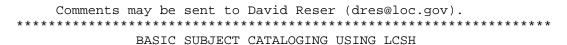resource discovery, but at a lower cataloging cost.

The concept of an access level MARC/AACR catalog record comes
from a recent report of an internal LC workgroup operating under
the FY03/04 strategic plan (for the full report, see
<http://www.loc.gov/catdir/stratplan/goal4wg2report.pdf> [January
2005). This group recommended a new level of cataloging,
emphasizing data elements that allow catalog users to search for
and find records, while de-emphasizing data elements that have
traditionally been used in full level records to describe and
identify the resource but are not as relevant to remote access
electronic resources, or do not support resource discovery.

LC's Office of Strategic Initiatives funded a contract with
noted cataloging consultant, Tom Delsey, during the summer of 2004
to work with an LC team of cataloging and reference librarians to
develop a core data set for access level records. The core data set
was developed by analyzing the specific uses to be supported by the
record, taking as the starting point the four generic user tasks
(find, identify, select, and obtain) identified in IFLA's

_Functional Requirements of Bibliographic Records_ (FRBR). For each
of the specific tasks, the attributes and relationships required to
support the task were identified and mapped to the corresponding
element in AACR and to the data elements defined in the MARC 21
formats. The project team then assigned values of high or low to
each FRBR attribute/relationship and to each AACR and MARC element
as the basis for defining the core data set. Delsey also assisted
in the development of a draft set of cataloging guidelines
specifically designed to address problematic cataloging issues.

     In order to confirm that the proposed access level core data
set meets the objectives formulated for the project (functionality,
cost-efficiency, and conformity with current standards), LC will
test the application of both the proposed data set and the draft
cataloging guidelines on a subset of remote access electronic
resources selected for inclusion in the LC online catalog
(monographs and integrating resources only). After evaluating the
results of the test in the first quarter of 2005, LC will consult
widely with stakeholders, including traditional bibliographic
partners, on the evaluation, revision, and possible implementation
of this new level of cataloging.

     For more information, the project report is available at
<http://www.loc.gov/catdir/access/accessrecord.html> [January
2005].

     Comments may be sent to David Reser (dres@loc.gov).
*********************************************************************
                BASIC SUBJECT CATALOGING USING LCSH

     "Basic Subject Cataloging Using LCSH," a workshop jointly
developed by ALCTS/PCC,  has been successfully presented at its
initial regional venues, including the Southern California
Technical Processing Group, Texas A & M University, and the Oregon
Library Association's Technical Services Roundtable.  The course
provides a solid foundation in the principles and practices of
subject cataloging using LCSH, including the application of
topical, form, geographic, and chronological subdivisions.  The
course, designed as a two-day workshop totaling twelve hours, is
geared to those individuals who are new to subject cataloging with
LCSH and who have some basic knowledge of cataloging and the MARC
formats.

     Further information about the workshop is available on the
Cooperative Cataloging Training Website at:
<http://www.loc.gov/catworkshop/cct/course_desc.html#BSCat>
[January 2005].
*********************************************************************
*********************************************************************

David Williamson, and Roman Worobec.  Address editorial inquiries
to the editor at the above address or <rhia@loc.gov> (email), (202)
707-5831 (voice), or (202) 707-6629 (fax).  Listowner:  David
Williamson.  Address subscription inquiries to the listowner at
<dawi@loc.gov>.

LC CATALOGING NEWSLINE is available in electronic form only and is
free of charge.  To subscribe, send a mail message to listserv
@loc.gov with the text: subscribe lccn [firstname lastname].  Back
issues of LCCN are available through the LCCN home page (URL
<http://www.loc.gov/catdir/lccn/>).

****************************************************************