

2009 CONSER Report

At the end of September 2009, the CONSER file contained 32,508 records, a slight increase over last year's 31,868. The size of the CONSER file has grown to 1,186,532 records.¹ The increase came, in a year that many CONSER institutions mentioned decreases in new serials spending, elimination of positions, retirements, tapping existing staff to cover unfilled vacancies, and other financial uncertainties.

CONSER Membership

Brigham Young University Libraries (BYU) is CONSER newest associate level member. The operations representative from BYU is Dale Swensen, Head of Technical Services & Digital Access (Hunter Law Library). Dale will be coordinating contributions and training among staff at both BYU main Harold B. Lee Library and the Hunter Law Library. Mary Greci of University of Oregon is providing CONSER training and review. BYU general collections cover all subjects in a wide range of languages, with serials in all collections, but larger numbers in the sciences, technology, and government documents. Special collections focus on history and study of Mormonism and the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, history of Utah and great Basin area, English and American Literature, fine printing, and rare serials. BYU also has an extensive collection of serials in their Music Library and Law Library.

Lauren Magnuson working with the State Historical Society of Missouri was granted CONSER enhance authorization in 2009 to update records for the National Digital Newspaper Program (NDNP). NDNP members update CONSER USNP records when submitting digital newspapers as part of Chronicling America, an Internet-based, searchable database of U.S. newspapers with descriptive information and select digitization of historic pages. Currently there are 15 NDNP members representing libraries and historical societies from 15 states.

The UC CONSER Funnel continues to do well in its third year. Members more than doubled their record contributions between October 2008 and August 2009 in creating original, authenticating, and enhancing records in the CONSER database. The funnel also extended affiliate status to Bill Riddle at the California State Library for the creation of BibPURLs in records for California Documents.

Serials Solutions (SerSol) began authenticating records this year. This is part of phase 3 ... Beth Thornton (University of Georgia) is providing training and record review for Kara Killough, Senior Cataloger (SerSol). Both are aiming to complete CONSER training and review by end of this year.

¹ These numbers are based on an actual count of records in the CONSER file distributed to subscribers of the MDS-Serials file, includes contributions from all CONSER members, records for serials and integrating resources.

Many CONSER members continue to be active on various cooperative cataloging task forces, committees, and project over this year. Most notable are the PCC/SCS Task Group on Non-Latin Script Cataloging Documentation; the Task Group on Provider Neutral E-Monograph Record; CSR-MARC Group; the CONSER Ad Hoc RDA Comment Group; the joint LC/PCC LCRI/RDA Task Group; and the joint testing of RDA. Many also participated in training and revising of training materials.

Highlights from the CONSER Operations Meeting

CONSER standard record guidelines and LCRI 25.5B were updated to reflect a new PCC policy of not adding a distinguishing uniform titles for online series for collected set serial records for online series titles. A PCC practice was established to prefer not creating a separate series authority record for an online series where a print series title exists. PCC members will not delete existing authority records for online series.

CONSER discussed several aspects of dealing with Google Book Library Project records for serials in the WorldCat and the CONSER databases. The discussion resulted in a "frequently asked questions" document for CONSER catalogers working with these records: <http://www.loc.gov/acq/conser/FAQ-GoogleBooksRecords.pdf> [PDF: 20 KB; 1 p.]

Another outcome of the discussion was agreement to no longer require an 856 field in the print record when both online and print records exist. (Reciprocal 776 fields are still required). This discussion raised questions about the appropriate location for information that depends on local library holdings data. It was suggested that CONSER pursue use of the holdings record to retain 856 fields.

Jake Nadal (UCLA), John Riemer (UCLA), Constance Malpas (OCLC) led a discussion on recording data in the 583 for print preservation projects. One outcome was an agreement among members to pursue using the holdings record to record data about preservation of the print serial in the 583 of the OCLC holdings record. The discussion leaders attended remotely, using Elluminate online conferencing service to address attendees in Washington, DC.

The Library of Congress (LC) and Program for Cooperative Cataloging (PCC) implemented the repeatable 260 field on September 1, 2009 (<http://www.loc.gov/catdir/cpso/260field.html>). In preparation for the implementation, CONSER staff worked with Policy and Standards Division staff on the guidelines revised the draft guidelines based on the OpCo discussion to provide additional examples, specify the order of 260s, stating policy on existing records. In August, Valerie Bross & Melissa Beck (UCLA) presented the new guidelines and lead a discussion on how this change will affect cataloging. The presentation was one in a series of webinars conducted for the UC CONSER Funnel members.

Serials Cooperative Cataloging Training Program (SCCTP)

Twenty nine SCCTP workshops were reported as given throughout the fiscal year by various sponsors in North America and Europe.

On October 1, 2008, CDS discontinued selling PDF training products. All SCCTP workshop materials were made available for free download from the Cataloger's Learning Workshop website (<http://www.loc.gov/catworkshop/>). The maintenance of these training products is now handled by the Instructional Development and Training Division of the Acquisitions and Bibliographic Control Directorate at the Library of Congress.

Wen-ying Lu (MSU) and Margi Mann (OCLC) produced a new edition of the SCCTP Holdings workshop. It was designed to be deliverable in live online learning environments and in face to face training sessions. A train-the-trainer session was held for eleven new trainers of this workshop at ALA in July. The Adler School of Professional Psychology graciously hosted this event by providing the use of a training room and logistical assistance. This is the first full SCCTP workshop to be converted for online delivery and was successfully delivered by the authors online for the first time through Amigos Library Services in May 2009.

Jian Wang (Portland State University) revised the SCCTP Integrating Resources Cataloging Workshop to incorporate the provider neutral and the CONSER standard record information into the training materials. Jian presented an interim version of the revision to the Michigan Library Consortium in April. She further updated the workshop content with comments from workshops' participants, the IR review group, and to provide additional material, examples, graphics, appendices, etc. The workshop is currently being converted for online delivery with early 2010 as the estimate date of completion.

Margaret Mering (University of Nebraska-Lincoln) and Adolfo Tarango (University of California, San Diego) are coordinating a revision of the SCCTP Advanced Serials Cataloging Workshop. Last revised in 2005, this considerable workshop has been overdue for revision. Meg and Adolfo had taken the first pass at making known corrections and other changes that have been suggested over the years. A review group provides comments as each session is revised. The material is then reworked based on their input. The goal of the revision is to produce one set of workshop materials that can be delivered in both the live-online format and in face to face workshops. The target date for completion of the final revision is early 2010.

During the first two weeks of September, Steve Shadle (University of Washington) led SCCTP workshops in Greece. Catalogers of the Blegen and Gennadius Libraries, together with catalogers from British School of Archaeology, participated in the SCCTP Advanced Serials Cataloging workshop held September 2-4. The following week, Steve led the Advanced Serials Cataloging, Electronic Serials Cataloging and portions of the Integrating Resources Cataloging workshop at the American College of Thessaloniki.

Sponsored by the American International Consortium of Academic Libraries (AMICAL), these sessions were attended by ten staff from five AMICAL institutions: American College of Thessaloniki, American University in Cairo, American University in Bulgaria, American University of Nigeria and Lebanese American University.

Documentation update: CEG update 19; other revisions

Update 19 of the *CONSER Editing Guide* (CEG) was issued this summer and is available in PDF format from the Library of Congress Cataloging Distribution Service web site: <http://www.loc.gov/cds/PDFdownloads/ceg/index.html>. The update includes a revision of instructions relating to CONSER standard record (CSR) cataloging guidelines, new coding for series and new PCC series practices implemented in 2007 and 2008 respectively. Because several options are available to CONSER catalogers in how they may record or trace series, instructions and examples relating to these options are provided/retained to help catalogers interpret pre-existing records and provide series information according to their institution's preference. The update also includes addition of new MARC codes and removal of obsolete values; CONSER's usage of authentication code "pcc" and cataloging source codes. In addition, instructions relating to ISSN requests and prepublication records have also been updated. Outdated contact information has been replaced where appropriate. Staff from the Policy and Standards Division and several other divisions within the Acquisitions and Bibliographic Control Directorate at the Library of Congress contributed in the reviewing of the update.

CONSER Member reports: <http://www.loc.gov/acq/conser/Members2009.pdf> [PDF: 96 KB; 15 p.]

Program for Cooperative Cataloging Statistics:
<http://www.loc.gov/catdir/pcc/stats/>

APPENDIX A
MEMBERS OF CONSER COMMITTEES (2008-2009)

CONSER Operations Committee

Institution	Representative
American Theological Library Assoc.	Judy Knop
Brown University	Gretchen Yealy
Center for Research Libraries	Stephen Early
Cleveland Public Library	Andrea Olson
Columbia University	Robert Rendall
Connecticut State Library	Glynis M. Georgie
Cooperative Computer Services	Roger Anderson
Cornell University	Cecilia Sercan
Harvard University	Ruth Haas (retired, 2009) Steven Riel (began 2009)
Health Sciences Library System	Liping Song
University of Pittsburgh	
Hong Kong Univ. of Sci. and Tech. Library	Ada Shuk-man Cheung
Indiana University	James Castrataro
Library and Archives Canada	Ivan Basar
Library of Congress	Lucy Barron
Library of Congress	Les Hawkins, Coordinator
Massachusetts Institute of Technology	Ben Abrahamse
Michigan State University	Wen-Ying Lu
National Agricultural Library	Tina Shrader
National Library of Medicine	Miranda Hay
National Library of Wales	Wyn Thomas
National Serials Data Program	Regina Reynolds
National University	Ed Jones
New York Public Library	Lenny Breeze (retired 2009) Abdul Alsaidi (began 2009)
New York State Library	Miriam Bogen
New York University	Everett Allgood
New York University Law Library	George Prager
Northwestern University	Kevin Randall
OCLC	Robert Bremer
Oregon State University	Mike Boock
Pennsylvania State University Libraries	Christopher Walker
St. Louis University Law Library	Margaret Smith
Texas A&M University	Lisa Furubotten

Tulane University
U.S. Government Printing Office
University at Buffalo
University of California, Los Angeles
University of California, San Diego
University of Chicago
University of Cincinnati, Medical Center Libraries
University of Florida
University of Georgia
University of Maryland, College Park
University of Michigan
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
University of Oregon
University of Pennsylvania Libraries
University of Texas at Austin
University of Washington
Vanderbilt University

Kevin A. Furniss
Jennifer Davis
Cindy Hepfer
Valerie Bross
Adolfo Tarango
E. Renette Davis
Mary Piper
Naomi Young
Beth Thornton
Jeanne Baker
Leighann Ayers
Kurt Blythe
Mary Greci
Shana McDanold
Sue Fuller
Kristin Lindlan
Ann Ercelawn

Affiliate Members

Institution

Chemical Abstracts Service
EBSCO Information Services
ProQuest (formerly CSA)
Serials Solutions

Representative

Edward Gyetvai, Jr.
Melanie Watts
Kathryn Stewart
Kara Killough

UC CONSER Funnel Liaisons

Institution

University of California, Berkeley
University of California, Davis
University of California, Irvine
University of California, Riverside
University of California, Santa Barbara

Representative

Lisa Rowilson
Sarah Gardner
Carole McEwan
Sharon Scott
Elaine McCracken

Individual Members (a PCC Pilot Project)

Representative

Eugene Dickerson

Institution

U.S. Dept. of State

APPENDIX B
CONSER TASK FORCES/GROUPS

Task Force on Publication Patterns and Holdings

Carlen Ruschoff (University of Maryland)
John Attig (Penn State University)
John Espley (VTLS)
Jennifer Fons (EBSCO Information Services)
Rich Greene (OCLC)
Rebecca Guenther (LC)
Ruth Haas (Harvard)
Katherine Harnish (Endeavor)
Les Hawkins (CONSER ex officio)
Diane Hillmann (Cornell)
Martha Hruska (University of California, San Diego)
Ed Jones (National University)
Linda Miller (LC)
Frieda Rosenberg (UNC, Chapel Hill)

CONSER Ad-Hoc RDA Comment Group

Kristin Lindlan (University of Washington), Chair
Everett Allgood (NYU)
Valerie Bross (UCLA)
Carroll Davis (LC)
Renette Davis (University of Chicago)
Sue Fuller (University of Texas Libraries)
Lisa Furubotten (Texas A&M)
Les Hawkins (LC)
Jim Holmes (University of Texas)
Ed Jones (National University)
Judith Kuhagen (LC, CPSO Liaison)
Jeffrey Myers-Hayer (LC)
Hien Nguyen (LC)
Kevin M. Randall (Northwestern University)
Regina Reynolds (NSDP)
Tina Shrader (NAL)
Naomi Young (University of Florida)

APPENDIX C

National Digital Newspaper Program (NDNP) Awardees

Kansas State Historical Society
Library of Virginia
Louisiana State University
Minnesota Historical Society
Montana Historical Society
New York Public Library, Astor, Lenox and Tilden Foundation
Ohio Historical Society
Oklahoma Historical Society
University of California, Riverside
University of Illinois, Urbana
University of Kentucky, Lexington
University of Nebraska-Lincoln Libraries
University of North Texas
University of Oregon
University of South Carolina
University of Utah, Marriot Libraries