SCP Advisory Committee conference call, Monday, Sept. 22, 2008

Present: Valerie Bross, Becky Culbertson, Jim Dooley (chair), Sarah Gardner, Lai-Ying Hsiung (recorder), Elaine McCracken, Lisa Rowlison, Sharon Scott, Adolfo Tarango. John Riemer attended to present the WorldCat Local pilot update.

1. HOTS has charged Linda, Jim, Martha, John and Adolfo to draft a document about the scope of the Shared Cataloging Program, which will be presented to HOTS for discussion and approval on Sept. 24.

2. WorldCat Local pilot update (WCL pilot): The next major development will be the use of LHRs in WorldCat. Once this is in place, campuses will have to update LHRs in WorldCat on a frequent and routine basis to allow the display of local holdings. Electronic resources may not need LHR which is mainly to harvest circulation status. “ER” symbols in WorldCat might be sufficient. Local URLs should not be coded in the master records and certainly should not be displayed to the users. This is going to be addressed by OCLC. OCLC is expected to post on its site a list of vendor records that are allowed to have holdings set by campuses in WorldCat. UCB and UCSB have completed their reclamation projects. UCSC and UCD are close to completion, while UCR will start next week. Reclamation of SCP monograph records and the RLF items is still at the discussion/planning stage. OCLC has to program WCL only to query the local ILS if the OCLC symbol is set in WorldCat. Results of the May 2008 UC’s survey of grad and faculty usage of WCL are available at http://libraries.universityofcalifornia.edu/about/oclc_docs/WCL_Summary_03Sept2008/pdf. Continuous improvements have been made to WCL in response to the survey.

3. SCP automatic harvesting of Cal Docs records from OCLC without manual review: a file of 426 Cal Docs records harvested under the new procedure has been distributed to campuses. Adolfo will send out the latest harvesting algorithm so that campuses are able to evaluate whether this new process will work. Issues of non-working URLs, duplicate records, records for undesirable formats and re-directs have been raised as possible problems. Campuses are asked to provide further input to help SCP set future directions.

4. SCP cataloging streamlining: SCP has experimented with a “phased” approach in cataloging the TEPS and Blackwell backfile titles. Under this approach, as a first sweep when cataloging a package, staff looked first at what had already been cataloged. If there was already an SCP record for a title, SCP simply added the appropriate new hook, link, and processing data to that title and distributed. If the title had not been cataloged, SCP searched for copy in OCLC. If any copy was found, the record was basically taken as is, with only very obvious errors corrected. Hook, link, and processing data were added and then the record was distributed. If no copy was found, staff created a K-level record, added hook, link, and processing data and distributed. Once staff had systematically gone through the package title list, staff then followed-up and systematically reviewed what had been done for each title, updating and enhancing records as appropriate. Adolfo is requesting SCP AC input on whether this phased approach strategy is acceptable as a general policy from now on so that records can be distributed faster. Non-English records
would not be sent. UC campuses could upgrade these SCP records and notify SCP to re-distribute the upgraded records. Some campuses are already using K-level records due to public services needs. The employment of controlled headings has helped to improve the quality of these records. Further cut backs like omission of call number and subject headings will speed up the availability of titles for access, but might create problems for some campuses. In general, public services at all campuses prefer immediate core access to enhanced but delayed access. The question of whether we have a certain title often comes up. Without the titles being represented in the system makes it difficult to provide good user services. Comprehensive access is desired over perfect bibliographic records. Adolfo will draft a more detailed proposal with different options for further discussions with both technical and public services at the campus level.

5. Creating real OCLC records instead of using “eo: this has been a problem because there are not too many real OCLC records and oftentimes, SCP has to create new records for many titles.