

HOTS Conference Call Minutes

December 15, 2006

Present:

Jim Dooley (UCM, Chair), Karleen Darr (UCD), Brad Eden (UCSB), Tony Harvell (LAUC), Lai-Ying Hsiung (UCSC), Martha Hruska (UCSD), Carole Kiehl (UCI), Lee Leighton (UCB), Patti Martin (CDL), John Riemer (UCLA, SCP AC), Sharon Scott (UCR, recorder), John Tanno (UCD, SOPAG Liaison), Paul Wakeford (UCSF),

Meeting convened 3:10 p.m.

Additions to agenda:

Update report on MELVYL
Update report on ERMS

The Committee agreed to reverse order of items 1 and 2 on the original agenda, thinking that discussion of item 1 might be quite time consuming.

MELVYL update - Patty

Test version of updated MELVYL was opened up Dec. 1st with what is hoped to be the final version of the new software. Call went out for volunteers to test in specialized areas (languages, maps, music, etc.); 82 volunteers responded. So far, no major bugs have been reported. Also remaining to be tested is the new merging software. If all goes well, the new version will be up and running by early summer; this will have made the upgrade a 2 ½ year process. The question was raised as to “jumping” a release so as to move forward more quickly. This might happen but a stable version 16 must be in place before moving ahead. The thought was expressed that a decision by the ULs on the future catalog might eliminate the need for additional upgrades.

VERDE update - Patty

The new beta version 2.0 was installed at CDL last week and is being tested for functionality, etc. If it works as promised it will be officially installed, which will set off a series of milestones related to the contract.

CAMCIG proposal - Brad

The idea surfaced at a recent CAMCIG conference call to offer systemwide training in METS and MODS, as non-MARC codes are becoming more important for the future of bibliographic information and organization. CAMCIG believes there is enough expertise in-house that training could be done without calling in someone from outside. The question was raised as to the feasibility of Web-based training, but it is not clear at this early date to its effectiveness.

Martha asked about the existence of a UC group focused on overall METS implementation standards and implementation. If there is such a group perhaps this should be a blended approach to training between CAMCIG and this other group. No one is aware of another group but Brad responded that a lot of METS development is being done by both CDL and archivists in establishing a METS profile and standardization. There is value in working with a group like the archivists, to develop good working relationships and learning from the archivists when and how METS might be used on our campuses.

There was general endorsement of the training proposal. There was some question as to whether SOPAG would need to approve this before a training plan was in place. There was agreement that HOTS could approve the training proposal without SOPAG's endorsement, although SOPAG would be kept informed. (A similar model might be the CONSER Funnel program). Local campuses will be expected to provide funding for any training expenses (mostly travel).

ACTION ITEM: HOTS will ask CAMCIG to work out more specific details about METS training: trainers, possible dates, locations. CAMCIG will approach archivists about participating in training sessions. CAMCIG will offer suggestions as to how to begin utilizing METS in local work.

CAMCIG report on separate records for serials

Were there any responses from ASIG? Tony reported that there were only 2 responses. UCSD does not anticipate any problems. Berkeley feels that because they do not yet have a true integrated system, switching to separate records would mean more work for them, plus result in a large clean-up project.

There was wide-ranging discussion initiated by the report, but the report itself was not the main focus. Instead, it would seem that other issues may need some resolution or study before a decision on single/separate records can be made. Three major points emerged as needing the most discussion and research:

1. OCLC's possible emergence as a UC systemwide catalog:

There was mixed opinion as to whether this would make a difference in the single/separate record decision. Going to OCLC would mean finding e-resource records for electronic versions of serials. It would mean disentangling current holdings now on print records. It might be problematic for patrons. Its effect on MELVYL is murky at present. There was general agreement that waiting another few months for updates on OCLC might be best.

2. Future of MELVYL:

The CAMCIG report did not address the issue of MELVYL's growth. The separate record approach, especially if each e-version should get its own record, would greatly increase the number of records being added to MELVYL. That, along with the mass digitization projects now being undertaken, would create a huge influx of records which MELVYL could not handle. Replicating records in MELVYL from all campuses is not a sustainable model. Regardless of future decisions on a statewide catalog, MELVYL will be around for some time, and needs to be taken into consideration at every decision-point.

3. Possibility of a single UC record/UC location symbol (for Tier 1?)

One record could be sent to OCLC with all UC holdings attached and then sent down to MELVYL, possibly then into local catalogs. This supports the single/record, single/public catalog idea; it also works into the unresolved question of having a UC Libraries' collection, including monographs. There might be a single systemwide UC record in OCLC for electronics with each campus keeping up its print records. The role SFX in the future needs to be kept in mind.. Another possibility to consider is a UC Libraries' location symbol, which could be easily accomplished.

The discussion brought up more questions than answers. Although there was thought that CAMCIG could begin investigating any or all of these issues, it eventually became clear that HOTS at this point could not clarify exactly what it thinks CAMCIG should be exploring. It was decided that HOTS could not at this time give CAMCIG a charge on this matter.

ACTION ITEM: HOTS members should continue to be thinking about possible scenarios and solutions for the future of MELVYL.

Next conference call: Jan. 17, 2007, 2-4 p.m.

Meeting adjourned 4:35 p.m.