To: Lorelei Tanji, CoUL Convener, via Rosalie Lack, UCLAS Coordinating Committee
Chair

From: Diane Bisom, UCLAS Strategic Action Group 3: Collection Building & Management (SAG 3) Chair

Re: Final Report and Conclusion of the NGTS Pilot Project 5: Expanded UC Shared Cataloging of Electronic Resources

Cc: Strategic Action Group 3: Collection Building & Management (SAG 3)

The NGTS Pilot Project 5 tested the feasibility of expanding UC Shared Cataloging beyond the centralized model that SCP follows. This pilot was a test case to ‘Move the UC Libraries away from a decentralized technical services personnel emphasis towards a hybrid/centralized technical services personnel emphasis.’ (NGTS Enterprise-Level Collections Management Services Task Group, September 12, 2012.) The NGTS Pilot Project 5 Final Report is attached.

The main goals of the SCP are to ensure the representation of CDL-licensed materials in UC campus integrated library systems and (through the campus ILSs) to Melvyl® in a timely fashion, to maintain the currency of subscriber and coverage data, to eliminate the redundancy of cataloging efforts among the UC campuses, and to keep links current through the use of persistent identifiers. The “Resources Tracking: CDL Licensed Electronic Resources” is maintained and updated by SCP to provide package-level cataloging details for the electronic resources they are providing records for.

SCP takes its direction from CDL and its general priorities for what content to catalog from the Joint Steering Committee for Shared Collections (JSC), in consultation with the systemwide bibliographer groups. In general, SCP enjoys a high degree of trust and independence from these bodies and has significant flexibility in making day-to-day cataloging decisions. http://www.cdlib.org/services/collections/scp/docs/SCPpriorities.doc

These stated priorities are needed because there is always more cataloging to be done than there is staff to do the cataloging. Just as on our individual campuses, it is difficult to predict the cataloging workload from year to year because it is so dependent on what is selected and licensed in any given year. In addition, there are increasing numbers of open-access electronic resources which could be cataloged.

There are also number of categories of electronic resources that SCP could be proactively cataloging if they had the special expertise (language or format) or additional staff, including
Japanese language resources, audio/video resources and serial analytics. It is highly probable that a survey of the campuses would uncover additional resources, licensed and open access, for which cataloging is desired.

SCP provided SAG3 with spreadsheets (attached) which help illustrate the scope of the cataloging completed over the last several years. These two spreadsheets give a rough picture of the ongoing and potential growth in workload for SCP. The volume of licensed (and now open access) resources that need cataloging continues to exceed what the current level of SCP staffing can manage.

The pilot successfully proved the concept that expanding the responsibility for shared cataloging in a more distributed fashion could work. What the pilot did not address was how this model might be sustained, what the funding model would be.

After discussing the report and additional information about the SCP priorities and workload, SAG 3 recommends that the report be distributed for discussion, but would like confirmation from CoUL that the possible models that would allow us to implement one of the following models are options the ULs are willing to support.

Possible models for discussion:
• increase SCP staffing, at UCSD, increase centralized funding support
• increase SCP staffing, at UCSD, campuses cost share funding support (Chinese cataloger model)
• increase SCP staffing, at other interested campus, increase centralized funding support
• increase SCP staffing, distributed at other interested campus(es), campuses share responsibilities, either cost or time shares.

**SAG3 recommends the following next steps:**
• Share the report with appropriate groups: (CDL, SAG 1 and SAG2, CLS, Cataloging CKG, JSC) for input on the possible models that extend Shared Cataloging capacity.
• Receive comments and input from campuses and groups concerning their interest in pursuing the model of increasing SCP cataloging at additional campuses
• If interest warrants, SAG 3 would charge a task group to work with SCP to further develop the model(s) and recommend that the funding model for SCP be reviewed in order to accommodate the proposed model.
• If there is no campus interest or CoUL support for the distributed participation model, SAG3 would work with SCP to evaluate funding and to follow-up on recommendations from the NGTS POT5 report, Evaluation of SCP Decision-Making Process for Cataloging Priorities.

SAG 3 will thank the project members and conclude the NGTS Pilot Project 5.

Thank you,
Diane
SAG 3 Chair

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