

UC CONSER Funnel Activities
10/3/2006

Background:

The UC CONSER Funnel was established March 2006 for the purpose of providing a way for continuing resources catalogers to contribute work to CONSER—that is, to permanently enhance OCLC master records. Prior to the Funnel, campuses other than UCLA & UCSD could only edit these records for local catalog use; the changes were not retained in OCLC.

Current Activities:

The UC CONSER Funnel is currently in “phase one” of implementation, following the plan laid out by the Task Group and approved by HOTS in spring 2006

(<http://libraries.universityofcalifornia.edu/hots/conser/about.html#implementation>).

This plan calls for incremental training & mentoring of campuses “to participate in bibliographic maintenance activities” as a first step in building the UC CONSER community.

- Status of implementation: Three campuses have received site visits and are now involved in CONSER: UC Davis (campus liaison: Sarah Gardner; began May 2006), UC Irvine (campus liaison: Todd Butler; began May 2006), and UC Berkeley (campus liaison: Carole McEwan); began September 2006). Melissa Beck at UCLA has taken the lead with organizing site visits and mentoring campuses by reviewing records. Other active reviewers include Hong Cheng (UCLA East Asian Library), Adolfo Tarango (UCSD), and Margaret Christean (UCSD). Additional CONSER catalogers who have volunteered to serve as reviewers/resource people include: Behzad Allahyar (UCLA), Sharon Benamou (UCLA), Rhonda Lawrence (UCLA Law), Toshie Marra (UCLA East Asian Library).
- Moving forward with implementation: Melissa Beck and Valerie Bross have begun telephone interviews with other campuses to determine local needs and interest in CONSER involvement at this time. So far, they have interviewed Lai-Ying Hsiung (UC Santa Cruz) and Elaine McCracken (UC Santa Barbara). We have tentatively scheduled UC Santa Barbara as the next campus to receive training & to go through the review process. Over the next three months, we plan to interview: Sharon K. Scott (UC Riverside), Paul Wakeford (UC San Francisco), and Jim Dooley (UC Merced). Of course, some UC campuses may not be interested in (or have the resources for) CONSER participation at this time. But we feel that the outreach effort is still important to keep in touch with what is going on at the campuses.
- Communication: Renee Chin, Communications Coordinator, established and maintains a discussion group and a Web site for the UC CONSER Funnel (<http://libraries.universityofcalifornia.edu/hots/conser/>).
- Education & Training
 - SCCTP training: While not formally part of the UC CONSER Funnel, availability of resource people available to provide workshops will be important to its success. The UCs are fortunate to have many authorized trainers for workshops related to continuing resources, including: Melissa Beck (UCLA), Valerie Bross (UCLA), Becky Culbertson

(UCSD), Rhonda Lawrence (UCLA), Adolfo Tarango (UCSD), and Manuel Urrizola (UCI). At UC Berkeley, Carole McEwan took advantage of this to schedule SCCTP Basic and Advanced workshops in conjunction with implementation of the Funnel. Adolfo Tarango and Manuel Urrizola co-taught an SCCTP Basic Serials Workshop at Berkeley in July; Rhonda Lawrence, Melissa Beck, and Valerie Bross co-taught an SCCTP Advanced Serials Workshop in September.

- Podcasts: To foster the sense of community and to provide timely information on topics of interest to UC CONSER Funnel members, we are organizing a podcast series called CONSER Voices. So far, volunteers for the series include: Les Hawkins, Steve Shadle, Adolfo Tarango, and Becky Culbertson. The current audio files will be available from the UC CONSER Funnel Web site; they will also be preserved in the eScholarship repository.
- Distance Learning: In September, Melissa Beck & Valerie Bross completed a course in how to present material through the live online environment. We are exploring possible ways to use what we learned to enhance training opportunities for members of the UC CONSER Funnel.