

**SCP Advisory Committee  
November 2, 2005  
Minutes**

Present: L. Barnhart, B. Culbertson (recorder), J. Dooley, P. French, V. Grahame, C. McEwan, E. McCracken, J. Riemer (chair), A. Tarango

**1. Requesting information at HOTS meeting related to the direction of Link Resolver Services Planning**

There was considerable discussion as to the purpose, direction, and outcome of the Link Resolver Planning Group. Linda said that it had been a consensus process and that we are almost there. Once the ERM is implemented, it is inevitable that it will bring future changes. The whole process of the link resolver issue has been one of mutual education--catalogers have learned the language of SFX and CDL folks have learned the language of cataloging. Adolfo pointed out that it was really a NOID (nice opaque identifier) server that is to be created, not an ARK server. Pat asked that there be a list of questions for HOTS and a summary of the Planning Groups progress. John agreed to do this and his summary of progress to date is reproduced below:

- What is the background on this initiative? Where did it come from?
- Is the summary of activity to date that John prepared, below, accurate?
- Where are things headed?
- What is the actual current proposal?
- What is the process for decision making?
- How is public services being consulted?
- Who participated in the Aug-Sept focus group report? What is the distribution of the report?
- What is the expected timetable?
- What is the status of SFX version 3.0?
- What is the relationship of the 'NOID' server to the ARK and PID servers?
- What will change when ERM implementation occurs?

The impetus for the work was a white paper written by Mary Heath for LTAG, which first came to light Dec. 2003/Jan. 2004. It was titled "Streamlining Link Resolver Services for UC." In January 2004 John Riemer wrote to then HOTS chair Carole Kiehl to pursue via SOPAG getting for SCP AC some representation on any planning group that was formed.

The Link Resolver Services Planning Group that began meeting May 14, 2004 consisted of Mary Heath, Margery Tibbetts, John Kunze, Steve Toub, Becky Culbertson, Adolfo Tarango, Renee Chin, Linda Barnhart, and John Riemer. Minutes for at least 7 meetings exist, along with other documents like "Evolving Link Resolver Services for UC," "Maintenance of the PID Knowledge Base [PID specifications]," and "Linking to Online Resources in Melvyl: OpenURL vs. PID Focus Group Findings & Recommendations, August-September 2005."

As CDL was providing for 3 separate link resolver systems: SFX OpenURL, PIDs, and ARKs, they saw redundancy in supporting any more than two: one system for OpenURL-compliant links and one system for links not compliant with OpenURL.

The PID server struck CDL as the most limited functionality on the least flexible platform. The implementation of PIDs had involved obtaining a copy of the PURL software from OCLC in 2000, followed by local modification of the software without any documentation of the changes. This probably accounts for the inability to repair the link-checking functionality in the PID server.

CDL believed that the ARK server could be modified to accommodate everything the PIDs provided. Initially this appeared to mean that all PIDs would need to change to ARKs in the SCP records; later the strategy changed to accommodating both PIDs and ARKs in the same system.

SCP sometimes creates journal PIDs to go to different levels instead of the default SFX journal title level. The ARK server should be capable of accommodating this type of URL; CDL wanted specs developed for the necessary functionality to support PIDs. OpenURLs depend on an identifier like an ISSN or ISBN. About 9% of SCP serials lack an ISSN. Some of the large sets of e-books lack identifiers, as do many of the CalDocs.

The CDL programming workload needed in the ARK server was daunting, and this increased the appeal of moving to a strategy of using OpenURL in as many cases as possible. The planning group was asked to identify the minimum functionality that was needed for the PID server.

Experimentation with about 400 JSTOR records was planned. Such records would contain a single URL pointing to UC eLinks and containing the ISSN. Public services would be surveyed. More recently, it was agreed that bibliographic records needed to contain explicit subfield \$3's to permit selectors to evaluate coverage overlaps, at least until the statewide ERM is implemented.

Experimentation with setting up monographs in the SFX server needed to be done.

## **2. Link Resolver Services Planning: OpenURL vs. PID Focus Group report (10/20 email).**

This was an internal document in which results of a focus group of public services librarians from each of the campuses looking at the options of using Open URLs and PIDs were discussed. It was noted that continuing to record the holdings in the Melvyl notes field is viewed as being of prime importance for bibliographers and other library staff, even though non-librarian users tend to skip over holdings. Also the focus group would prefer that resources available from a single source still would go through the service option menu.

## **3. Four-month pilot project for sending maintenance fields to SCP.**

Adolfo asked that when, in the course of handling print cataloging and check-in, campuses find changes that should be made to a record provided through SCP, these changes should be sent to Renee Chin at UCSD ([rmchin@ucsd.edu](mailto:rmchin@ucsd.edu)) Because of the brevity of the project (four months), we have opted not to use the FootPrints service to submit requests. See Oct. 31<sup>st</sup> minutes for exact changes to be sent. A stand-alone announcement will be sent on SCP-L about this project.

## **4. Proposal for new SCP reporting structure.**

Deferred. The group is interested in discussing this further. Adolfo will bring back a proposal to the group at a future date, after information on the current structure is studied further within UCSD/SCP.

## **5. SCP update.**

Progress on 793 \$g field: Becky will send latest iteration of document to the Advisory Committee. [Sent 11/03/05]. This will now go to HOTS.

Cleanup records: Plans are now in place for the records to be sent in mid November. They will include the SFX links in the records, in a location yet to be determined.