Systemwide Operations and Planning Group (SOPAG)

SOPAG Meeting, January 25, 2002, Action Minutes

Present: A. Bunting, B. Hurley, J. Kochi, S. Lessick, K. McGirr, M. Moody, P. Mirsky, J. Ober (recorder), G. Yokote **Absent:** J. Tanno, T. Dearie, B. Miller

Next Meeting: 3/15/02 at UCOP
See also http://libraries.universityofcalifornia.edu/sopag/

1. CDL-related items
1.1. A&I Transition (guest Laine Farley)
1.1.1. Database Customization Principles

Discussed the challenges and the Transition Steering Committee's proposed solution for consistent handling of options for the appearance and functionality of licensed A&I resources.

ACTION: SOPAG endorses the principles pending 1) an addition stating that they apply to library-licensed resources (rather than implying, for example, that they are also prescriptive for departmental subscriptions); 2) that development of recommendations for customization options be referred to Users Council when there is no Resource Liaison assigned to a resource. Following those changes the principles will be posted to the CDL web and announced via appropriate lists and CDLINFO.

1.1.2. Service integration vision statement
Discussed a vision statement for the contribution of UC-Elinks (aka SFX) to service integration. UC-eLinks will focus initially on links to Melvyl for holdings, links to ejournals for full content, links to Request. Initial production availability of UC-eLinks is anticipated within the next 1-2 weeks.

ACTION: SOPAG encourages distribution of the vision statement and broad announcement of the status of UC-eLinks for each resource.

1.2. Melvyl Transition
1.2.1. Non-UC records
Discussion of issues surrounding monographic records from non-UC sources and a request for SOPAG input into the compilation of background information to guide decisions about and discussions with non-UC contributors. Members reported discussion to date that included reliance on non-UC records in Melvyl as a substitute for WorldCat, and the desirability for information about ILL requests for materials owned by non-UC contributors.

ACTION: As suggested by the background document, SOPAG will survey their campuses on the use of and usefulness of non-UC records in Melvyl and provide a written summary to the CDL prior to the next SOPAG meeting. The CDL will provide information about the number of records and duplicate records from each source to assist in the campus surveys. The discussion will resume at the next SOPAG meeting.

1.2.2. Melvyl Catalog Quality Control (QC)

Following earlier SOPAG endorsement of new record input standards (available at:
http://www.cdlib.org/libstaff/catalog/standard-approved-12-6-01.rtf), mechanisms for
conformance with those standards and other issues of union catalog QC were discussed. One
alternative was the Melvyl transition team's proposal to form a new QC cross-campus, cross-
functional group. SOPAG affirmed its role for resolving issues of non-conformance to record
standards from UC input streams. It was noted that the number of other quality problems is
unpredictable and that when they do arise they are likely to be very situational. Given these
assessments, other alternatives for ensuring quality were discussed, including an active issues
monitoring and response role for the all-campus groups.

ACTIONS:
1. SOPAG chair Tanno will formally inform the ULs that the record input standard has been
endorsed;
2. SOPAG members will survey their campus about readiness to meet the record standards (CDL
will provide a cover letter of issues and questions for discussion) and suggested alternatives for
monitoring and resolving ongoing catalog quality control;
3. results of surveys and alternatives for QC will be discussed at the next SOPAG meeting.

1.2.3. MelvylT Acceptance Testing (informational item)

The Melvyl Transition team is proceeding with functional acceptance testing on the Ex Libris
Aleph system. Via bibliographer groups the team is asking for volunteers to help test specific
indexes (e.g. for music, maps, govdocs, videos, etc) that relate to
their specialties.

1.2.4. Melvyl-T Project Status (informational item)

The Melvyl-T transition team will be announcing a revised schedule for the project including
release dates for the prototype catalog, the production catalog, and the period of parallel
operation with the existing catalog. In the initial production catalog priority will be given to
loading UC records.

1.3. Request/Consortial Borrowing System/Desktop Delivery

The CBS project plan is on track, with training for the first implementers (SD and LA) scheduled
for mid-February. The CBS team reports ongoing difficulties at most campuses in establishing
desktop delivery using Ariel software as a transition strategy until the CBS has that capability
(now promised for July, 2002 with release 2.03 of VDX).

ACTION: Ober will convey to the Request team SOPAG's concern about the need for accurate
and reliable release information from VDX.

1.4. eScholarship Liaisons

Ober reminded the group that that in her new CDL role as Senior Associate for Collection
Management Initiatives, one of Cecily Johns' tasks will be to coordinate communication among

the campuses and CDL on eSchoalrship strategies and activities. It was agreed that conversations between libraries and eScholarship principals would provide the necessary background to design an ongoing framework for library-eScholarship collaboration, including any potential for a liaison program.

ACTION: Cecily Johns will contact each campus to arrange visits from eScholarship principals over the next few months.

2. Role of All Campus Groups (ACGs)
Continued discussion following the 12/7/01 meeting with the chairs of the ACGs. Member reported results of local discussions about challenges facing the ACGs and ways to enhance their organizational effectiveness.

ACTION: SOPAG chair Tanno will communicate to the ACGs clarifying SOPAG expectations, strongly recommending the establishment of an agenda setting sub-committee for each group, and recommending at least three meetings per year, at least one of which is a face-to-face meeting.

3.   Discussion of Task Force Reports and ACG Input
3.1 Access Integration Task Force Report
ACGs' input confirms the quality and value of the Task Force's work and a desire to pursue their recommendations. SOPAG concurs that the UC libraries need a service to provide a source of records for constructing lists/directories of electronic resources and that a phased approach should be pursued. The first phase would pursue improvements to the CDL directory and the creation of sharable records using the existing directory structure. In principle, additional phases would refine and extend the report's suggestions for improving the efficiency of ongoing systemwide collaboration and would include a study of the potential for CDL's new Aleph system to serve these needs.

ACTIONS:
1. Hurley will write a model to frame the high-level questions for continuing discussion of access integration.
2. Ober will convey SOPAG's recommendation to CDL UL French that the Shared Cataloging Program's Steering Committee work with CDL Digital Library Services to help create immediate improvements as suggested by the report; Ober & Hurley will draft a list of issues for consideration.
3. SOPAG will continue to discuss the report's recommendations for continuing to a second phase.

3.2 Digital Reference Task Force White Paper
SOPAG discussed modifying the report's recommendations to ask HOPS to form and task a common interest group to serve UC's potential interests in digital reference technologies and services.

ACTION:
1. Tanno will formally accept the report, thank and discharge the task force.
2. Lessick will draft a letter conveying the request from SOPAG to HOPS.

3.3 Preserving Digital Materials
SOPAG forwarded a letter to the ULs endorsing the recommendations of the DPAC report and recommending the reprogramming of systemwide preservation funds to implement a preservation repository. Ober reported that he and Hurley were preparing an IMLS grant application to assist a pilot implementation and document it for emulation or adaptation by the broader community.

ACTION: *** did we thank and discharge this group?***

4. Workshops
4.1 UC Digital Library Forums (previously known as the "metadata workshops")
Ober reported progress in defining an initial UC DL Forum and initiating a series of follow-up forums focusing on specific issues or technologies in UC digital library development efforts. The forum program committee is drafting descriptions following SOPAG workshop proposal guidelines. SOPAG noted that refining the target audience for the first forum will be important.
4.2 Circulation Best Practices (no news owing to Dearie's absence)

4.3 Teaching for Self-Directed Learners

These CDL-sponsored workshops are on track for 4 sessions in January and early February. Ober thanked SOPAG for assistance in identifying attendees and for the enthusiastic anticipation of the sessions.

5. Digital Visual Resources (guest Laine Farley)
Farley shared a draft charge for a task force to explore the opportunities, challenges and benefits in collaborating on digital resource repository(ies) and related services. SOPAG recognized a desire to gather more information about the needs for managing digital visual resource and the kind of leadership that could address them.

ACTION: A digital version of the draft will be shared. SOPAG members will discuss locally and return to the issue of a task force charge at their next meeting.

6. Amigos Membership

Pursuant to the ULs request that SOPAG give advice on the potential benefits of pursuing licensing agreements with Amigos?

ACTION: Chair Tanno will request that the CDC explore the advantages and possibilities of using the AMIGOS organization to assist us in licensing electronic resources and any other collection related products they have or can provide.

7. CMI update

Ober reported that all but one campus has submitted their first quarter of use data. Exact data on number of physical volumes and shelf space for study titles is complete. Initial summary reports of both data types should be available for internal use in February. Publisher data on use of digital resources is being gathered, but subject to vendor schedules for availability. A strategy for preparing and sharing quarterly status reports has been developed.

8. Electronic Records Management

Discussion of ULs request for SOPAG to assess whether sufficient processes and structures are in place for the
libraries and archivists to exert leadership and influence to accomplish the goals outlined in the ERMS report by Westbrook and Zornado.

ACTION: Chair Tanno will take up the issue with the University of California Archivists Council (UCAC).

9. Deferred items
Rights Management in the Digital Environment
DLF and UC libraries
Collection Management (print and digital) post-CMI and within current budget situation
Next Meeting:
March 15, 2002 at UCOP
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