

**NGTS-2 Phase I Report Executive Summary**

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**To: NGTS Steering Committee, NGTS Executive Committee**

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**Executive Summary**

NGTS-2 identified for areas of interest:

- Surmounting current requirements that language expertise in both selection and cataloging be collocated
- Relying on vendors for quality (outsourced) cataloging records.
- Determining what "good enough" means for cataloging
- Implementing real cross-campus collaboration in sharing workflows, resources, funds, and collections

**Short-Term Issues:**

1. Explore the possibility of implementing Kinokuniya shelf-ready (outsourced cataloging) plans at individual campuses that collect Japanese-language materials. This requires an assessment from bibliographers and technical services librarians and staff at UCB: how successful is this program currently, and how do we measure success from a technical services standpoint (processing time/processing cost/backlog) and from a selector's standpoint (do outsourced records meet the needs of the collection?). The applicability of this program across the individual campuses will depend upon the collections budget for CJK (Japanese) materials. This should be addressed. Ensuring that selectors retain the ability to firm order necessary items for the collections is crucial. One point that should be underscored is that shelf-ready and firm orders are not mutually exclusive; so if shelf-ready is implemented it should not impact selector's capacity to use firm order option. In many cases, firm orders would probably not have shelf-ready requirement.
  
2. Continue to track success of CIBTC outsourced cataloging project at UCB, UCSD, and other ARLs: the question of a system-wide approval plan that provides centralized delivery of shelf-ready items to all ten campuses is a medium - to long-term issue. Explore comparing outsourced cataloging with Kinokuniya and CIBTC competitors, if desirable.
  
3. Ask UCB (as before) for an after-action assessment of the success of outsourced Chinese-language cataloging. Again, consult with both collection development/selectors and technical services, and other stakeholders. This can be correlated against HOTS list of expertise (<https://confluence.ucop.edu/download/attachments/7702826/Non-Roman+Backlogs.doc?version=1&nbsp;>) -- individual campuses should be polled on whether outsourced Chinese-language cataloging is necessary for them at this time. This will depend on the campus.

4. Reduce or eliminate non-Roman backlogs campus by campus. The practicalities of sending (physically or virtually) uncataloged items from one campus to another may involve recharge/shipping issues that at this time have not been incorporated into any NGTS-2 recommendations. There are some languages for which none of the campuses has the necessary or appropriate language expertise. Endorsement document for non-Roman backlogs has been approved to be forwarded to HOTS.
  
5. Specify LC Romanization compliant character support for non-Roman scripts in RFPs for ILSs, either at the local or system-wide level. Most vendors offer character support for CJK, Cyrillica, Hebrew/Arabic. UC libraries contemplating migration should expect full character support for all scripts (e.g., Armenian, Georgian, Devangari-derived South and Southeast Asian, etc.). (See below, re: OCLC.)

**Medium-Term Issues:**

1. Maintain a scalar list of non-Roman script vendor industries that may be candidates later on for automated or outsourced acquisition/cataloging solutions. NGTS-2 reached consensus early on that some important non-Roman script regions are "not ready for prime time" if asked to supply quality catalog records or other services (Arabic, most notably). Anecdotally, NGTS-2 was able to roughly rank non-Roman script vendors in order of readiness to potentially provide "shelf-ready" or "PromptCat-like" materials for UC collections: Japanese / Chinese / Korean / Russian / Hebrew (other scripts are either less commonly held or do not have sophisticated publisher/vendor culture, or both). The UC as a whole may want to pursue contracts with vendors who may be "just about ready" to provide shelf-ready/PromptCat-equivalent materials to individual campuses.
2. Specify system-wide standards for what "good-enough" means: LC Romanization and/or vernacular-language character support; LCSH; basic-level cataloging; the use of provisional call LC call numbers (e.g., XM).

**Long-Term Issues:**

1. Build a workable system-wide collection development plan for non-Roman materials that incorporates solutions to a number of longstanding issues/problems:
  - a. Recharge, whereby a given campus is reimbursed
  - b. Storage of shared print collections: individual campus or RLF?
  - c. Shared cataloging: single location or scattered?
  - d. Selectors (obviously working at one campus) collecting for system as a whole
  - e. Acquisitions/Catalogers processing items destined for another campus or RLF.
  - f. Etc.
  
2. Encourage vendors in a variety of languages to provide more shelf-ready/PromptCat-like services to libraries.
  
3. Encourage OCLC to provide full-spectrum character support (e.g., for Armenian, etc.)

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