

# Enhance Sharing Session at ALA Annual

Orlando, Florida, 2004 June 27

Compiled by Jay Weitz

Based on Much-Appreciated Notes by Shana L. McDanold, Saint Louis University

Not quite twenty OCLC Enhance participants gathered during the American Library Association Annual Conference in Orlando on Sunday, 2004 June 27. Enhance Coordinator Jay Weitz moderated the meeting, with the welcomed participation and assistance of OCLC colleague Jim Simms.

Highlights from the handout "News from OCLC" were pointed out. The full text is appended to this report. A few additional items were mentioned.

- **Connexion:** The Connexion Browser is now in nearly complete form, with almost all Passport functionality. The Connexion Client Version 1.10 was released in March 2004 and includes the macro recorder, bibliographic save file and constant data enhancements, and authority save file and constant data. Connexion Client Version 1.20 is currently scheduled for the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of calendar 2004 and will include NACO functionality; authority file derived, numeric, and root-expanded browse functionality, local files, and text strings.
- **Field 936:** Integrating resources catalogers within the Program for Cooperative Cataloging (PCC) recently requested that the longtime CONSER practice of using field 936 to indicate that a record had been reported as a duplicate be expanded beyond serials. After discussions within OCLC, this expansion has been endorsed. OCLC wants to remind Enhance participants, however, that the practice may have implications for local systems that have trouble handling replace transactions for records the institution does not hold. In the longer term, OCLC will make changes so that the addition of field 936 does not result in a credit.
- **Cataloging Credits:** Periodically, OCLC users have noted (and OCLC has admitted) the irrationality of the OCLC credit structure that has developed over the years. Credits were added to the system at different times and for different purposes. Individual credits were often changed for particular historical reasons and were rarely considered within the larger context of all credits. OCLC has begun to take a serious look at this haphazard structure with an eye toward making it more rational over time. In general, we are thinking about simplifying credit levels along the lines of replaces where the entire record is eligible for upgrade (such as CONSER, Enhance, Minimal-Level) and replaces where only parts of the record may be open to change (such as Database Enrichment). OCLC would be interested in hearing comments and suggestions from Enhance participants on this effort.

An explanation of National Level Enhance was requested. National Level Enhance was created in 1994 to allow selected Library of Congress cataloging staff and PCC participants to lock, edit, and replace records regardless of their Encoding Level. In addition to the usual Enhance application and evaluation process, National Level Enhance participants must also be PCC participants who have had the requisite BIBCO and NACO training from LC.

Enhance expectations came up for discussion next. Examination and upgrading of the entire record is the ideal Enhance situation, but OCLC recognizes that a participating institution's internal structure and workflows may make that impossible in many cases. In some institutions, for instance, different cataloging staff may perform descriptive and subject duties. In every institution, different sorts of records may be handled by different levels of staff and/or be subject to different levels of scrutiny. Both OCLC and all users of WorldCat appreciate whatever level of Enhance work participants can contribute.

Batchloading of records into WorldCat was the next topic to come up. WorldCat is intended to be as inclusive as possible, although clearly, record quantity and record quality do not always go hand-in-hand. There are many poorly cataloged records out there. Batchloaded records are subject to record validation tests and there are many records that are matched to set holdings without being candidates for addition to WorldCat. We do examine record samples for cataloging quality and make decisions about loading based partially on such quality considerations, but there are no foolproof quality tests. Encoding Levels are intended to be indicators of record fullness, not really of record quality. It must also be recognized that for

batchloaded records in particular, Encoding Level may not even be an accurate indicator of record fullness. Most member-created batchloaded records are loaded as Encoding Level "M," but many such records are as full as any "I" level record.

An attendee complained about very minimal-level foreign language records. To determine if a record is cataloged in a foreign language, you must look beyond the mere presence of a Language Code in field 040 subfield \$b. If the cataloging itself is not in a foreign language (look especially at the 300 field and at non-quoted 5XX notes), you may consider it an English-language cataloging record, remove the 040 subfield \$b and upgrade the record. Otherwise, follow the "parallel record" policy outlined in Technical Bulletin 250 (<http://www.oclc.org/support/documentation/worldcat/tb/250/>) and input a parallel English-language record. Please note that vendor records, identified by the presence of field 938 (Vendor-Specific Ordering Data) and a vendor symbol in field 040 subfield \$c (Transcribing agency; see the "Vendor Record Contribution Program Participants" list at <http://www.oclc.org/vendors/material/participants/>), may be upgraded as English-language cataloging in all cases.

John Overholt of the Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center, University of Texas at Austin, inquired about the improper editing of records identified in field 040 subfield \$e as being cataloged according to "Descriptive Cataloging of Rare Books," in particular the abbreviating of edition statements in field 250. Although OCLC colleague Robert Bremer was unable to attend the Enhance session, as follow-up he has provided the following response regarding the work of his quality control macro:

"The QC macro often run on many OCLC records has had restrictions built in regarding DCRB and BDRB records based on coding in field 040 from the outset. This was due to differences in the rules between AACR2 and those used for rare books. However, field 250 was overlooked and earlier this year another library brought the problem to our attention. That macro has since been adjusted so that it should not change field 250 to abbreviate terms that DCRB would have the cataloger transcribe as they appear. While avoiding changes to punctuation and transcription in the body of the record, other areas of DCRB records, e.g., name and subject headings, are processed to adjust routine problems in subfielding, punctuation, etc."

The previous question prompted a wider discussion of changes wrought by Mr. Bremer's quality control macros. One particular example was the change from the note "Title from cover" to "Cover title." Again, Mr. Bremer supplied the following response:

"OCLC staff had thoroughly considered the question of "Cover title" versus "Title from cover" in monograph cataloging when it was raised previously. Examples in AACR2 are not prescriptive and only a general instruction regarding the source of the title proper is given in AACR2 rule 2.7B3. That rule gives two examples, one in the form "<source> title" and the other in the form "Title from <source>." The notes "Cover title" and "Title from cover" mean the same thing. There is no rule or rule interpretation specifying which should be used in the cataloging of books. At no point has OCLC required that libraries should input one and not the other. You can use either note on new input records as you wish.

"On the other hand, we view our role as attempting to provide cataloging copy that is acceptable to the widest possible audience. That cataloging copy should require minimal or no review by libraries. We know from having looked at the database in the past that there is a ratio of 9 to 1 in favor of use of the note "Cover title" as opposed to "Title from cover" for books. When there was a comment that the ratio was possibly skewed due to the presence of older records in the database, we also looked at current receipts from the Library of Congress and found the same ratio of 9 to 1 in favor of "Cover title." There does appear to be a clear preference for use of "Cover title."

"We also know from past studies of editing habits that some libraries are inclined to edit records to adjust punctuation, capitalizing, spacing, and forms of notes that do not directly affect the retrieval and use. Minimizing the perceived necessity or temptation for library cataloging staff to make these kinds of edits is also part of our attempt to provide cataloging copy that is acceptable to the widest possible audience.

"We have never specifically targeted and searched for "Title from cover" as an element to change. There are a great number of other things that are far more important to adjust in records in WorldCat. However, if a record is retrieved by the QC macro, and it so happens that "Title from

cover" exists, it is changed even if it is the only change. Macros are run in the background, often overnight, and in no way detract from QC work in attempting to maintain name and subject headings, duplicate resolution, etc.

"The presence of OCLCQ or any other library symbol in subfield \$d in field 040 should not be viewed as commentary that the initial library did a poor job of original cataloging. It is instead an indication that the mechanisms in place in the shared cataloging environment are working to produce and maintain a record acceptable to the majority of other libraries.

"Given the apparent preferences of catalogers, given the goal of reducing the need for subsequent users to edit records, given that you can input "Title from cover" to meet your own cataloging needs on new records, there doesn't seem to be a compelling reason to preserve the note "Title from cover" in records for books."

Concerning the ability to control headings in Connexion and the possibility of receiving credits for such transactions, Jim Simms responded that OCLC will continue to follow the existing rules governing credits for locking and replacing records. One must have the appropriate authorization to replace a master record when controlling the headings results in an actual change to a field. When a heading is successfully controlled in a bibliographic record and no change to the content of the heading occurs, anyone with at least a Full cataloging authorization can lock and replace the record, but a credit is not earned by the library. OCLC encourages Enhance participants to control headings as part of your regular workflow.

One questioner wondered how one could tell if one's institution was an Enhance participant. When one logs on to WorldCat through any of the various access methods, the logon greeting indicates the level of the authorization number being used. The "Enhance Participants" list is available on the OCLC Web site at <http://www.oclc.org/worldcat/about/quality/enhance/default.htm>. Other Enhance documentation can be accessed from the "Enhance" section of the "WorldCat Documentation" page at <http://www.oclc.org/support/documentation/worldcat/default.htm>. The Enhance application is online at <http://www.oclc.org/support/forms/pdf/enhaut.pdf>.

Jim Simms again responded when asked if there will ever be a single authorization that will cover all possible abilities under Connexion. OCLC does not plan to have a multi-mode single authorization at this time. Currently in Connexion, you may store up to ten authorization number and password pairs and give them each unique names for easier identification (for instance, Enhance, CONSER, or NACO, or even an individual's name). Some existing cataloging authorizations have multiple capabilities built in. Most notably, National Level Enhance and CONSER both include NACO capabilities.

# News From OCLC

Compiled by Jay Weitz  
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## General News

### **2003 OCLC Environmental Scan: Pattern Recognition**

OCLC recently completed *The 2003 OCLC Environmental Scan: Pattern Recognition*, a comprehensive review of global issues surrounding research, learning and community as it relates to the future of libraries and other knowledge organizations. Interviews were conducted with more than 100 knowledge experts around the world, representing a wide variety of organizations. The collective input from these interviews, in addition to literature review and extensive research, yielded a wealth of insights on the real, day-to-day issues facing information professionals. The report looks at funding, collaboration, digital archiving, e-learning, digital rights management, open source movements, the rise of Web services in libraries and education, scholarly publishing and other associated topics. For further information see the OCLC Web site at <http://www.oclc.org/membership/escan/default.htm>.

### **OCLC Preservation Service Centre Opens in Canada**

OCLC Canada opened a new Preservation Service Centre in Winnipeg, Manitoba, in April 2004, to help serve as a local solution to the digitization needs of Canadian libraries and other heritage institutions. In its first project, the Winnipeg Preservation Service Centre is working with the University of Alberta Libraries to digitize and make available online a version of Peel's Bibliography of the Canadian Prairies. "The underlying premise of Peel's Prairie Provinces is quality," said Karen Adams, Director of Library Services and Information Resources, University of Alberta Libraries. "We want very readable scanned text, and keyword searching on the contents of every page. OCLC is able to do this for us, and having a facility in Canada makes it easier to digitize the rare and fragile books that document Western Canada's history and culture." For more on OCLC Digital and Preservation Services, visit the Preservation Services Web site at <http://www.oclc.org/preservation/default.htm>.

### **Ohio State University and OCLC to Study Use of Electronic Information Resources**

Researchers at Ohio State University and OCLC are conducting a new study to find out how and why students and faculty members use electronic information sources to do research and solve problems. The \$1 million project is a collaboration between Ohio State and OCLC. The two-year study will run through 2005 December 31 and will be partially funded with a \$480,543 grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services. The remainder of the funding will come from Ohio State and OCLC. For more on the project, visit the OCLC Research Web site at <http://www.oclc.org/research/projects/imls/>.

## Collections and Technical Services

### **Keyword Searching Changes**

On 2004 June 6, OCLC instituted changes in keyword searching as part of the system migration to the Oracle platform. Among the user-apparent changes:

- The 18-character limit on search terms has been removed, now allowing up to 28 characters.
- The limit on matching terms when using character masking has been increased from 30 to 500.
- Author (au) and Extended Author (ea) indexes have been combined. Both index labels will work, but the "ea" index label will be removed in the future.
- The Citation/Reference index has been removed.
- Corporate (co) and Conference (cn) indexes have been combined. Both index labels will work, but the "co" index label will be removed in the future.
- Hyphens will now be converted to a space, and the system will automatically initiate a proximity search. (Does not change how ISBNs are searched.)
- Language (la) will now retrieve based on both the Fixed Field Lang and on the 041 \$a when first indicator is 0, and the 041 \$b, \$d, \$e, \$f, and \$g, regardless of the indicator.

- Limit by /mix or ft mix will now retrieve Type:p (Mixed material format) Type:t (Manuscript), Type:f (Manuscript map), and Type:d (Manuscript score), and all formats with Ctrl:a. Note: This does not change format limiting for derived searches.
- Publication location (pl) has been expanded to include the 261 \$f, and the 533 \$b.
- Publisher (pb) has been expanded to include the 261 \$a, \$b, \$e, and the 533 \$c.
- Series (se) has been expanded to include the 533 \$f, 534 \$f.
- Standard number (nn) has been expanded to include 027 \$a & \$z, 028 \$a, 037 \$a, 088 \$a, 262 \$c.
- Subject/Title/Contents (st) has been expanded to include elements in the Author index, ISBNs, and publication dates.
- Title (ti) and Extended Title (et) indexes have been combined. Both index labels will work, but the "et" index label will be removed in the future.

### **Connexion Client 1.10 Now Available**

Version 1.10 of the Connexion client is now available for download. Changes are included for set up options, editing records, a new macro recorder, bibliographic save file and constant data, authority save file and constant data, system help, and other miscellaneous changes. See recent enhancements (<http://www.oclc.org/connexion/interface/client/enhancements/recent.htm>) for more information and to download the new software at no charge. OCLC will discontinue support for version 1.00 on 2004 July 1. All 1.00 users must upgrade to 1.10 to be able to log on after July 1.

### **Connexion Browser Enhancements June 2004**

Among the enhancements to the Connexion Browser installed on 2004 June 6 were:

- Authority searching enhancements:
  - Connexion now supports more authority searching functionality from Passport and CatME. Includes:
    - Derived and numeric (ISSN and ISBN) indexes.
    - Will be added to Connexion client later this year.
- PCC and Peer review of bibliographic and authority records:
  - Ability for libraries to share bibliographic and authority records for review: with peers from other libraries as well as with Program for Cooperative Cataloging trainers/reviewers for NACO, BIBCO, CONSER, and funnel projects.
  - Any institution using Connexion browser at a limited or higher authorization may allow other institutions to review saved bibliographic or authority records.
  - Replaces current Submit Record to Natl Review File and Responded File functionality.
  - Will be added to Connexion client later this year.
- Bibliographic Keyword searching:
  - OCLC is moving all bibliographic searching (cataloging, interlibrary loan and reference searching) to a single shared set of indexes. Keyword searching is the first step in this move for cataloging interfaces, including Connexion.
  - You will see few differences.
    - Several indexes combined with other existing indexes.
    - One index, Citation/Reference, removed.
- Bypassing Active Records logoff warning now an option:
  - You can now bypass the Active Records logoff warning allowing a faster system exit. If you choose this option, when you logoff you will no longer receive the Active Records warning screen. Please note: this will result in the loss of any editing you have done on these records.
- Connexion larger record size:
  - Previous system limit of 50 occurrences of the same field is removed. You can now create records of any size in Connexion browser and client. Large records continue to truncate for Passport and CatME users.
- Display holdings enhancement:

- The Display Holdings command now provides a new Select the type of holdings you wish to view prompt immediately above your record display, allowing you to view holdings using only the keyboard.
- URLs in field 856 created in Passport or CatME and viewed in Connexion:
  - Corrects a problem where a URL created in WorldCat using Passport or CatME was missing when viewed in WorldCat in Connexion on the same day.

### **OCLC Interim Support for ISBN 13**

A new international standard is expanding the current 10-digit ISBN to a 13-digit ISBN: the 3-digit prefix that identifies the book industry (currently 978), followed by the core 9-digit number, and the recalculated check digit that validates the internal integrity of the whole number. As such, it will also be identical to the EAN "Bookland" 13-digit code that already appears encoded in the barcode printed on the back of the book. While the official date for moving to this new standard is 2007 January 1, some publishers expect to begin printing both the current 10- and the new 13-digit ISBNs in materials later this year. This will allow them to make the transition more easily to the new ISBN-13. For further details on the ISBN-13 implementation, please see: <http://www.isbn-international.org/en/revision.html> and <http://www.isbn-international.org/en/download/implementation-guidelines-04.pdf>. LC expects to begin recording ISBN-13 numbers in LC records on 2004 October 1. Because OCLC is in the process of moving to a new system/database platform, and because this implementation will not be complete by October, OCLC will adopt the following interim support for ISBN-13 numbers in WorldCat. This will allow OCLC to focus on completing the migration to the new platform without having to retrofit systems that will soon be retired.

- Records loaded into WorldCat from the Library of Congress and our other trading partners:
  - OCLC will convert a 13-digit number appearing in field 020 subfield \$a to an EAN (field 024, first indicator '3').
  - If the record contains a 13-digit ISBN without a corresponding 10-digit ISBN, OCLC will convert a 13-digit ISBN beginning with 978 to a 10-digit ISBN, modifying the check digit along the way, as well as convert to an EAN as indicated above.
- Online input:
  - For original records, OCLC libraries should input ISBN-13 numbers into an EAN field (024, first indicator '3') rather than inputting into the ISBN field (020).
  - For copy cataloging that contains an ISBN-13 on the piece but not on the record being edited, users with full-level or higher authorization may add the ISBN-13 numbers into an EAN field (024, first indicator '3') as a database enrichment using system lock and replace capabilities. Users who do not have full-level authorization may report these to OCLC Quality Control Section using one of the many error reporting options: online system, email, fax, or mail.
  - OCLC libraries should NOT input ISBN-13 numbers in an 020 field. If libraries do enter the 13-digit ISBN in an 020 field, validation will move the number to \$z indicating that it is an invalid ISBN. Such numbers will not be indexed and retrieved as the user might expect. (See Searching below).
- Searching:
  - No indexing/searching changes will be implemented at this time. Libraries can search for ISBN-13 numbers using the "Standard Number" index, which covers both the 020 \$z and the 024 fields.
  - ISBN-13 numbers will not be retrievable using the ISBN index during this interim period.

After OCLC completes the implementation of our new system/database platform, we will add support for the ISBN-13 numbers in the 020 field for Batchload, online input and searching.

### **Sharing Macros for Connexion Client**

You can now share Connexion client macros on the OCLC Web site. Go to: <http://www.oclc.org/connexion/support/macros.htm>. You can submit macros that you have created by clicking "Upload Connexion macros" on that page, and your submitted macro will be posted to the macro site to share with others. You can also click on "Download Connexion macros" on that page to view

macros that have been submitted by others. The site also includes links to other macro sites. If you have a macro site that you would like to share with others, please send an e-mail to: [connexion-macros@oclc.org](mailto:connexion-macros@oclc.org) and we will add a link to your site.

### **Dewey Decimal Classification 22 and Abridged Edition 14**

Abridged Dewey Decimal Classification and Relative Index, Edition 14, was published in the first quarter of 2004. The Web version of the new abridged edition was already available in Abridged WebDewey. Abridged Edition 14 incorporates all applicable revisions of DDC 22, the edition it abridges. Edition 14 includes major updates throughout the Classification, many new numbers and topics, and some structural changes. Like DDC 22, Abridged Edition 14 does not contain any complete or extensive revisions.

### **WebDewey/Abridged WebDewey**

The latest release of WebDewey includes all the content in DDC 22, additional content only available in the electronic version, and interface improvements. WebDewey is a web-based version of the enhanced DDC 22 database and features: thousands of Relative Index terms and built numbers not available in the DDC print version; Library of Congress Subject Headings (LCSH) that have been statistically mapped to Dewey numbers from records in WorldCat (the OCLC Online Union Catalog) and intellectually mapped by DDC editors; selected mappings from Medical Subject Headings (MeSH); links from mapped LCSH to the LCSH authority records; and quarterly database updates incorporating the latest changes to the DDC, plus new LCSH mappings, index terms, and built numbers. Abridged WebDewey is a web-based version of the new enhanced Abridged 14 database. Abridged WebDewey features LCSH headings that have been intellectually mapped to Dewey numbers by DDC editors, including mappings to Abridged Edition 13 numbers from the OCLC publication *Subject Headings for Children*; links from mapped LCSH to the LCSH authority records; mappings between abridged Dewey numbers and subject headings from the new 18th edition of H.W. Wilson's *Sears List of Subject Headings*; and quarterly database updates incorporating the latest changes to the abridged DDC, plus new LCSH mappings, index terms, and built numbers. New Features, a summary of the changes in Abridged 14 is available in Help and on the Dewey web site in PDF format at [www.oclc.org/dewey/versions/abridgededition14/newfeatures.pdf](http://www.oclc.org/dewey/versions/abridgededition14/newfeatures.pdf).

### **OCLC to Convert Newberry Library Holdings for Worldwide Sharing**

The Newberry Library, an independent research library in Chicago devoted to the humanities, has contracted with OCLC for the retrospective conversion of approximately 725,000 of the library's records. Over the course of the next three years, OCLC will create MARC records for each title, and enter the Newberry Library's holdings in WorldCat. "This conversion project not only provides unprecedented access to the Library's catalog, it paves the way for future planning including digitization and collection development," said Charles Cullen, President and Librarian, Newberry Library. "The conversion of our card-form catalog records is fundamental to our strategic plan, and we are extremely pleased that we will be able to address that goal in a timely and efficient manner."

### **Reference Services**

#### **FirstSearch Evaluative Content Now Available**

Users of Books In Print and PAIS International on FirstSearch are now able to view the same evaluative content that is available from WorldCat, when available. This includes cover art, author notes, book summaries, tables of contents, and excerpts. The evaluative content will display automatically to users of the FirstSearch Web interface. Libraries that access FirstSearch via Z39.50 will see additional 1856 fields that link to evaluative content. Books In Print and PAIS now join WorldCat in giving FirstSearch users more information on which to judge the usefulness of the material. This enhancement will increase the value of these databases on FirstSearch at no additional cost to users.

#### **New Korean Search Interface Available in FirstSearch**

You can now use the Korean language to navigate through OCLC's FirstSearch service. As with the other non-English interfaces (Spanish, French, Chinese (simplified and traditional) and Japanese) already available in FirstSearch, a link at the bottom of the screen allows users who wish to do so to switch to the Korean interface. OCLC hopes to offer a Korean translation of the FirstSearch administrative module interface at a future time.

### **New Platform for WorldCat on FirstSearch**

On 2004 April 18, the WorldCat database on FirstSearch was moved to a new technology platform that has enabled several major enhancements to searching. Foremost of these are:

- The keyword (default) index for WorldCat now includes Author Keywords, ISBNs and publication dates. Users are more likely to have successful searches and get expected results. In particular, the addition of Author Keyword mirrors the operation of many local systems and other search services.
- The default ranking by holdings has been made more accurate by basing the ranking on actual holdings counts instead of by ranges of holdings. The exception is that records with 0-5 holdings will be ranked together, rather than by actual counts. The more accurate ranking will allow users to judge their results more easily.
- Non-English articles will be removed from the start of phrases. Users will get consistent results from phrase searching, no matter what language.

The reloading of WorldCat on FirstSearch has enabled many other enhancements. These include new indexes and minor display changes designed to improve results. After the installation of these changes, users will get different results - most noticeably in the Keyword Index - from the same searches they did previously. Please note that neither the old results nor the new results are erroneous; the indexing has simply changed.

### **PAIS Archive Database Now Available on FirstSearch**

OCLC Public Affairs Information Service has announced that a new database, the PAIS Archive, is now available on the OCLC FirstSearch service. The PAIS Archive is a retrospective database chronicling global public policy and social issues from the early twentieth century through the mid-1970's. Additional information about the PAIS Archive, including a list of Frequently Asked Questions, is available on the OCLC PAIS Web site at <http://www.pais.org/products/ArchiveInfo.stm>.

### **OpenURL Linking Enhanced in FirstSearch WorldCat**

OpenURL links now appear in all WorldCat records on FirstSearch, including records for sound, visual, scores, Internet, Computer, Archival, and Maps. Earlier, these OpenURL links were limited only to WorldCat records for books (including ebooks), articles and journals. Additionally, users in the Dissertation Abstracts Online database in OCLC FirstSearch can now link to the full text of the dissertation if their libraries have licensed this full text from a partner information service and set up their OpenURL resolvers to be compatible with v1.0 OpenURLs. FirstSearch libraries will therefore maximize their investments in reference resources from OCLC and partner information services.

### **QuestionPoint Part of Pilot Project to Provide Services to Visually Impaired**

Visually impaired persons in select libraries around the United States are participating in a six-month pilot project to test an online information and virtual reference service designed specifically for their needs. The service will be offered through InfoEyes (<http://www.infoeyes.org/>), a virtual reference and information community for the visually impaired. Through the pilot project, visually impaired patrons will use QuestionPoint to work with librarians virtually to find what they're seeking on the Internet. QuestionPoint, the collaborative virtual reference service developed by the Library of Congress and OCLC, helps librarians track and manage questions from patrons through a worldwide network of reference librarians.

### **FirstSearch-Barnes & Noble Linking Now Available**

FirstSearch libraries may now display a link to Barnes & Noble.com from within WorldCat detailed records, providing users with an additional means of fulfillment. To activate this link, log on to the FirstSearch administrative module, click the Resource Linking tab, and check-mark the Barnes & Noble.com box on the Online Booksellers page. The link to Barnes & Noble.com will then appear in the External Resources area of the Detailed Record screen, following FirstSearch searches.



## **Resource Sharing, Shelf-Ready, and Contract Services**

### **ILL Policies Directory Enhanced**

The OCLC Policies Directory has been enhanced. The enhancements are currently available at <https://illpolicies.oclc.org/ipd/NewSearch.do?start=true>. The enhancements allow you to: Save time when logging on to the Directory by setting a browser "cookie" to remember your authorization and password for faster direct logon; save time and effort by make a request to change your ILL supplier status (aka "go lower case") from within the Policies Directory. The link is available on the Unit Summary, Quick View, and Information screens. The next set of enhancements to the OCLC ILL Policies Directory will include expanding the privacy policy allowing libraries to choose whether or not to share their information outside the OCLC membership.

### **WebJunction Plays Key Role in E-Learning**

WebJunction, the online community of libraries and other agencies dedicated to sharing technical knowledge and experience, is expanding its role in e-learning. Beginning early January 2004, WebJunction began offering a new online course from the University of North Texas School of Library and Information Sciences titled, "Library Privacy and Confidentiality: Law and Policy." WebJunction has also partnered with Drexel University, one of the nation's top schools in Information Science and Systems, to offer Drexel's online degree and certificate programs in Library & Information Science and Information Systems at a special tuition rate of 20% off for WebJunction members. Learn more about WebJunction at <http://webjunction.org/do/Home>.

### **Pilot to Customize WebJunction for State Libraries**

WebJunction, the online community of libraries and other agencies dedicated to sharing technical knowledge and experience, begins a pilot program in May 2004 to make WebJunction more customizable for different regions of the country. The state libraries of Colorado, New Mexico, Iowa, Connecticut, and Washington will serve as the first community partners able to customize their own material available for public view on WebJunction. This national initiative will allow users to link to different state library Web sites for more localized material. For more information, visit the WebJunction Web site at <http://webjunction.org/do/Home>.

### **OCLC Now Offering Services for Groups**

OCLC now offers services that allow consortia to build group online union catalogs and provide resource sharing and reference services under one locally customized interface. OCLC group catalogs are based on library holdings set in WorldCat. OCLC creates a catalog from WorldCat holdings contributed by group members so that library users can find what they need close to home. If users are unable to find what they need in their local area, they can expand their search to a larger region within the group, or to the entire WorldCat database for what they need. Gathering holdings information within a group helps facilitate item discovery and resource sharing through OCLC services that many libraries in the group are currently using. Libraries that do not use WorldCat for cataloging can batchload records into the database to make their holdings information available for a group catalog. And libraries can customize and brand their group catalog—for example, they can add logos for both the group and for a library within the group. The Military Education and Research Library Network (MERLN) was the first to implement the OCLC group catalog model. The MERLN group catalog provides access to over 1.5 million items in the collections of 13 MERLN libraries through a single database for easy identification of the materials group members need from any of the participating MERLN libraries. The MERLN group catalog provides easy access to the holdings of a variety of military libraries, based nationally and internationally, on a variety of military topics. A group catalog for Missouri libraries became available in December 2003. It is an extension of Missouri's "Show-Me The World" project, a virtual library program that uses WorldCat to connect users with information in the state's libraries, and beyond. Libraries participating in OCLC group services do not have to invest in new hardware, software, or staff training because the services are hosted by OCLC, and staff members in participating libraries are already quite familiar with OCLC services.

### **OCLC Digital Collection and Preservation Services to Manage Brittle Preservation Cooperative**

OCLC's Digital Collection and Preservation Services has begun work with the University of Kansas Libraries to provide preservation management services for Brittle, an internationally-recognized

cooperative preservation reformatting initiative. Most research libraries face a serious brittle books problem. The University of Kansas Libraries found that nearly 12% of their volumes had brittle paper. In an effort to preserve the Libraries' growing number of embrittled collections, the Brittle Books Program was launched in 1996 to reformat volumes that have become too damaged to withstand further use with either new copies from publishers, preservation-quality facsimile replacements, or other appropriate media.