
NACO/CONSER/SACO

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ABSTRACT Annually, the Operations Committee (OpCo) of the Program for Cooperative Cataloging (PCC) presents a two-day meeting in Washington, DC, to advise participants in the PCC programs of what they need to know to work cooperatively with all the other catalogers in the program. This year, as last year, an online meeting replaced the in-person meeting, but the purpose was the same. This Listen and Learn session will update Atla participants in the NACO, CONSER, or SACO funnels with the information that was presented at OpCo, so that their work in the Atla funnels will adhere to the current practices in the PCC programs. The session also presents news of changes coming in programs and tools that funnel participants use.

At the outset, let me review how much Atla institutions have contributed through the Atla funnels to the various programs in the Program for Cooperative Cataloging. During the Library of Congress's last fiscal year (October 2019–September 2020), Atla catalogers contributed 683 new authority records and 226 modified records. Extending into the current fiscal year, October 2020 through May 2021, almost as many records have already been contributed (589 new and 192 modified). Those numbers cause no concern. A different number, however, does cause concerns. Last fiscal year, Atla had nine active institutions (those that contributed at least one record). This year, that number is eight, due to the retirement of an active NACO cataloger. We can expect the number of active institutions to continue to drop, as several NACO catalogers are approaching retirement in the next several years. Most Atla institutions have only one trained NACO cataloger; when that person retires, the position usually disappears. So any encouragement you can give to colleagues to become active is important.

The contributions in the CONSER program are similar to NACO. Last fiscal year, 287 new records and 325 modified records were contributed. From October 2020 through March 2021, the numbers are 104 new records and 176 modified records. All of these contributions are by one CONSER cataloger, who is leaving his current posi-

tion. As of the writing of this article, it is uncertain whether he will be able to continue in his role as a CONSER contributor under the Atla funnels. So there is certainly a place for any new CONSER catalogers in the Atla funnels.

SACO is a smaller funnel, so the numbers are smaller. During the last fiscal year, four new subject headings and one changed subject heading was contributed. From October 2020 to date, there are seven new subject headings and one new LC classification number. As subject headings continue to move to a linked digital environment, there are many opportunities for Atla institutions to get involved in this funnel.

The Operations Committee of the Program for Cooperative Cataloging is held in May each year. This meeting is the primary source of updates that are pertinent to the various PCC programs. The rest of this presentation is based primarily on notes from this year's meeting, held online May 6–7, 2021. The agenda for the meeting is posted online (<https://www.loc.gov/aba/pcc/documents/OpCo-2021/Agenda-OpCo-2021.pdf>)—you can find links to most of the presentations at that page.

The Standing Committee on Applications looks at issues related to applications, technologies, and automated processes. This past year the committee has created various mapping tables (between various ISO 639 code lists; and between Wikidata properties and MARC 21 authority format) and updated the guidelines for minimally punctuated MARC bibliographic records. The committee is working on an ISNI-to-Wikidata mapping table.

The Standing Committee on Standards works to develop and recommend standards, policies, and applications of use to PCC catalogers. During the past year, the committee worked on including guidelines for MARC 385 and 386 fields in DCM Z1. The committee received two requests for possible exceptions to the Provider-Neutral Guidelines, which they are considering. The committee also began discussing a proposal to allow the use of subfield \$i in the MARC 370 field in authority records (to create more ability to indicate the relationship of the place name to the named entity).

The last of the three standing committees, the Standing Committee on Training, identifies needs for training programs and develops them as necessary. Of most interest to Atla catalogers is the work of the RDA 3R Training Task Group. This task group is developing training to catalog print and electronic monographs using the new RDA Toolkit, LC-PCC Policy Statements, and metadata guidance documents. The initial training is targeted for release in fall 2021, while the complete training will be available no sooner than June 2022. The committee mentioned one important date in their report: The PCC will not implement the new RDA Toolkit before July 2022.

The group charged with updating policy statements for the new RDA toolkit reported that all original RDA LC/PCC policy statements have been analyzed and transferred, in accordance with the guideline given to them of making as few changes from the current RDA toolkit as possible. New LC/PCC policy statements have been (or are being) written for all options. Over 7,000 new LC/PCC policy statements have been created, a number related to the increase in options in the new RDA toolkit. The group expects to complete metadata guidance documentation by November 2021.

A substantive update that the PCC made during the last year is in the method of cataloging partial compilations for works. Catalogers who catalog such works (selected novels, or two works by one person under the same cover, as examples) will need to consult the new “PCC Policy for Partial Compilations of Works by One Agent” on the NACO portion of the PCC website.

The Task Group on Identity Management in NACO gave an update on the Wikidata Pilot. The purpose of the pilot is to determine whether or not, and how, Wikidata might be used for creating name authorities. The presentation ended with a discussion (always somewhat difficult in an online environment) about the use of Wikidata in lieu of the Library of Congress Name Authority File. Executive summary: there is no unanimity on this question among PCC catalogers. Of particular note to Atla catalogers: Christa Strickler, Wheaton College, is participating in the pilot. If you have specific questions about the pilot, she should be able to answer them for you.

Robert Bremer and Cynthia Whitacre presented the OCLC update. OCLC regularly updates their processing to keep aligned with new fields and subfields, as well as obsoleted fields and subfields, in the MARC record. OCLC continues to make maintenance of records easier by adding to the list of fields that can be added by non-PCC libraries, as well as by adding the ability to modify some fields that are already in a BIBCO record. This summer, OCLC will run controlling software over all the WorldCat bibliographic records (more than 510 million). This will control all controllable headings, update headings as applicable, and apply subject heading enrichment to the records. OCLC estimates that three-quarters of all WorldCat records will be updated.

The other two PCC programs in which Atla catalogers participate are here briefly noted. SACO is open to any individual member of Atla who wishes to participate. Training is much less stringent than with NACO, since the ultimate control lies with the Library of Congress: the Library of Congress approves or disapproves of any proposed subject heading or LC classification proposal. With the continued move to linked data and the discontinued use of “multiples” subject headings, the Atla Funnels Coordinator believes that there is certainly a spot for Atla institutions to be actively involved in this area.

As for CONSER, as already noted in the first few paragraphs giving statistics, the Atla CONSER Coordinator (the only active Atla CONSER cataloger) is leaving his current position. Exactly how much he can continue to be involved in CONSER cataloging is not known; it is probable that he will not be able to do any CONSER work at all. So, the floor is open to any cataloger who wishes to begin CONSER work.

For any questions in general, or about any of the Atla funnels specifically, please feel free to contact me at richard.lammert@ctsfw.edu.