Occasional Progress Report 16 -- April 3, 2015

Hi everyone:

Here's what's been happening with 2CUL TSI. This report, along with previous updates, is also available in the Project Reports section of the TSI wiki.

In January, the TSI Joint Senior Managers Integration Network (JSMIN) compiled a working list of what we hope to accomplish in 2015, the third-year of the Mellon-funded cycle of the project. Recent progress towards these goals includes:

1. Staff in Columbia's Monographs Processing Services (MPS) have begun to use an RDA template for creating preliminary (Precat, Offprecat) records, derived from shared Cornell documentation for RDA record creation.
2. Columbia and Cornell are exchanging information about features incorporated into our respective Blacklight installations – for example, code for Columbia's virtual call number browse and Cornell's display of terms and conditions for e-resource usage.
3. Jesse Koennecke and Mark Wilson have been appointed as the technical services representatives on the new 2CUL ILS Replacement Team. This group is charged with determining institutional requirements for a next-generation ILS and to re-evaluate Alma as a potential replacement for Voyager.
4. Members of the TSI E-Resources Working Group have been jointly keeping an eye on development of Serials Solutions' Intota platform to which the vendor will be migrating its e-resource services over the coming 18 months or so. They now have access to a sandbox version of this platform.
5. Columbia has purchased and installed a new LCD panel in its technical services area in Butler to improve TSI communication (among other uses).
6. Kate Harcourt and Jim LeBlanc have conducted several in-person and remote interviews at both libraries in support of the 2CUL print serials workflow study they're conducting. They are hoping to gather a few more pieces of statistical data before writing their report this spring.
7. Joyce McDonough, Jesse, Kate, and Jim are working with collection development directors Jeff Carroll and Kizer Walker to implement guidelines for joint 2CUL negotiation with vendors.
8. Robert Rendall continues to serve as CONSER representative for both institutions and has begun relaying serials cataloging questions on behalf of Cornell to CONSER headquarters at the Library of Congress.
9. Columbia and Cornell continue to explore linked data development together, in particular the Bibliographic Framework Initiative (BIBFRAME). The two institutions are currently investigating the possibility of pursuing a Mellon grant, as 2CUL, to test the BIBFRAME model with production data.
10. Columbia has developed a method for creating searchable table-of-contents (TOC) files for CJK languages, which they have shared with Cornell.
11. The Non-MARC Metadata Working Group has compiled guidelines for an "informal consulting network" for sharing knowledge and expertise among 2CUL metadata staff. They expect this arrangement to enhance our respective metadata consultative services.
12. Several staff at both 2CUL institutions are enrolled in a six-course certification program in XML and RDF-based systems, which is offered by the Library Juice Academy. This coursework is aimed at supporting our growing interest in linked data models for cataloging.

In other news, "The Pivot: Phase 2 of 2CUL Technical Services Integration," an article by Kate and Jim on Year 2 of TSI, appears in the current issue of Collaborative Librarianship, v. 6, no. 4, pp. 160-168. The article is also available in Columbia's Academic Commons.

That's all for this time. As always, please feel free to direct questions or concerns to your supervisors or any member of the TSI Steering Committee: Adam Chandler, Kate Harcourt, Jim LeBlanc, Colleen Major, Chew Chiat Naun, or Robert Rendall.

-       Jim and Kate