BCCATS Fall meeting
Sept 22, 2016
BC Libraries Co-operative
<u>MINUTES</u>

1. Approval of agenda
--Approved as submitted

2. Amendments to the minutes of May 10 Spring meeting
--Approved as amended, pending submission of minor corrections

3. Business arising from the minutes
--None

4.1 Report from the Chair/BCCATS Awards committee
--Dedication of the Technical Services award to J. McRee (Mac) Elrod (Christy Young and Laura Elrod Trivett, guests)
Background: Recommended by Richard Violette to rename the award, based on Mac's extensive contributions to the field and long history of activism in many areas. An opportunity to highlight the contributions of cataloguing to the world at large, which feeds directly into the general provisions of the award.
Laura & Christy's remarks: Mac's passion for cataloguing has become evident to them in a way that it never was before. Some of Mac's causes: civil rights, gay rights, gay marriage, right to die, draft dodgers. But his involvement in the cataloguing community was very important to him later in life especially. The family shared many of the condolence/remembrance emails that were sent by the cataloguing community. Many thanks for the invitation.

4.2 Continuing Ed. Report
--Coordinator vacancy: Call for volunteers
Prior to the meeting, Maryann Kempthorne volunteered for the position. She has a lot of background and knowledge of CE, the previous efforts of the committee, and the needs of the community. No objections.

4.3 Reader advisory and Cataloguing: coordinating best practices (Barbara Edwards, BCLA RA Interest Group)
Samuel R. previously suggested that Reader's Advisory (RA) and cataloguing could be aligned in their efforts, particularly around popular fiction and genres. Assigning subjects and description with a blanket approach can lead to spoilers and devalue the catalogue for users (this is particularly prevalent in eBook and digital formats). Catalogue record must tempt readers without giving away the entire plot.
Barbara E. describes RA mandate as engaging readers and giving confidence that they can discover materials, and foster community. But RA is changing, particularly with more use of social media, and requests/recommendations also encompass other media such as TV and podcasts, so perhaps the R in RA is

getting to be outdated, and is more about consumers of cultural materials of all types. An RA in one day workshop is coming up on Oct 18. Samuel R. is presenting. Is there any other interdepartmental work going on between RA and TS/cataloguing?

Subject approach, identifying classes of people and plot points, many of which recur across a genre (particularly romance fiction genres), is starting to seem pointless and repetitive. More cross-genre works mean it is very difficult to add single genres as well.

Has any work been done with web/circ people around stats, to discover if changing data and adding/subtracting headings actually impacts circulations? GVPL does try and track some stats on genres.

Quality of metadata and authority control is also an issue, particularly with batch imports.

RA practice attempts to identify what appeals to certain readers: a personalized approach that may or may not translate into the world of cataloguing.

Finding common ground between the language of RA and the language of cataloguing seems to be the key issue. For example connections between materials is important in RA, often through reader preference, and is accomplished in a different way, via controlled vocabularies, in cataloguing.

As far as relating different formats to each other, Surrey Schools applies fiction headings to other formats in order to relate them to topical materials across formats. This may be an approach to lead users to other types of materials on similar topics.

K-12 has different needs because of the patron base. Cataloguing is more intensive and complete.

Q re Readers Advisory Interest Group (RAIG): is RAIG focused on non-J materials: yes. There are also value-added aspects for discovery layers eg Bibliocommons, variously integrated. Is VPL using tagging function of Bibliocommons as part of RA? Barbara E. isn't sure, but RA uses any and all information that might be available.

Action items on this definitely include getting other departments (Acquisitions, Circulation, etc.) involved in this inquiry.

4.4 SFU announcement re CUFTS and researcher (Janette McConville)

Janette M.: SFU will soon be migrating to Ex Libra from Millennium, likely May 2017. In the process of researching the migration, SFU did some analysis on the CUFTS and researcher modules, and due to the migration the software and related services will no longer be used. Hosting will cease, though some aspects will be available to outside users. Question from Samuel R.: Could this be handed off to anyone else. Answer: Janette M. isn't aware of anyone waiting to take it over. Q from Marion D.: Have other institutions sought other ERM solutions. None have. User base has decreased for CUFTS ERM in recent years. Douglas has been using Ebsco as an alternative to CUFTS, and it seems effective. Question from Maryanne K.: Other institutions seeking an alternative by July 2017. Others seem to be moving to Ebsco also.

BREAK

4.5 eBook Cataloguing practices Q&A
Naomi Lloyd from Vancouver School of Theology (VST) put forward the question. VST has no eBooks yet. New ILS (WMS) has the ability to manage eBooks with no batch editing or importing. The only records available are from OCLC and there can be no local changes to cloud-based records. So the question is which e-content providers have the best quality catalogue records. There are bigger issues when choosing a content provider than who has the best records. WMS user group might be a better source for information on managing this specific system. OCLC user groups also tend to be loud and insistent when changes need to be made. Douglas also is starting to compile data about suppliers and vendors, so they can remember when things have gone wrong.
Record sets can be downloaded from vendors directly, but this is time-consuming.
Leg library doesn't have many eBooks. Some things are circulated directly on eReaders.
Burnaby PL cataloguing has no input-- batch imports are done by Systems. They are cleaned up individually on an encounter basis. Similarly streaming audio, which has terrible authority control also.
New West PL batch edits eBooks. Staff don't have time for detailed cataloguing. Some headings will be stripped based on coding. Authorities are updated or merged on encounter basis.
Surrey schools have issues between ILS and separate digital shelf that houses eBooks.
VPL scaled down and localized after problems with Overdrive.

5. Round table reports in brief
UFV-- Posting for TS supervisor (library tech). Can also be posted to the BCCATS list.
No report from NWPL. Cynthia Ng is quite new at the job and didn't know what to report, also some TS staff are away.
Douglas College-- Authority cleanup project about to be proposed: any input from others would be helpful.
SFU-- Penny Swanson has retired, and sends her greetings to the group.

6. Workshop proposals
--Genre-based displays (Richard Violette). Presentation-style session
GVPL staff day this year yielded an idea from collections/TS staff re workshop "We've bought it: now what?" Ideas for displays going beyond the usual. Displays drilling down beyond simple keywords. ("Cozy mysteries" or things that wouldn't otherwise be picked up in a keyword search. Would this short session (about 45 minutes) be appropriate for BCCATS to put on or host at the conference. Audience would mostly be public libraries but could also interest K-12, with blended delivery from TS and public service people. Leans toward marketing the collection, as a physical display. Comes somewhat into line with the RA+TS

discussion from earlier. More cross-pollination between "front" and "back" of library functions. Side issue: collection promotion through social media. Grouping materials together in new and different ways to encourage use.
May not be a good fit for BCCATS without addressing issue of local tagging. Might need to add an element of cataloguing: "how your cataloguer helps you locate books for these displays." Also have to decide what BCCATS is. Most current members are cataloguers but BCCATS also represents collections management and acquisitions. But in order to legitimize it as a BCCATS session there would need to be a hook with cataloguing.

--Training copy cataloguers of non-Roman language materials
Arose from conversations between Samuel R. and May Chan re pro-D for cataloguers. Dilemma for libraries who catalogue/collect materials in languages that go beyond the library's bibliographic staff resources. More of a sharing/information round table workshop structure. BPL has been collecting materials in languages like Chinese, Punjabi and Farsi, which satisfies the patron and taxpayer base. Most cataloguers have no knowledge of these other languages but do okay providing catalogue records for these materials. So the idea with the workshop is to provide some skills to copy cataloguers who work with non-Roman language materials. This idea would probably appeal to BCLA, and would be targeted at cataloguing supervisors and trainers who work with copy cataloguers working in other languages. Are there statistics about which/how many libraries are collecting in other languages, and which languages? What is the format of the session? Depends on the presenters. Might be better off as a meeting or discussion between interested parties, or could at least start that way. Maybe a breakout session at Code4Lib would be a better venue to begin the conversation.

Motion that Richard V. prepare a conference proposal for BCLA conference deadline in December as discussed above. Motion carried.

Second proposal not taken to a vote. Deferred for further development.

7. BookWhere and other OCLC alternatives: field reports
Arose from online conversation. BookWhere and Z39.50 are different than using OCLC. OCLC records come in with a greater degree of control than records from Z39.50 sources. Larger conversation deferred until the next meeting.

8. Next meeting
Conference has been moved up to April for 2017. It will be in downtown Vancouver so VPL is a potential site for the next BCCATS meeting. Likely date is Tuesday, April 18.

Meeting adjourned 4:04pm.