PCC Task Group on Engagement and Broadening the PCC Community Interim Report

2018-10-15

This Task Group was constituted in June 2018 under Strategic Direction 1.1 and charged as follows:

"Reporting to the PCC Policy Committee, the Task Group on Engagement and Broadening the PCC Community is charged to investigate ways to broaden the scope of the PCC's membership, skill base, and community of practice. Consider the PCC's strengths and weaknesses as an organization, using the Values statement as a starting point."

[Read full charge]

Membership

Co-chairs:
Iman Dagher (University of California, Los Angeles)
Pat Riva (Concordia University)

Members:
Judith Cannan (PCC Secretariat)
Charlene Chou (University of Washington)
Andrew MacEwan (British Library)
Hester Marais (GAELIC South Africa NACO funnel)
Jeanette Norris (Brown University)
George Prager (NYU School of Law)
Julia Margarita Saldaña Martínez (NACO-MEXICO funnel)
Keiko Suzuki (The New School Library & Archives)
Lori Van Deman (Cedar Mill Community Libraries)

Meetings

The TG met by Zoom conference on September 17th and 27th, working together in Google docs.

The TG defined a vision of our task and brainstormed for areas of activities that could contribute to meeting the specific elements in our charge.

To gather further input into perceived barriers for participation in PCC programs, the TG would like to send out a widely distributed message inviting contributions and thoughts, from both PCC members and non-members.

Vision

Build a bridge between the PCC and other communities (including international communities) of/with similar interests to foster closer ties and increase exchange of ideas and information and ultimately initiate opportunities for cooperation and collaboration.

Consider new models of membership, attracting new members who will participate in new ways, and making it easier (reducing barriers to the participation) for underrepresented types of libraries to be active within existing programs.

Increase participation rates and levels (greater engagement) by reducing barriers to contributions and identifying areas where communication and support is needed to increase levels of engagement.

Areas for TG actions

[TG has identified these areas and ideas to be explored]

Identify communities of similar interests.

- ➢ National Libraries: IFLA National Libraries Section
- ➢ OCLC Regional Councils, such as: The Europe, Middle East and Africa (EMEA) & The Asia Pacific Regional Council (APRC)
- ➢ VIAF list of International Contributors
- ➢ ISNI Registration Agencies and Members: see http://www.isni.org/content/isni-registration-agencies and http://www.isni.org/content/isni-members
- ➢ Public libraries (and PLA)
- ➢ Library associations that reach groups of interested librarians
- ➢ More technical communities, such as Code4Lib, GitHub, Library Carpentry (https://librarycarpentry.org/)
- ➢ Publishers/vendors :
    - ○ EDItEUR https://www.editeur.org/ "the trade standards body for the global book, e-book and serials supply chains, with over 110 members in 25 countries around the world"
    - ○ See: BIC Breakfast on ISNI for some slides on initiatives at the Bibliotheque nationale de France and use cases for identification of publishers and imprints.
- ➢ Archival and manuscripts community
- ➢ Museums and galleries
- ➢ Wikidata development team

Identify non-traditional contributors and mechanisms.

- ➢ Metadata (primarily non-MARC) librarians / metadata management (batch processes / loads) librarians
- ➢ Metadata professionals working with Research management systems E.g. [FCCN PTCRIS](#)
- ➢ Independent librarians or individual cataloguers (consultants) or cataloguers working for outsourcing firms
- ➢ Mechanism for "crowd-sourcing" which allows contributions from individuals--making specific suggestions or record improvements
- ➢ PCC-trained cataloguers now working in non-PCC member institutions who want to continue to participate
- ➢ Retired catalogers: can we recommend a contribution route for retired catalogers? (could be done in different ways, maybe individual accreditation, or via a different type of funnel, or via some other route)
    - ○ This type of contribution has both advantages, but disadvantages: difficulty in keeping up, if no longer in a structure where the changes are shared. Should be considered on an individual basis, needs an accreditation method. This has been done in specific cases in the past, mainly for those who change positions and are in non-PCC institutions
    - ○ Note that LC ends up picking up the slack for any cleanup
    - ○ Practical issues of access to a database for contributions
- ➢ Archivists

Identify areas and activities of collaboration.

- ➢ Identity management
    - ○ NACO
    - ○ ISNI network
- ➢ SACO for subject and genre terms
- ➢ FAST
- ➢ Repositories & digital humanities/scholarship projects (institutional repositories, non-traditional cataloguing--metadata outreach such as controlled vocabularies)
- ➢ Linked data initiatives
- ➢ Training
- ➢ Operating a cooperative (i.e. best practices on how to cooperate among institutions)

Identify barriers that prevent or affect partnership/collaboration models with PCC and inclusion in membership of the PCC's existing programs.

- ➢ Training (i.e. insufficient training to follow standards and practices)

- ➤ Dynamic and rapidly changing standards (such as the reorganization of RDA, removal of instruction numbers, etc.)
- ➤ Working language of the PCC vs the working languages of the cataloguers (international participants), for communications and for documentation or training
- ➤ Language of contribution (e.g., currently require English language authority records)
- ➤ Technological barriers
    - ○ Availability of software needed for contributions (and uncertainty as to what software, etc. will be needed for cooperative cataloging in the near future as we transition to linked data)
    - ○ Learning curve of software
    - ○ Integration into local computing environment
- ➤ Incomplete implementation of Unicode in NAF (discouraging for cataloguers working with non-Latin scripts)
- ➤ Financial resources
    - ○ for tools (RDA Toolkit, Cataloger's Desktop)
    - ○ for professional development (training sessions, conferences)
- ➤ Human resources
    - ○ Time availability for participation and contributions
    - ○ Availability of expertise locally
- ➤ PCC requirements (who can join; responsibilities) ; for library directors
- ➤ Consider categories of membership that are not based on record contribution via one of the four existing PCC programs
    - ○ Affiliation for the purpose of participating in PCC standards development work

Make PCC more visible to other communities.

- ➤ Create new Liaison positions, e.g. liaison to IFLA Cataloguing Section
- ➤ Distribute the quarterly PCC bulletin outside the PCC, to a list of contacts from various communities, associations, interested parties
- ➤ Make use of some of the listservs [such as AUTOCAT, RDA-L and CATSMAIL and others] that reach large numbers of non PCC communities to inform and announce about PCC activities
- ➤ Use existing PCC meetings (such as PCC Operations Committee Meeting (OpCo) in May, the PCC trainers meetings, PCC meetings at ALA) as a venue to invite representatives/liaisons from other communities to learn about our activities; and/or to host presentations about their activities
    - ○ if travel is a burden, consider podcasting for some part of the program
    - ○ explore parties who can sponsor travel expenses

- - need to consider the size of meeting venues, as larger rooms can be expensive in DC
- ➢ Forming a PCC standing committee/group on outreach
  - to continue to carry out ongoing outreach
  - liaison activities with relevant library associations or other cooperative cataloguing endeavours
  - promote PCC activities as well as generally promoting bibliographic control and metadata standards to a broader community
- ➢ Communities to consider for outreach, for instance:
  - SAA (Society of American Archivists) & International Council on Archives
  - IIIF (International Image Interoperability Framework): enabling richer access to the world's images: community focused; defined APIs and plug 'n' play software
  - Liaisons with local/regional associations, e.g. Library and Information Association of South Africa (LIASA), Namibian Information Workers Association, EURIG, etc.
  - Additionally to PCC ISNI Pilot - explore collaborations with other sectors represented in ISNI; national libraries in ISNI
  - Archival SNAC (Social Networks and Archival Context) community -- modelled on PCC!
  - Alliance of Digital Humanities Organizations (ADHO) & IFLA DH/DS Special Interest Group
- ➢ Presenting at/working with PLA (Public Library Association) (and other library organizations where many cataloging staff may be part-timers) in a path to training, appropriate authorizations, review mechanism, etc., for NACO Lite, SACO Lite? Creating practical path to participation that doesn't require as much support from institutions