

Members Council February 2003

Library Group

Discussion Summary Report

Name of Group Government and Special Libraries

Recorder Larry Olszewski

1. Summary of topics & discussions

1) Unauthorized use of cataloging records

- Questions:
 - a) Are the records copyrighted and can they be identified as such?
 - b) Should OCLC compete against the violators?
 - c) Will taking action undermine OCLC's effect in the international community
- Recommendations:
 - a) Explore establishing partnerships with ILS vendors
 - b) Maybe a small amount is all right; decide what that amount might be
 - c) Vendors will need to license from OCLC to do this
 - d) OCLC should identify a need in the marketplace and then fill it
 - e) If it is indeed a legal issue, then deal with it as such
 - f) In favor of a MC resolution

2) Library environment

- Market research is very helpful
- OCLC needs to address the needs of special libraries and to get its message out to them
- OCLC should assist special libraries in moving toward the virtual library
- The committee is willing to share trends in special libraries with OCLC management

3) Pricing

- a. there may be a decline in cataloging, but there is also a rise in metadata OCLC should develop a toolkit for ontologies
- b. eBooks: bundling is a disincentive; need to purchase a la carte; a broader selection in reference tools is needed
- c. non-MARC records should be added, but priced differently, maybe as a credit
- d. a big need for affordable digitization services

General pricing concerns:

1. Special librarians want known, predictable, negotiated costs ahead of time
2. Differential pricing is satisfactory in the interest of the cooperative

2. List **3-4 significant issues** that the group wants to communicate to Members Council and OCLC.

- 1) Role in institutional Information management/ontology operations
- 2) Standards
- 3) Globalization, expansion of membership
- 4) Trends

3. Remembering that OCLC's role is to be the leading global library cooperative, which of the issues in #2 are most urgent and why?

- 1) The description of information management/ontology. In addition to managing an ever-widening range of materials, libraries are contributing to and leading development of institutional information architecture and information management systems, including standards and tools such as metadata schema, ontologies, taxonomies, and thesauri.
- 2) Globalization: need to expand cooperative

4. Please indicate if the group feels that an issue or presentation should be presented to the full Council.

Integration of functions of OCLC products

