

Members Council February 2003
Library Group
Discussion Summary Report

Name of Group: Large Research Libraries II

Recorder: Lori Saviers

Chair: Sue Phillips

1. Summary of topics & discussions

- Review of key activities in the Office of Research
- Metadata harvesting of digital images by OCLC
- Unauthorized use of OCLC-derived cataloging records

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

The group discussed OCLC's role in capturing metadata, and raised to following issues:

- **Should OCLC provide harvesting services for metadata, and if so – what would be the economic model?**
 - Would it be sustainable?
 - Should harvesting occur at the collection record level or the item record level?
 - Should all or some part of the harvested metadata be added to WorldCat?
 - If the harvested metadata were to reside in a separate file, what should be the relationship between that file and WorldCat?

The group discussed responses to the issue of unauthorized use of OCLC-derived records, and recommended the following actions:

- **Improve product offerings to provide better solutions for non-members** (much of the discussion focused on small libraries, but it was agreed that *all* non-members could benefit from):
 - More active sales of the cataloging services by the regional networks
 - "Better" pricing structures
 - Easier functionality
 - Less complex legal agreements – our legal agreement is often a barrier for new libraries
- **Provide the contact information for suppliers of MARC records to the membership, along with language for a letter/message requesting removal of the library OPAC from their lists of Z39.50 targets.**
- **Educate libraries on how to "close the back door" with technical solutions**

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?

Providing product offerings tailored to meet the needs of small libraries who currently find pricing and contracting issues to be out of reach.

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

No issue to be presented to the full Council was identified.