

# The Wiki world comes to WorldCat

A new OCLC pilot will let students, faculty, researchers, *anyone*, add reviews, recommendations and tables of contents to WorldCat

BY SHARON RAMSAY

**H**AVE YOU EVER LOOKED AT A RECORD in WorldCat and wished that you could add comments? Did you ever wish you could see what others thought about a record in WorldCat without having to go somewhere else to find out?

Soon you will be able to add your comments, see comments by others and add or edit other information you know about the record. Thanks to the WikiD work being done by OCLC Research, OCLC plans to add the ability to add and edit content to WorldCat records in the form of Wikis. A Wiki is a simple online database that enables documents to be written collectively.

No, this doesn't turn everyone into catalogers and the content is not added to the WorldCat bibliographic record. This Wiki content will be displayed with the record and users will be able to add additional content or edit existing content (other than reviews).

OCLC will first offer this service through Open

WorldCat and later expand the service to the WorldCat database in FirstSearch. Beyond FirstSearch, Wikis could be added to other professional services, such as resource sharing and collection analysis, to give information professionals a direct way to recommend changes to local or WorldCat cataloging records.

This is a way to extend the OCLC cataloging cooperative to include noncataloging library professionals and users. This service will help member libraries encourage, solicit and manage input from their local user communities, creating interest in their library content. Benefits of the cooperative approach through OCLC allows each member to have access to the entire membership's content and creates a sense of community within WorldCat.

We look forward to hearing from you as we begin this exciting journey. Just think of all the valuable content that can be added to WorldCat—and you and your users can help do it!