Small Group Feedback Session: Linked Open Data
Presented by Vice Presidents Jim Michalko and Robin Murray

Following the presentation, delegates were asked to comment on the following three questions:

1. What Opportunities do you see for libraries and OCLC in Linked Data?
2. How well does the approach support these opportunities?
3. MOST IMPORTANTLY – The board is seeking explicit advice regarding the Open Data License recommendation from Global Council. In particular is this an implementation step consistent with the approved community norms? – either provide this or propose a mechanism to achieve this.

COMMENTS RECEIVED AND CATEGORIZED

Business model implications for OCLC:
- There are clearly opportunities, but there appear to be significant implications to the business model for OCLC (WMS)
- Is the business model sustainable?
- Threats:
  - (Institutions Repositories) – ability to suppress data that is in WorldCat but non-exposure may be required
  - Loss of revenue
- We need to ensure we are building value for our users
- Appropriate balance between protection and openness need to be more open but also protect business model
- Care must be taken to preserve/protect OCLC’s business model

The Cooperative:
- We firmly support the proposal
- Are there implications for privacy of user data?
- License does seem to be consistent with community norms
- Opportunities:
  - This should lead to more usage/exposure of WorldCat and
  - keep WorldCat more valuable (because of broader use and access)
  - Want authoritative linking
- Comfortable with OCLC going ahead, because we trust OCLC
- Libraries can do what they want with their own records
- Consistent with OCLC Direction initiated with the Revised Records Use Policy and supported by the Global Council itself
- Enables OCLC to accord with the directions and mood of the wider community
Any small library could use records over three years with expectation that those libraries would upload all their content back to the cooperative
- It would demonstrate OCLC adoption of an international standard rather than a proprietary approach
- Recommend consultations with members and wider community similar to that undertaken for the RUP <Record Use Policy> (need FAQ and examples)
- Setup a technical committee including Global Council Membership

**Communications:**
- We need some scenarios developed
- We need more explanation and more examples to clarify the commercial reuse piece
- Give us examples that would impact viability of the cooperative
- We want to be kept in the loop as they move forward - - if there are any unintended consequences - - keep us in the know
- Take the presentation and display it as a web presentation; include cases and more background information - - then people can comment to the Board
- Communications office should be included in shaping materials distributed to the membership
- Absolutely must do additional discussion beyond Global Council
- Identify opinion leaders, e.g. ARL Directors, Big Heads of Tech Services, public library equivalents
- Encourages innovation
- For WorldCat in entirety to be available to non-members, becomes a transactional relationship via WorldShare Platform - - we see this as beneficial to libraries and global cooperative
- Think it will be seen as a good thing especially if explained properly
- Becoming permeable and supporting opportunity not yet conceived
- Publicize “presumption of use” in big picture of risk assessment - - more good things will happen than bad things

**Additional Questions/Issues to be addressed:**
- Can you re-use the records that you haven’t created?
- How do you meter this?
- Do we subsidize some that don’t “harm” the cooperative?
- CC-BY or ODC-BY are both acceptable
- Show how – exposing WorldCat to those who want to use it encourages members to contribute and make metadata, holdings, etc. to WorldCat
- Explain mechanics of attaching and or linking WorldCat data to licenses
- Need for explicit bilateral agreement
- Could WorldCat evolve beyond MARC to incorporate GLAM
- Who does what? It depends on who is releasing/publishing datasets (by OCLC, by member)
- Put WorldCat out as an information source used in Wikipedia, etc.