



The RLG Partnership and OCLC Programs and Research Annual Highlights July 2007- June 2008

This is a brief set of highlights for the RLG Partnership and OCLC Programs and Research during the period July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008. In the course of the year, hundreds of staff from RLG Partner and other institutions invested their time, effort, thought and expertise across a broad range of activities described in our [Work Agenda](#). Those colleagues hosted us when we visited, responded when we sent out surveys, shared their good advice and gave us strong direction at every opportunity.

The RLG Partnership benefited from the eager willingness of the community at large to maximize our efforts and help increase the impact of our work. Nearly 100 presentations about our work were given to audiences around the world; we also blogged, chatted, linked up and twittered with colleagues about our efforts and were rewarded with continuing dialogs and engaged new colleagues.

With the new year already underway, we wanted to pause for a moment to report progress in a wide range of arenas. Here are just some of the highlights of a very productive year for us all.

Welcomed 5 New RLG Programs Partners

- University of Miami (June 2007)
- Arizona State University (August 2007)
- University of Arizona (October 2007)
- University of Maryland (January 2008)
- California Institute of Technology (March 2008)

Created Resources for Partnership Use

- [Public/Private Mass Digitization Agreements](#)
- [Conducting Your Own LAM Workshop](#)
- [Metadata Tools Forum Outputs](#)

Supported Partnership Working Groups

- [Shared Print Collections Working Group](#)
- [Deaccessioning E-Journal Print Backfiles Working Group](#)
- [Museum Collections Sharing Working Group](#)
- [Implications of MARC Tag Usage on Library Metadata Practices Working Group](#)

Completed Work Agenda Projects

(See the full [Work Agenda](#) online.)

- [Commissioned a Report Synthesizing the Existing State of the Art in Offsite Storage Provision and Organizational Structure](#) [pdf]
- [Built on the work of the North American Storage Trust \(NAST\)](#)
- [Completed Mass Digitization and Partnership Agreements](#)
- [Prepared Collection Analysis of Four Art Libraries as Intelligence for Collaborative Agreements](#)
- [Established a Baseline Understanding of Metadata Practices](#)
- [Betatested WorldCat Identities](#)
- [Contributed to the Development of an OCLC Registry of Copyright Evidence](#)

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Published Articles About Our Work

2008

Lavoie, Brian. June 2008. "[PREMIS With a Fresh Coat of Paint: Highlights from the Revision of the PREMIS Data Dictionary for Preservation Metadata](#)." *D-LIB Magazine*, 14 (5/6)

Erway, Ricky. May 2008. "[Seeking Sustainability](#)" [pdf].

Lavoie, Brian, and Günter Waibel. May 2008. "[An Art Resource in New York: The Collective Collection of the NYARC Art Museum Libraries](#)" [pdf].

Dempsey, Lorcan. April 2008. "[Reconfiguring the Library Systems Environment](#)" [pdf]. portal: Libraries and the Academy, 8, 2 (April).

Beagrie, Neil, Julia Chruszcz, and Brian Lavoie. April 2008. "[Keeping Research Data Safe: A Cost Model and Guidance for UK Universities](#)" [pdf]. Prepared by Charles Beagrie Limited. Funded by the Joint Information Systems Committee.

MacColl, John. April 2008. "[Research Libraries and the Power of the Co-operative](#)." *Ariadne*, 55 (April).

Proffitt, Merrilee, Arnold Arcolio, and Constance Malpas. March 2008. "[Copyright Investigation Summary Report](#)" [pdf].

Godby, Carol Jean, Devon Smith, and Eric R. Childress. March 2008. "[Toward Element-level Interoperability in Bibliographic Metadata](#)." *The Code4Lib Journal*, 2 (2008-03-24).

Lavoie, Brian. March 2008. "[The Fifth Blackbird: Some Thoughts on Economically Sustainable Digital Preservation](#)." *D-Lib Magazine*, 14, 3/4 (March/April).

Lavoie, Brian, and Günter Waibel. 2008. "[An 'Artful' Analysis of the Rich Holdings of Four Museum Libraries](#)." *NextSpace*, 8 (February).

Godby, Jean, and Günter Waibel. January 2008. "[MCN 2007](#)." *Ariadne*, 54 (January).

2007

Smith-Yoshimura, Karen. November 2007. "[RLG Programs Descriptive Metadata Practices Survey Results](#)" [pdf].

Smith-Yoshimura, Karen and Diane Cellentani. November 2007. "[RLG Programs Descriptive Metadata Practices Survey Results: Data Supplement](#)" [pdf].

Kaufman, Peter and Jeff Ubois. November 2007. "[Good Terms—Improving Commercial-Noncommercial Partnerships for Mass Digitization: A Report Prepared by Intelligent Television for RLG Programs, OCLC Programs and Research](#)." *D-Lib Magazine*, 13, 11/12.

Payne, Lizanne. November 2007. "[Library Storage Facilities and the Future of Print Collections in North America](#)" [pdf].

Connaway, Lynn Silipigni. 2007. "Mountains, Valleys, and Pathways: Serials Users' Needs and Steps to Meet Them. Part I: Identifying serials users' needs: Preliminary analysis of focus group and semi-structured interviews at colleges and universities." *Serials Librarian*, 52, 1/2: 223-236.

Erway, Ricky, and Jennifer Schaffner. October 2007. "[Shifting Gears: Gearing Up to Get Into the Flow](#)" [pdf].

Dempsey, Lorcan. October 2007. "[The History of Libraries in Modern 'Britain and Ireland'](#)." *Ariadne*, 53 (October). [Review of Alistair Black and Peter Hoare (eds). 2006. *The Cambridge History of Libraries in Britain and Ireland*. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press. Volume III, 1850-2000. ISBN-13: 978-0-521-78097-1.]

Childress, Eric, and Jeff Young. 2007. "[Exploring the Potential of Registries](#)." *NextSpace*, no.7 (August 2007) 18-19.

Vizine-Goetz, Diane, and J.D. Shipengrover. 2007. "[It's Cloudy In Research, But With Little Chance Of Rain](#)." Tips and Tricks, *NextSpace*, no. 7 (August 2007) 15.

Waibel, Günter. 2007. "Stewardship for Digital Images in Museums: Preserving your Assets, Preserving your Investment." in *The Digital Museum: A Think Guide*, ed. Phyllis Hecht and Herminia Din (American Association of Museums).

Connaway, Lynn Silipigni, and Marie L. Radford. 2007. "[The Thrill of the Chase in Cyberspace: A Report of Focus Groups with Live Chat Librarians](#)." Guest Forum, *Informed Librarian Online* (January).

Prototyped Services and Enhanced Tools

[Audience Level](#) refreshed and re-released

- [Information page](#)

[DeweyBrowser](#), beta version 2.0 released

- [Information page](#)

Museum Data Exchange

- [OCLC press release](#)

[OCLC Global Library and Museum Manifestation Identifier](#) (Glimmr) and other identifier conceptualization work

- Programs and Research staff have contributed to internal and external work.

Persistent Uniform Resource Locators (PURLS)

- OCLC to work with Zepheira to redesign OCLC's PURL service
- [OCLC press release](#)

[Tag Cloud Builder](#) beta version 1.0 released

[Terminology Services](#) – Programs and Research staff amplified on a deep and continuing commitment by OCLC Research to develop Web-based services for controlled vocabularies.

[Virtual International Authority File](#) (VIAF) - Building on previous work by OCLC Research, the Deutsche Nationalbibliothek and the Library of Congress, VIAF was expanded to include participation by the Bibliothèque nationale de France

- [OCLC press release](#)

[WorldMap](#) refreshed and re-released

Added 4 New Staff Members

- Jennifer Schaffner, Program Officer, RLG Programs (San Mateo, CA) – August 2007
- Melissa Renspie, Sr. Communications Officer, RLG Programs (Dublin, OH) – October 2007
- John MacColl, Director, Europe, RLG Programs (St. Andrews, Scotland) – November 2007
- Timothy Dickey, Post Doctoral Researcher, OCLC Research (Dublin, OH) – November 2007

Contributed to OCLC Services Development

[OCLC Crosswalk Service](#) – metadata translation approach originated and original code developed by OCLC Research; significant ongoing support for service that is critical to OCLC's ability to make metadata handling from many sources web scale in scope and volume.

[OCLC Developers Network](#) [pdf] – Programs and Research staff were instrumental in helping to organize and launch this new initiative, in which a community of developers collaborate in a “sandbox” environment in order to purpose, discuss and test WorldCat Grid Services.

- One output from this was the January launch of [WorldCat API](#), a pilot system for searching WorldCat bibliographic data that is now available to more than a dozen institutions. It is scheduled to be made generally available as a production system in August 2008.

[Registry of Copyright Evidence](#) – Programs and Research staff and RLG Partner institutions contributed time and expertise to initial design and data work to support development of this new service which builds on OCLC's commitment to [registries](#) as a basis for effective Web services.

WorldCat & [WorldCat Local](#) – Programs and Research staff contributed significant time and expertise to [usability testing](#) and helping product staff plan new features for the popular WorldCat Local service.

[WorldCat-CBS synchronization](#) – Programs and Research staff were instrumental in the successful installation of new software that uses SRU update to synchronize the Dutch Union catalog with WorldCat.

[WorldCat Identities](#) – Programs and Research staff helped release a production version as part of enhancement to [WorldCat.org](#) (see Lorcan Dempsey's [blog entry](#) for more information).

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Collaborated in Community Activities

- Analyzed collection use in the OhioLINK Library Consortium – The OhioLINK Collection Building Taskforce has partnered with OCLC Research to conduct a study that compares circulation data to the book collections of OhioLINK libraries. (O'Neill)
- "[Next Generation Digital Federations: Adding Value through Collection Evaluation, Metadata Relations, and Strategic Scaling](#)" [pdf] – Worked with the Principal Investigator to coordinate complementary IMLS, DCC and OCLC metadata work. More information about this work is available [here](#). (Godby)
- "[Seeking Synchronicity: Evaluating Virtual Reference Services from User, Non-User, and Librarian Perspectives](#)" – IMLS-funded project with in-kind contribution from Rutgers & OCLC Research. (Connaway)
- National Science Foundation and Digital Futures Alliance – led the proposal development team at University of Washington for the NSF DataNet solicitation. See [blog posting](#) for more information. (Weibel)
- Administered [OCLC/ALISE Library & Information Science Research Grant Program](#) (LISRGP). (Connaway)
- Provided data in support of improved user experiences with searching and retrieving information based primarily on bibliographic data for 19th century materials by [Leiden Institute of Advanced Computer Science](#) (LIACS) at Universiteit Leiden.
- Provided data in support of IMLS Leadership Grant-funded "[Research and Development of FRBR-Based Systems to Effectively Support User Tasks and Facilitate Information Seeking](#)" project by Kent State University School of Library & Information Science.
- Provided specialized versions of DDC 22 and DDC Abridged 14 to the the [Enhanced Tagging for Discovery \(EnTag\)](#) project (UKOLN) and [High-Level Thesaurus \(HILT\)](#) project (University of Strathclyde).

Advanced Community Standards

- American Library Association, Committee on Accreditation (Connaway)
- Association of College and Research Libraries, Rare Books and Manuscripts Section, Digitization of Special Collections Task Force (Proffitt)
- Association of Research Libraries, Special Collections Working Group (Michalko)
- Association of Research Libraries, Task Force on Digital Repository Issues (Lavoie)
- Canada Institute for Scientific and Technical Information Advisory Board (Dempsey)
- Cataloging Cultural Objects (Waibel)
- Categories for the Descriptions of Work of Art Lite (Waibel, Washburn)
- Dublin Core Metadata Initiative (Childress, Weibel)
- Encoded Archival Context of People, Families and Corporations. (International working group, closely aligned with the International Council of Archives standard ISAAR) (Schaffner)
- International Standards Organization, Technical Committee 46 (Gatenby)
- Library of Congress, Encoded Archival Description Working Group (Proffitt)
- Library of Congress, Working Group on the Future of Bibliographic Control (Dempsey)
- National Science Foundation Blue Ribbon Panel on Sustainable Models for Digital Information Preservation and Access (Lavoie co-chair)
- National Information Standards Organization Board of Directors (Dempsey)
- Networked Digital Library of Theses and Dissertations Board of Directors (Hickey)
- Open Archives Initiative - Object Exchange and Reuse Advisory Committee (Dempsey)
- Open Archives Initiative - Object Exchange and Reuse Technical Committee (Young)
- Organization for the Advancement of Structured Information Standards - Search Web Services Technical Committee (Gatenby, LeVan)
- Preservation Metadata (PREMIS) Editorial Committee (Lavoie)

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Expanded RLG Programs Partner Communications

- Launched [RLG-Announce-L listserv](#) (July 2007)
- Transitioned RLG.org to OCLC.org; decommissioned RLG site (September 2007)
- Launched [Programs and Research publications program](#) (September 2007)
- Launched [PARcast](#) series (podcast interviews and webinars) (January 2008)
- Held RLG Program Council Elections (Voting Period: June 11 through June 26, 2008)

Held Partnership Meetings and Events

- [RLG Programs at ALA Annual](#)
Anaheim – June 2008
- [2008 Annual Partners Meeting](#)
Philadelphia – June 2008
- [Metadata Tools Forum](#)
Boston Public Library – May 2008
- [RLG Programs Meetings at ARLIS/NA 2008](#)
Denver, Colorado – May 2008
- [RLG Programs Meetings at ALA Midwinter](#)
Philadelphia – January 2008
- [Collections Management Summit](#)
University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia – November 2007
- [SHARES Meeting](#)
University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia – November 2007
- [Terminologies Services](#)
Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York – September 2007
- Partner Forum: [Digitization matters: Breaking through the barriers—scaling up digitization of special collections](#)
Newberry Library, Chicago – August 2007

Blogged About Our Activities

[Lorcan Dempsey's Weblog](#)

A look at libraries, services and networks from OCLC's Chief Strategist and Vice President, Programs and Research.

[Hanging Together](#)

A place where [staff](#) at [RLG Programs](#) talk about the intersections we see happening between libraries, archives and museums. We travel to our partners a lot and go to conferences and take note of the interesting things we see along the way. Stop in, stay awhile, and hang out.

[Outgoing](#)

Thom Hickey, Chief Scientist for OCLC Research, covering library metadata techniques and trends.

[Weibel Lines](#)

Stuart Weibel, Senior Research Scientist for OCLC Research, featuring ruminations on libraries and Internet standards.

[025.431: The Dewey blog](#)

News and views on classification issues, interesting and unusual DDC resources, and a means to provide ongoing feedback to help shape the DDC's future.

[It's all good](#)

Five OCLC staff (including one from Research) who share personal, unvetted reflections on issues and news that impact libraries and their users—informed by their proximity to the center of the WorldCat universe.