Technical Services

Michael Bradford, Harvard Library, Acting Secretary

MEMBERS PRESENT

Since this was an online meeting open to any interested individual, attendance was not taken.

AGENDA

1) Reports
2) Updates on Atla Funnels
3) Online Conversations via Video Conferencing
4) Election of Steering Committee Members
5) Open Discussion on Suggestions for Next Year's Conference

REPORTS

Theology Cataloging Bulletin (TCB) Update

Christa Strickler (Wheaton College) will be taking over Ann Heinrich's roles of providing lists of "New and Changed LC Subject Headings and Other Terms" and "New and Changed LC Classification Numbers." The new *TCB* editor, Cindy Snell (Columbia International University), was unable to attend this meeting. Christa reported conversations among the editorial board that hope to broaden *TCB*'s audience to include not just catalogers but a range of technical services folks.

Report on CC:DA

Donna Wells (Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary) gave an introduction to what the CC:DA (ALA Committee on Cataloging: Description and Access) does. Donna serves as Atla Liaison to the committee, which is a nonvoting position. The committee typically meets at ALA Annual and Midwinter. Because ALA Annual was

virtual this year, the meetings will be virtual as well, beginning in July.

REPORT ON THE ATLA FUNNELS (NACO/SACO/CONSER)

Richard Lammert (Concordia Theological Seminary) reported that the SACO Funnel now has two active members and, in the last Atla year, produced ten new LC subject headings. Michael Bradford (Harvard University) reported the CONSER Funnel statistics for the current LC fiscal year to date.

ONLINE CONVERSATIONS (CARRY-OVER FROM LAST YEAR'S MEETING)

It was discussed and recommended that any online discussions not just replace the Tuesday evening discussions but also possibly provide an ongoing quarterly discussion throughout the year via Zoom meetings.

Leslie Engelson suggested that a useful topic would be how our areas in the library are dealing with COVID-19—a prescient topic. Betsy Polakowski likes that this is an accessible and no-cost way of keeping up-to-date with what the TSIG is doing, especially for folks who don't have the support to attend Atla Annual. She also suggested possibly an option to have a computer in the room during the in-person meetings at the annual conferences. John Thompson suggested broadening the conversations beyond cataloging. Folks in smaller institutions wear multiple hats and "cataloging" people often work in areas beyond cataloging.

TSIG STEERING COMMITTEE ELECTIONS

Richard Lammert (Concordia Theological Seminary) reported that two Steering Committee members are cycling off (Ondrea Murphy and Ann Heinrichs). He placed a notice in the latest *TCB* but got no nibbles. He asked for interested volunteers to run for election, but there were none at the Annual. A few attendees expressed interest and asked questions regarding time commitments. The Steering Committee can meet separately and appoint members in lieu of an election at the business meeting.

SUGGESTIONS FOR TOPICS TO BE PRESENTED AT NEXT CONFERENCE (OPEN DISCUSSION)

- John Thompson – Impact of the use of discovery systems on the work of catalogers (Koha was given as an example).
- Leslie Engelson – Best practices for customizing and implementing discovery layers.
- Ellen Frost – There are two library schools in the Fort Worth area (University of North Texas and Texas Woman's University, both in Denton). Perhaps we can reach out to someone there to make a presentation at Annual.
- Armin Siedlecki – RDA update 3R will have been in place for several months; its impact on our work would be a suitable topic.
- Christa Strickler – Organizational structures/delineation of tasks within technical services departments. What works and what doesn't work?
- Andrew Kosmowski – Institutions creating their own subject headings that are too specific for LCSH (650 _7 $2).
- Richard Lammert – How can we mesh this with the SACO funnel and getting subject headings established in LCSH for everyone to use, not just the local institution?
- John Thompson: Providing access to e-book Bible commentaries where e-book vendors don't provide good/any subject headings that are relevant to the individual books/verses of the Bible.

OTHER

- Ellen Frost brought up in chat: "WRIG is interested in working with TSIG to develop a list of catalogers who are language proficient and may be able to help with cataloging in various languages related to world religions. Are we interested in putting a list like this together?" There was no objection; Richard Lammert will follow up on the TSIG list.
- Additional information from the chat: To join the electronic discussion lists for the TSIG or for Alma users, send an email to connect@atla.com; Atla Staff will add you.

2019–20 GROUP: [pictured, left to right] Richard Lammert, Donna Wells, Betsy Polakowski, Stephen Spencer, Alice Runis, Christa Strickler, Andrew Kosmowski, John Thompson, Seth Miskimins, Armin Siedlecki, Leslie Engelson, Brinna Michael, Becky Givens, Michael Bradford, Ellen Frost