

able speed. For another, one hesitates to trust the design of such a complex system to library systems people who currently cannot figure out how to provide access to authority records for users who do keyword-in-record searches within a single file. (No current online catalog software can do this.) For “semantic interoperability” to work without confusion to the user, it is essential that the user’s preferred form for a sought author, work, or subject appear everywhere that author, work, or subject is identified for selection by the user or offered as an ostensible match for his or her search, whether it be in single record displays, multiple-record displays, or heading displays. That would require complex software design indeed, especially if the user’s preferred form is being drawn from an authority record across the world from the catalog being searched!

In the meantime, LC action plan 2.1 is to “define requirements for a common interface for searching, retrieving, and sorting across a range of discovery tools.” If the resultant interface does not find and display together the editions of a work, the works of an author, or the works on a subject, we will wind up with “portals” that cost a good deal more money than Web search engines and don’t provide any added value. Educated users would be likely to prefer the catalog (if it is still available for searching separately) to such a portal because of the catalog’s greater precision and predictability.

Other notable developments at the Bicentennial Conference include the recommendation that LC make the Library of Congress Classification and Library of Congress Subject Headings available at no cost on the Internet (which is now LC action plan 2.5). Sally McCallum provides a valuable delineation of the principles behind MARC and a clear explication of the issues involved in a possible future migration of our bibliographic

data from MARC to XML. Thomas Mann supplies his usual clear-headed description of the myriad ways in which heading displays that include syndetic structure (cross references) drawn from authority files help users and reference librarians navigate through the catalog; as always, he provides many concrete and illustrative examples of real research questions posed to real catalogs. He also includes a delightful discussion on the importance of seams.

And finally, discussion group 4A recommends that systems work out methods to separate records at the global level but combine them for display at the local level, in order to solve the multiple versions problem in a way that supports our current methods of sharing cataloging and at the same time helps catalog users select among all the available manifestations of a particular expression of a work. Accordingly, LC action plan 2.4 is to “define functional requirements for systems that can manage separate records for related manifestations at the global level and consolidate them for display at the local level.” As chair of a CC:DA task force that recommended that AACR2 solve the multiple versions/Rule 0.24 problem as a record-display problem without regard to the number of separate records that actually underlie the display (similar to Melissa Bernhardt’s 1988 recommendations for the solution of problems users have with successively entered serials), I find this action plan from LC most encouraging.

Discussion group 4A also recommends that AACR2 and MARC 21 be restructured to support display of hierarchical relationships between records for a work, its expressions, and its manifestations, which LC has adopted as action plan 3.4. Panizzi lives!—*Martha M. Yee (myee@ucla.edu), UCLA Film and Television Archive, Los Angeles*

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**Sorting Out the Web: Approaches to Subject Access.** By Candy Schwartz. Westport, Conn.: Ablex, 2001. 169p. \$32.95 paper, (ISBN 1-56750-519-8); \$72.50 hardcover, (ISBN 1-56750-518-X). LC 00-22370.

The World Wide Web has been compared to a library where all the books are in a pile on the floor. Librarians have long sought ways to bring the Web, or at least parts of it, under the same kinds of bibliographic control that they have for their print collections. Schwartz presents an overview of the various methods that are available and in use today for providing subject access to material on the Web. The first area she considers is metadata. This chapter is a valuable survey of various metadata projects and how they relate to one another. In the chapter on classification, she begins with a bit of classification theory and then describes and analyzes a number of projects that organize Web resources according to various classification schemes. While the use of classification to organize information appeals to a librarian’s sensibilities, it can be a labor-intensive

process; most projects are limited to a relatively small set of resources. The same can be said for the use of controlled vocabularies, such as Library of Congress subject headings, which are treated in the next chapter. Another chapter is devoted to search engines, probably the most commonly used method of searching the Web. Schwartz describes and evaluates the various kinds of search engines that are available, including metaengines. A sign of how quickly a book in this field can become dated is that there is no mention of Google, which has rapidly become one of the most popular search engines. In the final chapter, Schwartz looks to the future and considers the possibilities of machine-aided indexing, automated text processing, text mining, and visualization.

This book is most useful as an overview and an update on subject access to the Web. The focus is not so much on original scholarship as on synthesis of various trends and developments. In the end, it is clear that we are far from achieving truly satisfactory subject access to the Web. The more structured methods, such as metadata or classification, require too much intellectual effort to be applied comprehensively, and the more comprehensive methods, such as search engines, have too little structure for really precise scholarly research.

Each chapter includes a review of the research related to various approaches to subject access. Though a multitude of projects for providing subject access to the Web are cataloged and described, this is not a how-to book. Of course, as with any book of this nature, it started becoming dated almost as soon as it appeared. Each chapter is accompanied by a list of references as well as the URL of a Web page that the author maintains for each chapter on her Web site at Simmons. She promises in the introduction to maintain these Web pages throughout her working life, but the

server address has changed already (there is an automatic redirect), and the individual file names are no longer valid. In some cases, but not always, the appropriate page can be deduced from links on her homepage. The text is accompanied by numerous illustrations, including screen shots, and author and subject indexes are included.—*John Hostage (hostage@law.harvard.edu), Harvard Law School Library, Cambridge, Mass.*

**Copyright in Cyberspace: Questions and Answers for Librarians.** By Gretchen McCord Hoffmann. New York: Neal-Schuman, 2001. 264p. \$55 (ISBN 1-55570-410-7). LC 00-67869.

Recent changes in the copyright laws intended to accommodate the ongoing proliferation of electronic resources require that librarians reeducate themselves in this important area to appreciate its impact on the delivery of library services. The author, who has experience as a reference librarian as well as a recently earned law degree, is associated with a large law firm with a significant intellectual-property practice. She approaches the problems to be considered by developing what is essentially a reference work, using the popular question-and-answer format typical of works on law-related subjects intended for the layman or the occasional legal practitioner. While the overall arrangement of the book is intended to allow use as a quick reference on specific topics, it is written in a style that is also adapted to cover-to-cover reading.

Hoffmann does an excellent job of answering questions that are likely to be uppermost in librarians' minds concerning application of the copyright laws to online information, specifically the fair-use concept and liability for Web content. She also considers in some depth the difficulties posed by interlibrary loan and other forms of resource sharing, including download-

ing from the Web, printing rights, problems presented by hyperlinks on local Web pages, and the public display and performance of audio and video on the Internet. Hoffmann also examines trademark law and the use of words and symbols as logos, links, and in metatags on Web sites.

The question-and-answer format works best for specific answers to fairly narrow inquiries—that is, when one wants a quick reference guide rather than a comprehensive, detailed treatise. Much of Hoffmann's subject fits this format well; however, the limitations of the method become apparent in expository passages on the origins and nature of copyright where a general question is used to introduce a wealth of specific material that might not be expected to have flowed from the question. Frequently, in situations where a fairly lengthy text answer to a general question is presented, Hoffmann provides special Q&A boxes to address subquestions suggested by the main question. These questions within a question are helpful and are usually specifically library-oriented inquiries with practical and understandable answers. This approach does not completely make up for the book's only major shortcoming, the overly general nature of its index. As it is for any reference work, the key to its usefulness is the reader's ability to go quickly to exactly what he or she is seeking. The table of contents is very good, including each main question and numerous subheadings from the answers, but a more comprehensive index, given the generalized nature of a fair number of the questions, would have been helpful in ensuring efficient usefulness of the book.

The first part of the book contains an excellent short history of copyright laws in the United States with reference to the British legal tradition from which United States copyright was developed. From there Hoffmann moves to an overview of