

ALCTS' Forum On Implementing the **Non-English** Language Task Force Recommendations. Denver, Colorado. Curtis Hotel, Peek-A-Boo Room. Monday, January 26, 2009. 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m.

The ALCTS Steering Committee for Implementing the **Non-English** Language Task Force Recommendations conducted their open Forum at the ALA Mid-Winter, Denver Colorado, 2009. The Steering Committee members discussed their progress in implementing the **Non-English** Language Access recommendations and discussed issues that affect this area. 38 attended this Forum and signed the attendees' form.

Beth Picknally Camden, the ALCTS Liaison, opened the Forum by giving a brief background on the TF and introduced the members of the Steering Committee. Magda El-Sherbini, the Chair of the Steering Committee talked about the process and how the Steering Committee pursued each recommendation. The following is the discussion of each recommendation.

Recommendation 1

Magda El-Sherbini reported that the Non-English listserv membership increase from 55 in 2007 to 218 subscribers as of January, 2009. This was due to publicizing the list and opening it to the library community. Another way to attract people interest was the creation of this forum to discuss issues related to non-English characters.

Recommendations 2 and 5

Martin Heijdra reported that the Steering Committee combined recommendation 2 and 5 because they were related. They wrote a new charge and invited volunteered. They also made sure that the volunteer pool represented a variety of skills and expertise in this area. The new members of the WG are:

1. Charles Husbands, Chair (Retired Senior System Librarian, Harvard)
2. William Kopycki (Univ. of Pennsylvania)
3. Martin Heijdra (Princeton Univ.)
4. John Eilts (Stanford Univ.)
5. Adnan Malik (Univ. of California)
6. Jane Jacobs (Queens Borough PL)
7. Joe Zeeman (OCLC)
8. Randall Barry (LC)

The Working Group has been developing a generic checklist that can serve as the basis for requirements for specific scripts or languages. They identified nearly twenty-three scripts of interest to the WG members, but have not completed the evaluation of their relative importance. In order to prioritize its work on specific languages, the WG created a survey of three questions and sent it to the non-English list to ask them for their preferences.

Recommendation 3 and 4

Glenn Patton reported that the core document "Guidelines for Multiple Character Sets" has been revised. The PCC members found that there is other documentation related to the Non-English Characters that also needs to be revised and combined. The PCC will form a committee to undertake the revision and creation of needed PCC non-roman documentation for catalogers. In regard to recommendation "4", Glenn said that - "following the release of the final draft of RDA in mid-November, both CC:DA and CC:AAM are heavily involved in the final constituency review of the text."

Recommendations 6 and 7

Magda EL-Sherbini reported that the CCS/CNPL created a program - "Serving the Whole Community: Multilingual Access in Public Libraries". This program was presented at the ALA Annual in Anaheim in 2008.

In regard to recommendation "7", Magda said that the CCS-Exec and CC-AAM presented a Forum at the ALA Annual at Anaheim on "International Authority issues: The TIME is NOW for Non-Roman Scripts in the Name Authority File". Speakers included:

Barbara Tillett (Library of Congress)

Robert Bremer (OCLC)

Diane Brooking (University of Washington)

Celine Cheung (City University of Hong Kong)

Maria Lau (Chinese University of Hong Kong)

There are still some ideas to explore for recommendations 6 and 7 and Magda is in contact with several committees and groups at the ALA.

Recommendation 8

Beth Picknally Camden reported that there were some difficulties in pursuing this recommendation, but the Steering Committee found it useful to create a program on hiring and recruiting of non-English specialists. The program title is - "Going Global! Finding Non-English Language Specialists". The program will be held at the ALA Annual Conference, Chicago, Monday July 14, 2009 from 8-10am.

Recommendations 9

Magda El-Sherbini reported that she met with the CCS Cataloging of Children's Materials Committee on Sunday January 25th 2009 and explained to them what needed to be done in this recommendation. The CCMA will work on a program for handling children's materials. This program will be presented at ALA Annual 2010.

Recommendation 10

Beth Picknally Camden reported that a draft charge was sent to MARBI's MW 2008, but MARBI informed the Steering Committee that they are not the right group to discuss this recommendation. The Steering Committee met on Saturday January 24, and discussed several approaches. They agreed to rewrite the charge and ask volunteers to undertake this charges.

There was a great deal of discussion about this recommendation at the Forum and there were many volunteers who expressed their interest in serving on the New Working Group.

Recommendation 11

Magda El-Sherbini reported that SAC continued to discuss this issue and it is on their agenda for Monday January 26, 2009.

Finally, Magda opened the floor for discussion and questions. There were many questions related to recommendation 10 and many new ideas that the Steering Committee will consider. Beth Picknally Camden made the final remarks and closed the **Forum**.