TOOLS OF THE SERIALS TRADE

Serials Automation for Acquisition and Inventory Control. Edited by William Gray Potter and Arlene Farber Sulkin. Chicago: American Library Association, 1981. 181p. $12.95. ISBN 0-8389-3261-3.

In September 1980, ALA's Library and Information Technology Association (LITA) sponsored a conference on serials automation emphasizing acquisitions and operations. Jennifer Cargill reported on the conference in *Serials Review* 7:1 (January/March 1981). Selected edited papers from the conference have now been issued in a paperback volume. Seven papers are supplemented by excerpts from informal discussions that followed the original presentations. Also included are descriptions of serials control systems developed at four major universities and at the National Library of Medicine. Gary Pitzer contributed an annotated bibliography of some of automated inventory studies of serials published since his 1977 bibliography on which summarized.

A certain degree of interdependence on the part of readers in preparation of their talks is to be expected. As a result of the theories taken by some of the papers' authors, however, the title of the volume is partially misleading. The chief emphasis of the published papers is on inventory control and on that part of the acquisitions process which is devoted to checking and claiming. With the exception of one paper in which vendor selection is discussed, the papers dispose summarily of serial publications once they have, in some undefined sense, found their way in the door. The initial acquisition process, prior to check-in, which would include ordering, encumbering vendor correspondence, fund control and routing communications, is ignored, for the most part.

William Gray Potter mentions in his introduction that communities of computer-oriented serials processes are best developed in individual libraries and by unrelated workers show a cardinal feature of the systems. Accounts of local demonstration and the informal strategies which would have taken place are lacking from the published conference proceedings, as, indeed, they must be. This would help to explain the lack of emphasis on serials acquisitions in the published proceedings which would have been a integral part of the conference itself.

A panel discussion about universally available database systems was, however, included in *Serials Automation*. Moderated by Potter, it featured speakers from WLN, Ohio, OCLC and RLIN/SCAN. The discussion will be very useful to those specialists who are interested in computer data services. The information included is basically found only in promotional literature, by attendees, conversations or through similar panel discussions. Potter asked the speakers a series of specific questions to which each of them replied. The questions included the following: "How will libraries pay in the near future?" "How does your system 'profile' users?" and "How does the switch-over to the year-end period for account management?" A useful comparison of unreasonably realistic claims was, regrettably presented, as it is aware of the potential which has never experienced a 'big' account and that does would justify the price of serials automation.

The keynote speaker, Don Kenney, delivered a paper on the problems of automated serials control in which he summarized the history of technological developments leading to computer-assisted serials control. Despite the deficiencies noted in comparison with other library operations he cites a number of developments in the past few years which will permit the design and implementation of online serials processing systems. One of the most crucial of these, in Kenney's view, was the construction of a national serials data base as the CONSER project as the publication of the ANSI standards for uniquely serials holdings statements. The addition of a standard for detailed holdings statements is still needed and as ANSI documentation is working on this standard. For the serials specialist, the most significant part of Kenney's paper will be the final section containing a series of arguments supporting automation of serials processing in libraries. These arguments should be helpful for "serving and for prevention to library administrators."

Many of the other papers describe computer-assisted systems developed another. Because libraries differ greatly from one another and because only the most carefully planned systems will vary, many which specifics of many administrators want to know not how other libraries have adjusted their operations but what mutual procedures led about the basic questions which anyone considering such a step should consider. If any reader readers or administrators of your library has solved its systems design problems or how it achieved some measure of success in automation, such information may very be useful. It will be more useful to be given general guidelines or a basic philosophical perspective on serials automation. Some of the papers in *Serials Automation* will, for this reason, be more beneficial to certain librarians or system developers than will others. Velma Veenschoten's paper, for example, provides a most practical perspective on automation of library records for the staff of smaller academic libraries. Some of the other audience papers.

In our case, Veenschoten follows the development and current design of NOTIS (Northwestern Online Total Integrated System) which includes circulation and the acquisitions processing through circulation as well as monographs control. Description of a patron request module called LCIS (Library Use Information Service) is featured in her paper which is detailed, logical and eminently usable. Veenschoten discusses the reasoning behind design decisions made at Northwestern and considers are remarks so that they will have general applicability to other libraries. Her comments on user satisfaction and cost-benefit are especially impressive. She writes, for instance, that online catalogs should be "designed to keep personnel costs high while minimizing the impact of the automated system's design on the patron's view of the service. Systems designers should not in any way [sic] give the patron the impression that he is being 'processed' by some impersonal machine." A measure of any would success should be found in comments about the attractive of the card catalog which is so often secured about the ability of the patrons for the use, and about the disorder is accompanying all attempts to arrange by keyword alone.

Of particular interest is a brief summary of the developments of Northwestern's online catalog. Her descriptions of an online catalog that really works well is used by real people is thorough but understandable to anyone without programming expertise. While it is a general discussion about an online catalog and one about serials catalogs in particular, it is well worth reading.

Veenschoten's brief notes and bibliography on preservation are less useful. The briefly mention of some problems of

Serials Automation For Acquisition And Inventory Control

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Serials Automation For Acquisition And Inventory Control:

Serials Automation for Acquisition and Inventory Control Library and Information Technology Association (U.S.),1981 Papers from the Institute Milwaukee September 4 5 1980 Library and Information Technology Association American Library Association **Serials Automation for Acquisition and Inventory Control** William Gray Potter,Arlene Sirkin Farber,1981 **The Management of Serials Automation** Peter Gellatly,2019-12-06 This book first published in 1982 explores all major aspects of automated serials control It examines major working serials control systems in the United States and Canada describes their operations and evaluates their successes and shortcomings Serials Automation for Acquisition and Inventory Control William Gray Potter,1981 *Serials Automation, Acquisition and Inventory Control* Library and Information Technology Association (U.S.),1980 Proceedings of a conference held September 4 5 1980 in Milwaukee **Serials Management in Libraries** Muhammad Riaz,1992 It Is The First Comprehensive Work Which Covers Every Aspect Of Serials Management To Meet The Academic Need Of Students And Teachers Of Library Science And Serve As Guide For Serials Librarians After Definiting What Constitutes Serials And Tracing Their Historical De Velopment The Work Concentrates On The Acquisition Policy And Systems Various Systems Of Serials Control And Organization Have Been Examined Technical Aspects Like Classification Cataloguing Have Been Deeply Studied And Different Methods Of Display And Forms Of Storage Examined In Details Almost Every Aspect Of Reference Ser Vice Through Serials Including Docu Mentation Indexing And Abstracting Aids Have Been Covered Organization Of Government Documents Gets Special Attention Usefulness Of Microforms As Surrogate Of Print Serial Publications Is Discussed Finally The Use Of Com Puter For Serials Control Has Been Elaborately Explained *Serials Automation for Acquisition and Inventory Control* Arlene Farber Sirkin,1981 SERIALS AUTOMATION FOR ACQUISITION AND INVENTORY CONTROL : PAPERS FROM THE INST. MILWAUKEE, SEPT. 4-5, 1980 ,1981 **AACR2 and Serials** Neal Edgar,2014-04-23 In this important and scholarly book nearly two dozen American librarians discuss the difficulties created by AACR2 with regard to bibliographic control and management of serials in libraries **Integrated Library Systems Bibliography** Ronald L. Buchan,NASA Scientific and Technical Information Facility,1985 **The Good Serials Department** Peter Gellatly,2019-12-06 This book first published in 1990 examines in detail 12 serials departments both large and small that experts have selected as representative examples of notable serials departments The departments have in common a general reputation in the serials field as being good operations in the sense of providing optimum services to their users despite the challenges of current day problems in financial planning and collection re evaluation and shaping The examples offered serve mainly to suggest what works well in the serials operation today Despite the lack of space devoted to the good serials department or the often crisis oriented approach to serials problems that is occasionally emphasized in the literature the good serials operation undeniably exists and always has Certain serials departments receive the utmost praise from librarian colleagues and faculty student users

alike This authoritative volume shows that good serials librarianship remains what it has always been a means of providing serials and the information in them to an ever widening audience of readers and researchers Economic changes may alter the pattern of serials department services but they do not alter the real and ultimate goals of the serials department **Library Automation** Muhammad Riaz,1992 In A Readable Manner The Book Races The History Of Computer Basics Of Hardware And Software Input Out Put Concepts And Devices It Describes The Offline And Online Methods Of Com Puter Applications In Six Areas Of Library Work Circulation Cataloguing Refe Rence Service Acquisition Serials Cont Rol And Information Retrieval It Also Projects Current Scenario Of Information Technology Online In Formation Services And Computerized Library Networks Used In The Western World It Outlines Telecommunication Aspects And Satellite Communication With Actual And Potential Use In Library Operation It Also Provides Sufficient Guidelines For The Planning And Implementation Of Library Automation It Is Hoped That The Book Will Pro Vide Immense Help To The Students And Teachers Of Library Science In Their Academic Pursuit And Serve As Manual For The Practising Librarians **Serials Automation for Acquisition and Inventory Control** American Library Association Staff, The University of Michigan Library Newsletter ,1979

Communication Informatics and Librarianship in India S. P. Agrawal,Pushpa Rani Sharma,1992 **Libraries and Subscription Agencies** Peter Gellatly,1988 In this volume the library agency relationship is discussed from various points of view Contributors focus on the use of subscription agents worldwide in Africa the Middle East and Great Britain Up to the minute information on the effects of automation on the library agency relationship is explored including serials management systems automated serials control over selection acquisition and utilization serials databases using subscription agency files and a most useful bibliography on automated subscription agency utilities and services Long Range Plan National Library of Medicine (U.S.). Board of Regents,1987 *Library Management and Technical Services* Jennifer Cargill,2012-11-12 This exciting volume explores the role of technical services functions and organizational structure as forces in the library change process It provides practical information to help administrators make decisions about how their libraries are organized and managed As libraries change in many ways organizational structure design of jobs managerial philosophy responsibilities of professionals and the impact of automation librarians in technical services administrators and personnel officers need guidance in meeting the new challenges in order to continue providing thorough efficient services Professionals from a variety of library environments address the pertinent issues of automation personnel matters education management techniques and the role of technical services within the total library community National Library of Medicine Programs and Services National Library of Medicine (U.S.),1977 International Symposium on New Techniques and Applications in Libraries ,1988

Serials Automation For Acquisition And Inventory Control Book Review: Unveiling the Magic of Language

In a digital era where connections and knowledge reign supreme, the enchanting power of language has be much more apparent than ever. Its power to stir emotions, provoke thought, and instigate transformation is really remarkable. This extraordinary book, aptly titled "**Serials Automation For Acquisition And Inventory Control**," compiled by a highly acclaimed author, immerses readers in a captivating exploration of the significance of language and its profound affect our existence. Throughout this critique, we will delve into the book is central themes, evaluate its unique writing style, and assess its overall influence on its readership.

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