Catapult

LIANZA CatSIG Committee

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In this issue

Info

Editor: Hazel Loughrey.

Catapult is published three times a year in April, August, and December.

Previous issues are available on LIANZA's Recollect.

CatSIG discussion summary

Joanne Rowan

How LMS providers are responding to changes in cataloguing practices

- LMS vendors often lack understanding of cataloguing needs, leading to poor communication and slow responses to changes.
- Cataloguers' requests often go through system librarians who may not understand cataloguing, causing miscommunication.
- Open-source systems like Koha allow flexibility but require users to fund changes or wait for community updates.
- LMS updates sometimes improve certain features but degrade others.
- Vendors often treat authority records as "too hard," resulting in limited support for authority data.
- Some LMS platforms struggle with non-Roman scripts and diacritics (e.g., te reo Māori characters).
- Corporate libraries face challenges with older cataloguing standards and limited vendor support.
- Getting LMS vendors to respond changing needs or requirements for cataloguing is a slow process and requires libraries to drive the change.

- Cataloguers need better understanding of how metadata drives discovery layer features like faceting to be able to effective advocate for changes in discovery layers.

How OPACs and Discovery layers handle authority metadata

– if they do at all

- Authority metadata use is minimal; usually limited to name authorities being searchable.
- Discovery layers often rely on LMS for authority data rather than handling it themselves.
- Poor integration of authority metadata leads to navigation issues and unexpected search results for users.
- Some systems (e.g., SirsiDynix Enterprise) provide subject authority search but not name authorities.
- Bugs in authority record functionality are common in open-source systems like Koha.

CatSIG discussion summary

Joanne Rowan

How your system represents work instances

- Auckland Libraries' Vega uses "roll-ups" to group manifestations under a work, with tabs for different formats.

- Vega has improved MARC record display and responsiveness to enhancement requests.

- Christchurch City Libraries cited as having a good example of work instance representation.

- Some systems lack work instance functionality entirely (e.g., SirsiDynix Enterprise).

What LMS vendors are doing (or not doing) to support Official RDA changes

- Little to no communication from vendors about Official RDA implementation.

- Many vendors are waiting for Library of Congress and PCC to finalize MARC implementation guidelines.

- Folio is being explored internationally, but limited uptake in NZ; Canterbury and Massey use Folio hosted by EBSCO.

- Linked data changes are more visible than RDA changes at present.

Whether and how OPACs/ Discovery layers engage with linked data

- Linked data integration is still limited; some institutions (e.g., Otago) have enabled Wikipedia entries in discovery results.

- Linked data fields are appearing in MARC records but are not widely used in discovery layers.

- Vega uses BIBFRAME for display, requiring mapping from MARC, which can cause unexpected issues.

- There is interest in tools to leverage linked data fields and authority setups with consistent linked data.

CatSIG discussion summary

Joanne Rowan

Systems

Alma

- MIT

- University of Otago

- Universal College of Learning Unitech

- National Library of New Zealand

- Te Wananga o Aotearoa

Vega

- Auckland Public

Folio

- Canterbury

- Massey

Softlink

- WSP New Zealand Information Centre

Polaris / iii

- Clutha District Council

SirsiDynix

- Dunedin City Libraries

Koha

- Hillmorton Hospital

- Parliamentary Library

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ORDAC Update for December 2025

Bridget Jennings

The Oceania RDA Committee (ORDAC) finishes off the year with some changes to committee membership and roles, and a lot of proposals having been read, discussed and responded to in a busy 2025.

In membership/committee role news, Charlotte Christensen has stepped back as the Oceania Representative to the RDA Steering Committee (RSC). Jack Ennis Butler (Metadata and Discovery Librarian at CSIRO in Canberra) has taken over in this role.

Oceania also has a new RDA Board member: Laura Jamieson from the National Library of New Zealand (NLNZ) will be representing the region as Julia Hickie (National Library of Australia) has finished her term.

As a CatSIG representative on the committee, one of my main tasks is to support Jack in preparing for RSC meetings by reading and providing feedback on discussion papers and proposals.

RDA Steering Committee Meetings

The RSC had a busy final meeting of 2025 in November. A discussion paper on Soft-Deprecated Parallel Elements (e.g. Parallel title proper) was introduced and will be discussed further at the January meeting. Two proposal papers submitted by the North America RDA Committee (NARDAC) were discussed and will be submitted next year as discussion papers.

The Extent Working Group introduced a [suite of proposal papers](#) for a range of extent elements (e.g. dimensions, duration, page counts, column counts etc.). These will also be discussed at the January meeting (which promises to be very busy!).

More news on topics for discussion in January can be found on the [RDA Toolkit website here](#). The public session of the January RSC meeting is scheduled for Thursday 22 January at 8am: get in touch with me if you are interested in observing.

ORDAC Update for December 2025

Bridget Jennings

Official RDA Implementation Around the World

Throughout the year there have been presentations on how Official RDA is being implemented by several countries, including New Zealand, Greece, Germany and Australia: it is interesting to see the different approaches being taken. These presentations and other RDA videos are available on the RDA YouTube channel.

Links and Contact Information

All RSC documents, including meeting minutes, papers and responses to papers can be viewed on the RDA Toolkit website. Keep an eye on the RSC news section for updates.

You can also join the Oceania RDA discussion list if you have not done so already. There are instructions on the ORDAC webpage here. I also send updates and requests for feedback to the CatSIG list.

If you have any other comments or feedback, please send them my way! All comments are welcome – please send directly to: bridget.jennings@wcc.govt.nz.

PS: New LIANZA CatSIG representative still needed

We still need a second CatSIG representative to join myself and Charlotte (NLNZ representative) on ORDAC. If you are interested in RDA and how it works, and how it can work best for your institution please do consider joining me and Charlotte as the third New Zealand member. We'd love to have you, and you don't need to be an expert, just someone who uses the standard and is interested in its development into the future.

If you would like to find out more about what is involved then feel free to get in touch with me directly: bridget.jennings@wcc.govt.nz, or contact the CatSIG committee (catsigcommittee@gmail.com) if you are interested in the role.

Important updates

DDC updates

- Works in progress - October 2025 / Alex Kyrios

  https://community.oclc.org/t5/dewey-services/works-in-progress-october-2025/ba-p/60587

- Matariki, New Year celebrations, and holidays in the DDC / Alex Kyrios

  https://community.oclc.org/t5/dewey-services/matariki-new-year-celebrations-and-holidays-in-the-ddc/ba-p/60612

- First EPC 146A exhibits posted / Alex Kyrios

  https://community.oclc.org/t5/dewey-services/first-epc-146a-exhibits-posted/ba-p/61151

PCC

- Minimum Viable MARC Bibliographic Records / PCC Advisory Committee for Library Systems and Vendors

  https://www.loc.gov/aba/pcc/resources/Minimum-Viable-MARC-Bibliographic-Records.pdf

- Non-Latin Script Variants in NARs Task Group

  https://wiki.lyrasis.org/display/PFCCP/Non-Latin+Script+Variants+in+NARs+Task+Group

From the OCLC research blog

- Building effective workflows for oral history projects: Collaboration, structure, and AI innovation / Merrilee Proffitt

  https://hangingtogether.org/building-effective-workflows-for-oral-history-projects-collaboration-structure-and-ai-innovation/

Important updates

From the OCLC research blog

- Backlogs and beyond: AI in primary cataloging workflows / Merrilee Proffitt

  https://hangingtogether.org/backlogs-and-beyond-ai-in-primary-cataloging-workflows/

- Exploring AI uses in archives and special collections: Integration, entities, and addressing need / Kate James

  https://hangingtogether.org/exploring-ai-uses-in-archives-and-special-collections-integration-entities-and-addressing-need/

- Examining the role of AI in institutional repository workflows / Brian Lavoie

  https://hangingtogether.org/examining-the-role-of-ai-in-institutional-repository-workflows/

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Articles of interest

RDA implementation

- Implementing Official RDA: the experience of the National Library of New Zealand / Teresa Preston; Anoushka McGuire

    https://journals.bme.hu/celisr/article/view/42518

User perspective

- Information retrieval of humanities resources: subject searching from a user perspective / Koraljika Golub; Rick Szostak

    https://www.emerald.com/jd/article-media/1301393/pdfviewer/10329593

- How are library cataloging metadata used differently over time: a large-scale quantitative analysis of the Library of Congress catalog / Kai Li; Brian Dobreski

    https://www.researchgate.net/publication/385385841_How_are_library_cataloging_metadata_used_differently_over_time_a_large-scale_quantitative_analysis_of_the_Library_of_Congress_catalog

Automation and AI

- A dynamic system for the automatic classification of complex resources in digital libraries: design and preliminary evaluation / Nicola Barbuti; Tommaso Caldarola

    https://www.emerald.com/dlp/article-media/1333011/pdfviewer/11162330

- Navigating the artificial intelligence frontier on cataloguing and metadata work in libraries: an interview with Getaneh Alemu / Getaneh Alemu; Anna Maria Tammaro

    https://www.emerald.com/dlp/article-media/1275650/pdfviewer/10076284

Upcoming events

The DDC Editorial Policy Committee meeting

An asynchronous meeting will be held from January 5-30 where proposed changes to the classification will be considered. You can view and comment on the proposals. Information here:

https://community.oclc.org/t5/dewey-services/epc-146a-exhibits-ready-for-review/ba-p/61480

OCLC

AskQC office hours: Understanding LCSH free-floating subdivisions	https://www.oclc.org/en/events/2026/askQC-13jan26-understanding-lcsh-free-floating-subdivisions.html	13 Jan 2026 22 Jan 2026
A fresh look at cataloging: Unlocking the full potential of WorldCat for public libraries	https://www.oclc.org/en/events/2026/a-fresh-look-at-cataloging-unlocking-the-full-potential-of-worldcat-for-public-libraries-jan-fy26.html	21 Jan 2026
OCLC cataloging community meeting	https://www.oclc.org/en/events/2026/cataloging-community-meeting-february.html	11 Feb 2026

Library Juice: Jan 2026

Introduction to Cataloging	https://libraryjuiceacademy.com/shop/course/005-introduction-to-cataloging/	Jan 2026 Apr 2026
Library of Congress Subject Headings & Genres	https://libraryjuiceacademy.com/shop/course/338-library-of-congress-subject-headings-genres/	Jan 2026
Introduction to AI and Metadata: Uses with Library Data	https://libraryjuiceacademy.com/shop/course/356-introduction-to-ai-and-metadata-uses-with-library-data/	Jan 2026

Upcoming events

Library Juice: Feb 2026

Controlled Vocabularies and Taxonomies	https://libraryjuiceacademy.com/shop/course/279-controlled-vocabularies-taxonomies/	Feb 2026
LSSC Elective Competencies: Cataloging and Classification	https://libraryjuiceacademy.com/shop/course/247-lssc-cataloging-and-classification/	Feb 2026

Library Juice: Mar 2026

Library of Congress Classification	https://libraryjuiceacademy.com/shop/course/169-loc-classification/	Mar 2026
Cataloging with BIBFRAME	https://libraryjuiceacademy.com/shop/course/154-understanding-the-bibframe-model-and-vocabulary/	Mar 2026

Library Juice: Apr 2026

Serials Cataloging	https://libraryjuiceacademy.com/shop/course/262-serials-cataloging/	Apr 2026
Describing Photographs for the Online Catalogue	https://libraryjuiceacademy.com/shop/course/064-describing-photographs-online-catalogue/	Apr 2026
Dewey Decimal Classification	https://libraryjuiceacademy.com/shop/course/168-dewey-decimal-classification/	Apr 2026

Library Juice: On demand

Linked Data in Metadata and Cataloging	https://libraryjuiceacademy.com/shop/course/280-real-world-objects-linked-data-in-library-metadata-cataloging/	On demand
LRM: A New Foundation for RDA & the RDA Toolkit	https://libraryjuiceacademy.com/shop/course/230-lrm-new-foundation/	On demand

Related publications

Title	Issue	Link
Cataloging & Classification Quarterly	Vol. 63, Issue 8	https://www.tandfonline.com/toc/wccq20/63/8
Catalogue & Index	Vol. 213	https://journals.cilip.org.uk/catalogue-and-index/issue/view/56
Cataloguing Lab—Critcatinate	Nov 2025	https://cataloginglab.org/2025/11/
The Code4Lib Journal	Issue 61	https://journal.code4lib.org/issues/issues/issue61
IFLA Journal	Vol. 51, Issue 4	https://journals.sagepub.com/toc/iflb/51/4
International Journal of Librarianship	Vol. 10, No. 4	https://journal.calaijol.org/index.php/ijol/issue/view/28
Journal of Electronic Resources Librarianship	Vol. 37	https://www.tandfonline.com/toc/wacq20/37/2
Journal of Library Metadata	Vol. 25 Issue 4	https://www.tandfonline.com/toc/wjlm20/25/4
Library Resources & Technical Services	Vol. 69, No. 4	https://journals.ala.org/index.php/lrts/issue/view/896
OLAC Newsletter	Vol. 45, No. 3	https://www.olacinc.org/resources/Newsletters/current-newsletter.pdf
The Serials Librarian	Vol. 86, Issue 7-8	https://www.tandfonline.com/toc/wser20/86/7-8
Technical Services Quarterly	Vol 42, Issue 3-4	https://www.tandfonline.com/toc/wtsq20/42/3-4

Contribute to Catapult

Contribute

Working on an interesting project? Implement something new? Technology changing how you work? Catapult is seeking cataloguing/metadata content and would love to hear from you! Contributing to Catapult is a great way to share ideas and engage with the cataloguing community.

Please email the editor or with your idea, article, or suggestion.

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CatSIG
Cataloguing Special Interest Group