

Report to Committee on Cataloging

Future of Bibliographic Control Working Group update

The conclusions of the Working Group on the Future of Bibliographic Control, to which John Latham was SLA's representative, were issued in January 2008 as "On the Record: report of the Library of Congress Working Group on the Future of Bibliographic Control," see <http://www.loc.gov/bibliographic-future/>.

The Library of Congress (LC) response of June 2008 can be found on this Web site as can the Joint Statement of the Library of Congress, the National Library of Medicine, and the National Agricultural Library on Resource Description and Access of May 2008.

In January 2009 LC announced that it had commissioned a study to research and describe the current marketplace for cataloging records in the MARC format, with primary focus on the economics of current practices, including existing incentives and barriers to both contribution and availability. The study will be carried out by R2 Consulting LLC of Contoocook, N.H. <http://www.loc.gov/today/pr/2009/09-011.html>. R2 Consulting has set up a Web site at <http://bibrecords.ning.com/> for this project. More than 1000 librarians responded to the library survey, which R2 released in April 2009, and nearly all of the primary MARC record service providers and distributors responded to the vendor survey released at the same time. Comments can be posted on their Web site.

John R. Latham, June 5, 2009