

SVUC meeting

Time: November 6-7, 2008

Place: The National Library of Finland, Reenpää room

Present:

Anders Söderbäck – Libris

Christer Larsson – Libris

Jonny Edvardsen – NB

Hilde Högås – NB

Tommy Schomacker – DBC

Juha Hakala – NLF (chair and secretary)

Annu Jauhiainen – NLF

Esa Kurki – NLF (during the national report from Finland)

1. Opening the meeting

The chair opened the meeting at 9.10

2. Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes were approved in the form edited by the chair; in addition the sentence referring to free FirstSearch usage in Finland was deleted.

3. National reports

Finland

New Aleph-based Linda / Esa Kurki

Voyager will be kept in OPACs, but union catalogue will be based on Aleph central catalogue option (other possibilities being Aleph union view catalogue and single local system (only one database for all libraries). Union view catalogue does not allow merging of results and there is no authority control either.

There are many reasons to replace Voyager with Aleph in union catalogue. There are lots of problems with Voyager union catalogue. There are serious bugs in the universal catalogue module. Support is non-existent in practice, and there has been no development or fixes.

Also Voyager authority control is poor; many libraries do not use it at all. In Aleph it is much better, with global change and other useful features missing from Voyager.

All cataloguing will be done in the central catalogue, just like in Libris or in the VTLS system. New records will be automatically copied to local databases, or there will be a message sent to the owning library about the change (with the modified record attached).

There will be records copied from local databases, and records born in the union catalogue (either via primary cataloguing or copying). They will be treated a little bit differently to guarantee proper processing.

Approximately 90 % of duplicates result from varying cataloguing practices in participating libraries. These are often related to varying levels of cataloguing.

The project has made good progress, and the “grand opening” of the new Aleph Linda will take place 12 December 2008.

MARC21 conversion

Finland will shift from MARC21-Fin to MARC21 in December 2008. Usemarcon will be used as the conversion tool.

There are no plans to change danMARC2 to MARC21, but a study on adapting danMARC2 to MARC21 has just been finished:

<http://www.bs.dk/content.aspx?itemguid={655D0C76-7F35-4EB2-AFC3-5DB3450863B4}>.

In Norway conversion has not started yet.

MANDIS

Manda will be closed on December 31th 2008.

It was agreed that the SVUC agreement will be revised; in the new version Manda will no longer be mentioned. There may be other changes in the new contract. A draft of the new text will be sent to the partners prior to the next SVUC meeting for comments. The aim is to approve the new contract in that meeting.

ILL project

Finland does not have a modern ILL system although there have been many attempts to acquire one. Lack of ILL application, and some other issues such as ILL charges and e-licensing, has led to reduction of ILL requests.

The national library co-ordinates the project to acquire an ILL application to Linnea2 libraries. Other (polytechnics and public) libraries will have an option of purchasing the application if they want to.

The project started in 2007, and the decision to purchase Relais Enterprise was made in September 2008 in the general assembly of the Linnea2 consortium. The choice was based on price and overall functionality.

There is no centralized funding; each library must pay by itself.

Implementation will take place in 2009.

National digital library initiative

NDL is a project coordinated by the Ministry of Education. All key memory institutions are involved, including the National archive, National library and the National board of antiquities. The initiative was launched in June 2008, and the first project phase will continue until 2011.

The project will build user interface / search system and long term preservation system. Implementation of the latter will take place during the second phase of the initiative, in 2012-2013.

The two services will be used by all memory institutions, and they will serve as Finland's links to European initiatives such as Europeana.

Norway

The Ministry of Education is preparing a report on digitization. It will be published in spring 2009.

NB will get one million euro additional funding for digitization starting 2009, so the library is scaling up its digitization activities. Library will purchase more equipment and hire additional staff to enhance production.

Parliamentary documents (approximately 3-4 million pages) will be digitized in a separate project which has its own funding.

Production line for receiving digital newspapers has recently been taken in use. In addition, printed books will be received also in digital form from two publishers. The plan is to extend this to as many publishing houses as possible.

NB is seeking cooperation with the publishers to reduce the cost of national bibliography cataloguing. Norske bokdatabas contains metadata on Norwegian books; not in quality the national library could use for copy cataloguing, but still useful.

Bibliotekscentralen produces MARC data in quality sufficient for the national library for about 4000-5000 titles annually. NB plans to purchase this data.

Co-operation with Bibsys: data on Sami publications will be moved to Bibsys and maintained subsequently there. There are bibliographic records on books, serials, articles from serials and other material types, and therefore loading of this data presents a challenge to Bibsys.

There are new functional requirements such as locking the national bibliographic records in Bibsys. This functionality is largely missing for the time being. And one might argue whether it is really needed; in Sweden other libraries have controlled means for editing national bibliographic records, and the results have been positive. The same applies to the data provided by public libraries in Denmark to DanBib; results indicate that there is nothing to fear in enabling others to edit your data.

In Sweden, other libraries are entitled to fix simple printing errors and add subject headings to national bibliographic records. An alternative is to send an error message to the national library.

With the exception of Sami database, there are separate systems for different material types in NB. These will be moved to Bibsys one at the time. All of these dedicated systems can export NORMARC so the technical challenges are primarily in the Bibsys end.

New Bibsys -project will publish a report in the end of November. The whole existing Bibsys system will eventually be replaced. Whether this will be implemented via incremental in-house development or purchase of an off-the-shelf system is not clear yet.

New web-based cataloguing client will be available in March 2009. This first version will enable adding new holdings to the records already in the database. Second version will add primary and copy cataloguing. This version will be published at some point in 2009.

Linking to book covers is both a technical and legal challenge. Different Nordic countries have developed different solutions; only Sweden has cleared rights centrally. In Denmark the rights to publish Danish cover images requires the library to make an agreement with the intellectual property right institution COPY-DAN, and for foreign materials a contract with Bowker has cleared the rights for the libraries to publish cover images and other additional information (summaries, annotations, tables of content) on their web sites. Cover pictures etc are delivered from Bowker to DBC on a monthly basis.

New official definition of national bibliography in Norway: everything covered by legal deposit. This means that the new national bibliography will consist of multiple data resources, including the traditional national bibliography, national repository consisting of harvested institutional repositories, digitized materials and web archive. Eventually all these systems may be accessible via a single portal.

The national union catalogue Samkatalogen: there is a joint project with ABM utvikling to add new libraries to it, and add social tagging features. The scope of the project is large, so the implementation must proceed step by step.

Data is sent to Samkatalogen in many different ways; these will be aligned. Intention is to enable automatic harvesting. At present there is plenty of manual work involved with editing the incoming data.

NB is considering products like Summa to replace the present Samkatalogen application developed in-house. The system is already separate from NB production systems and is functionally comparable to what the Finnish national digital library project's user interface is trying to achieve.

Bibsys is the cataloguing system of the national library for most of the data. For audiovisual materials, MAVIS is used because it is strong at preservation metadata. This information can not reside in Bibsys or NORMARC.

Bibsys has delivered records to Google, and they will be displayed at Google Books. DBC and Libris have done the same. Interestingly, linking to databases in the Google end seems to be random if libraries in multiple countries are holding items; Swedish books may be linked to libraries in Denmark and vice versa. Nobody knows how Google decides the linking. There should be some fixed and meaningful rules, such as linking to every owning library in every country, or linking to the libraries in the country from which the user comes from.

Sweden

Statens ljud och bildarkiv will become a department of the national library in 2009. Future organization will be decided 15th November. SLB was separated from the national library in 1979, so the merger can be considered as a return to the old model.

Maria Hedenström is the new head of the Libris department. She comes from the Stockholm Public Library.

New Libris –project has not been formally evaluated yet, but users seem to be satisfied. University libraries are eager to replace their own OPACs with Libris, and connect Libris user interface to their local circulation systems. Lund & Stockholm university libraries have been the most active ones in this area; the former plans to build its own circulation module.

It is not yet clear how and when to integrate SLB's database to Libris DB.

Co-operation with public libraries is under discussion. There is interest on behalf of the public libraries to get involved in Libris one way or another, although the contract with BTJ – which stipulates that the libraries do not own BTJ records in their databases - does not make this easy.

There is a portal under development which will merge Libris, SLB's registry and the national archive's system. Libris department is responsible of building the search interface. The system can be extended to other memory institutions, but then external funding would be required. Co-operation with the Museum's Samsök union catalogue is a possibility.

SWEPUB is a national repository, created via harvesting data from institutional repositories. Central site has been built, now it is the responsibility of the participating organisations to provide their data for OAI-PMH harvesting.

Integration of SWEPUB to Libris: practical implementation is not clear. There is concern about the quality of user-provided metadata from universities. Some documents have already been catalogued to the national bibliography (doctoral dissertations) but most resources in SWEPUB are articles which have traditionally not been part of the national bibliography.

Diva project has 24 participants; OAI-PMH harvesting has been implemented as part of this initiative. The new version is based on Fedora, but some universities are still using DSpace. Four or five universities have no institutional repository in place yet.

In Norway, project Frida has a similar aim of harvesting all thesis published by Norwegian universities. University funding is based on the number of publications, so there is a great interest in participating.

Unique identification, persistent linking and resolution are among the key technical challenges. Strategies to solve them vary: Finland, Sweden and Norway are using URN:NBN, Denmark and Iceland are still undecided.

Denmark

There is one common agency (name in Danish: Styrelsen for Bibliotek og Medier; former name: Biblioteksstyrelsen) for all kinds of libraries.

DBC is owned by the municipalities, the state and Gyldendal publishing house. Price of services is dependent on what these organizations decide; DBC does not have free hands in this respect like BTJ.

Cataloguing

DanBib consists of records from LC and BNB (batch loaded by DBC), public libraries data (1 title – 1 record) plus a record for each library for research libraries. In addition there are DBC provided records, including the national bibliography and other records DBC produces for the public libraries.

Loading of BNB & Deutsche Bibliothek records will be closed starting January 2009. Other (free) Z targets will become more relevant. WorldCat has been tested and according to the cataloguers is a very valuable source. LC records will still be bought.

Libris has also stopped the BNB service, as it was too expensive.

New project for DanBib as shared catalogue will provide new options for research libraries. Cataloguing can be done centrally or locally. Data model of DanBib will be

revised so that in each record there will be common, common-local and only local data; automated merging will enable this. Not clear yet if holdings data will be created in DanBib as well.

In the libraries integrated search services are under development (based on e.g. Primo, Summa and OLS-search); OLS-search is a part of rewriting DanBib/bibliotek.dk. National data wells containing additional information are established. The libraries are able to fetch the information from these by web services or harvesting. Starting as a DEFF-project, addi.dk is now a fully operational national data well (operated by DBC) containing cover pictures, summaries, annotations, tables of content etc linked to the bibliographic records by id-number. Two more data wells (e-books and e-journals) are planned, also via partly DEFF-funded projects. DEFF secretariat will negotiate licenses for most used e-books and e-journals. The data wells e-books and e-journals is supposed to be fully operational in late 2009.

Library.dk service will be extended with free access to the Danish Encyclopedia.

Rewriting DanBib is still under way. Substantial resources are being used to build a system according to Open Library Strategy - OLS, applying Service Oriented Architecture. Public libraries in Copenhagen and Århus are partnering in the development, which is roughly similar to e.g. Ex Libris plans on how to build a future ILMS.

Co-operation with museums has been under discussion.

Resource sharing is based on Z-ILL (Z39.50, ISO ILL and ZIG holdings in special Danish combination) profile, widely implemented in Denmark in e.g. DBC's Integra, Aleph and Axiell's DDELibra. Ordering requires that the library is known in DanBib, at least temporarily. Finnish library which wants to lend from Danish libraries must therefore be registered in DanBib. New web service for retrieval of library information exists.

DBC adds new functionality to the library registry whenever needed, since this data is fundamental part of the Danish library infrastructure.

4. Other issues

OCLC

In Denmark access to WorldCat and ArticleFirst is available via netpunkt - primarily for Danish public libraries for searching and resource sharing (with Statsbiblioteket as intermediate). A number of Research libraries are using WorldCat via FirstSearch, also for searching and resource sharing. But now WorldCat is also seen as a new source for copy cataloguing. On the other hand, it is also a means for making national culture globally visible (Statsbiblioteket as a supplier). In Denmark negotiations still goes on, but

the intention is to send all DanBib records to OCLC for load to WorldCat, by default without holdings, since libraries will be directed to Statsbiblioteket for national culture, and ordinary users to bibliotek.dk. It is up to the individual library if they wish to be known in the OCLC registry and participate in international resource sharing.

Libris has an option to deliver to WorldCat either the entire database or just individual libraries. Copy cataloguing from WorldCat has been free for two years, but it seems likely that there will be a price starting 2009. At present approximately half of all the copy cataloguing is done from WorldCat, and the cataloguers are very happy with the service.

Since monopoly situations should be avoided, libraries should always have multiple sources available for copy cataloguing; WorldCat should be only one of them. Usage of multiple copy cataloguing targets requires good Z39.50 client; for instance Voyager cataloguing client lacks such functionality.

NB will start negotiations with OCLC soon on delivery of Norwegian national bibliography, but it may be Bibsys delivering the data. Bibsys has not had copy cataloguing functionality, but that will be added into the version 2 of the cataloguing client late 2009. After that the possibility of copy cataloguing from WorldCat will become attractive.

In Sweden, the proposed fee for copy cataloguing from WorldCat was lower in 2009 than the fees already paid by KB for batch loading BL and Deutsche Bibliothek records to Libris. Money is therefore not an issue. Regulations limiting the re-use of the WorldCat records OCLC has recently introduced may be a more serious limitation.

Principles (to be made available separately – not part of the minutes)

There is no agreement in Nordic level on payments. Unlike Finland, others see no problems in paying for the WorldCat copy cataloguing service since Sweden, Norway and Denmark have already paid substantial sums for batch loading of records from BL, DN and LC. WorldCat on-line copying will remove the need for these batch loading services.

If there is a price, it should be fixed, or there should be clear rules for calculating annual changes.

The policy for re-using the records even in commercial services should be liberal.

There should be alternative means (sources) for copy cataloguing.

Some countries seem to have technical problems in providing holdings to WorldCat. These problems should be sorted out in the local level.

Each country will decide locally which data to upload and how it is done.

NOSP

Denmark: If NOSP is closed, many records must be removed from DanBib to get rid of out-of-date holdings.

Sweden: NOSP records and holdings were loaded to Libris up to 2001. Old NOSP holdings have been kept in Libris although the holdings data is by now out of date.

Technically it is no problem to delete the holdings. Libris dept could also establish web services needed for ILL orders.

How to cooperate without NOSP as a physical database? All decentralized alternative models may be difficult for users. One might build a web service via which to make orders.

The meeting decided that DBC will prepare specifications for a virtual replacement for the present NOSP database with extended coverage (all materials, not just periodicals). Participating systems will be DanBib, Bibsys, Libris and Linda (Gegnir participation to be checked). The specification will be discussed in the next NOSP meeting.

The current NOSP database will be maintained as is until the virtual replacement is in place. The new infrastructure/system will be called SVUC.

5. Future meetings

Next meeting: Stockholm, 23.-24. April 2009.

Next meeting after that: Reykjavik, provided that the potential host organization accepts this.

6. Closing the meeting

The chair closed the meeting at 14.00 on Friday 7th November.