NEOS Technical Services Meeting – March 14th, 2017

Present: Anne Carr-Wiggin (NEOS) ; Jolene Linfitt (King's) ; Gisele Ramgoolam (NorQuest) – Susan Jones (MacEwan University) ; Vanessa Bangay (MacEwan University) ; Myrna Dean (Concordia) – Lisa Drysdale (Alberta Government Library) ; Laura Somerville (Lakeland) ; Ian Bigelow (University of Alberta)

Teleconferences: Audrey Lyons (Alberta Innovates) ; Nicole O'Connor (GPRC) ; Donna Gordon (AHS) ; Wilmer Tenerife (Burman) ; Louise Brittain-Boisvert (Olds College) ; Della Nelson (Keyano) ; Tara Sommerfeldt-Boizard (Covenant)

1.   Call to order – Minute taker: Gisele Ramgoolam

2.   Minutes approved with corrections noted. Anne to make corrections before posting.

3.   Northern Lakes Training (Anne)

It is likely that the members of the NTSS will assume the training responsibility along with Gisele Ramgoolam and Lisa Drysdale. The Northern Lakes staff is trained in WF but may need help with NEOS practices and possibly with cataloguing. The staff will be encouraged to take the training in Edmonton in late April or early May. Anne will contact Shiloa to arrange 2 days of training (one day for circulation ; one day for cataloguing).

4.   NTSS update (Ian)

The committee had one meeting so far and is working towards a cheat sheet to be made available for the onboarding of Northern Lakes. Ian started a discussion as to how detailed the NEOS Standards document should be. He indicated that he has done previous work such as this that resulted in a 300 page document. Susan Jones indicated that MacEwan is on board with a document of this type. Laura Somerville likes the idea of a check list / cheat sheet to go along with a lengthier document. The next meeting of the subcommittee is at the end of March. Ian has a draft of a cheat sheet that includes RDA standards.

5.   Director's Station and Blue Cloud Analytics (Ian)

Work is underway on replicating DS reports to Blue Cloud Analytics. It is still in testing and Ian would like to receive more examples of problems and queries that include MARC data. Blue Cloud is less intuitive than DS. Ian indicated that a Blue Cloud expert group will be formed with members from some NEOS libraries. Reports will be created by this group. They are still waiting on some developments from SIRSI and the rollout date may be July sometime.

6.   URI Enrichment (Ian)

Ian discussed the addition of URIs and that the first step is to add URIs to authorities. Adding URIs is a means to providing access to more information for Discovery and Blacklight and looks to the future when there will be a move away from MARC. There is a task group developing best practices for implementation.

7.　　　NEOS Mini Conference (Ian)

Ian started a discussion on whether the NEOS Technical Team should present at the Mini Conference. Anne mentioned that the Continuing Education group was planning a pre-conference cataloging hack-a-thon and Ian suggested combining it with a Tools Expo (i.e. MarcEdit, etc.). Susan Jones expressed a need for this type of session and all members of the group agreed that it would be very useful. Ian will round up some experts and make plans for this to be available at the 2017 NEOS Mini Conference.

8.　　　Linked Data Projects across NEOS (Ian)

Ian asked if anyone else was working on any linked data projects. No libraries are currently working on linked data projects. Ian suggested that this could be added to the NEOS documentation for the future.

9.　　　Committee communication discussion (Anne/Laura)

Currently every NEOS member library has 1 member on the NEOS Technical Team List. Could this be opened up to include more members? Susan Jones noted that this would be an excellent means/vehicle for sharing. Also noted is that although the approval of posts is somewhat cumbersome the approval is timely. The group agreed that it would be valuable and Anne will mention it to the Executive as something to be tried out. The group was also asked to bring other ideas to the next Tech Services meeting as to what other vehicles might work.

10.　　Shared Acquisitions Pilot Update (Susan Jones)

Susan Jones gave a history of the Shared Acquisitions Pilot project that started via a NEOS Strategic initiative. At first 6 libraries were to participate in a 2-month pilot. This later changed to 3 libraries participating in a full year pilot. Susan highly commended all the individuals that worked diligently in the pilot. She also discussed that the vendor was less than timely and less than responsive perhaps due to the vendor suffering from rapid growth. Gisele and Laura agreed that the profiles and testing took a very long time but that they were pleased with the method of selection and the end product. Ian indicated that there have been issues relating to order/acquisition records and matching in the NEOS catalogue that has created duplicates, and reminded everyone to be aware of duplicate records and to effect correction of such. The U of A will look for a solution to alleviate duplicates workload. The workload for this pilot at the U of A is ok at this time but would be difficult if all NEOS members wanted to use this tool.

11.　　Susan Jones discussed the move of the MacEwan University Jasper Place location to the City Centre Campus. The Jasper Place closure is expected around mid-June.

12.　　Decolonizing Description Project Update

There is some work being done in BC and in Manitoba. The team is gathering information on work being done across Canada. The proposal is to remove the subject heading "Indians of North America" and other colonial headings to replace them with other headings decided on via community consultation. The committee is to make a proposal to the U of A during the summer. The group will look at vocabulary sets from the University of Manitoba and UBC and also that it is important to look at it from a regional perspective. There has been consultation with OCLC

and ProQuest. There was general consensus from the NEOS Tech group that there is need for this change. Ian agreed but also stressed the technical difficulty involved.

12.   Additional Agenda item from Ian: GMDs

Ian initiated a discussion surrounding records that still have GMDs. He indicated that OCLC has purged GMDs from their datasets. Ian would also like to purge the GMDs but is sensitive to the needs of the member libraries. Those present were in agreement to purge the GMDs. Susan Jones stressed the importance of set standards and set processes.

13.   Next NEOS Tech meeting expected for late April or early May and might be via teleconference.