We Are All Systems Librarians:
Putting Technical Services Skills
to Work in Systems

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NETSL 2012 • May 3, 2012

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What will be covered

- How can Technical Services librarians use our traditional competencies to benefit our systems and systems staff?
- What new competencies are needed?
- How can Technical Services librarians and systems staff partner make systems better for users and staff?

Definitions & Disclaimers

- "Systems" generally refers to the ILS
- "Systems staff" generally refers to those who support the ILS
- I will try to generalize, but sometimes my examples will be system-specific
- Some might already do this work; others can find new opportunities

Who are these systems people, anyway?

UNIX/Linux vs. MLS

Systems people are all paranoid, so YMMV.

Does this look familiar?

010			95078370
040			COP ‡c COP ‡d DPL ‡d WIH ‡d OCL ‡d DRB
020			0911853103
020			9780911853100
043			n-us---
050		4	D769.3 10th ‡b .G66 1995
082	0	4	940.541273
090			‡b
049			UCWW
245	0	0	Good times and bad times : ‡b a history of C Company, 85th Mountain Infantry Regiment, 10th Mountain Division : July 1943 to November 1945 / ‡c edited by John Imbrie and Hugh W. Evans.
260			Quechee, Vt. : ‡b Vermont Heritage Press, ‡c 1995.
300			xvii, 390 p. (some folded) : ‡b ill., maps ; ‡c 28 cm.
504			Includes bibliographical references and index.
610	1	0	United States. ‡b Army. ‡b Mountain Infantry Regiment, 85th. ‡b Company C ‡x History.
610	1	0	United States. ‡b Army. ‡b Mountain Division, 10th ‡x History.
650		0	World War, 1939-1945 ‡x Regimental histories ‡z United States ‡x Mountain Division, 10th.
650		0	World War, 1939-1945 ‡v Personal narratives, American.
650		0	World War, 1939-1945 ‡v Biography.
650		0	Ski troops.
700	1		Imbrie, John.
700	1		Evans, Hugh W.

How I got into systems work

245	0	0	Good times and bad times : ǂb a history of C Company, 85th Mountain Infantry Regiment, 10th Mountain Division : July 1943 to November 1945 / ǂc edited by John Imbrie and Hugh W. Evans.
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650		0	World War, 1939-1945 ǂv Biography.
650		0	Ski troops.
700	1		Imbrie, John.
700	1		Evans, Hugh W.

Your Friendly Systems Librarian

SRSLY?

What are the "traditional competencies"?

AACR2r and MARC, LCSH, LCRI, LC classification schedules and the dreaded tables, CONSER, DDC, MFHD, MARC authorities, NACO & SACO, various bib formats, Cutter numbers, 440/490/830, copy vs. original, ISBD, and punctuation

What are the "traditional competencies"?

1. Attention to detail
2. Following rules
3. Mastery of a core ILS function
4. Analytical capabilities
5. The body of knowledge itself

What are the pitfalls?

AACR2r and MARC, LCSH, LCRI, LC classification schedules and the dreaded tables, CONSER, DDC, MFHD, MARC authorities, NACO & SACO, various bib formats, Cutter numbers, 440/490/830, copy vs. original, ISBD, and punctuation

What are the pitfalls?

1. Obsession with details and rules
2. Conflating AACR2r and MARC
3. Bib records, not OPAC display

A brief word from our sponsor

You cannot become
a systems librarian
overnight.

How can TCs help in systems work?

Batch processing of MARC data

- ➢ Who knows your MARC records and database history better than you do?
- ➢ Which parts of the MARC record are crucial and which are vestigial?
- ➢ Especially useful if your systems person is not a librarian
- ➢ Works for new MARC records, too!

MARC on the hoof

01510nam a2200373 a
4500001000800000005001700008006001900025007001500044008004100059035001800100035
00240011804000350014204200080017704300120018504900090019707400200020602060860023002
2608800150024911000540026424501730031824600880049124600200057926000680059930000
4200667500006000709500001600769504004100785500001800826650005500844650008700899
65000550098665000570104185600380109834324792011080816202.5.0m   d f   cr
mn||||||||100702s2010   dcua   ob f000 0 eng c a(GPO)99337180 a(OCoLC)ocn645687281
aDIDbengcDIDdOCLCQdGPOdMvI apcc an-us--- aUCVC a0546-D (online)0 aGA 1.13:GAO-10-
513 aGAO-10-5131 aUnited States.bGovernment Accountability Office.10aInformation
securityh[electronic resource] :bfederal guidance needed to address control issues with
implementing cloud computing : report to congressional requesters.30aFederal guidance needed to
address control issues with implementing cloud computing17aCloud computing a[Washington,
D.C.] :bU.S. Govt. Accountability Office,c[2010] a1 online resource (ii, 48 p.) :bill. aTitle from PDF
title screen (GAO, viewed July 2, 2010). a"May 2010." aIncludes bibliographical references.
a"GAO-10-513." 0aCloud computingxGovernment policyzUnited States. 0aAdministrative
agenciesxInformation technologyxSecurity measureszUnited States. 0aData
protectionxGovernment policyzUnited States. 0aComputer securityxGovernment policyzUnited
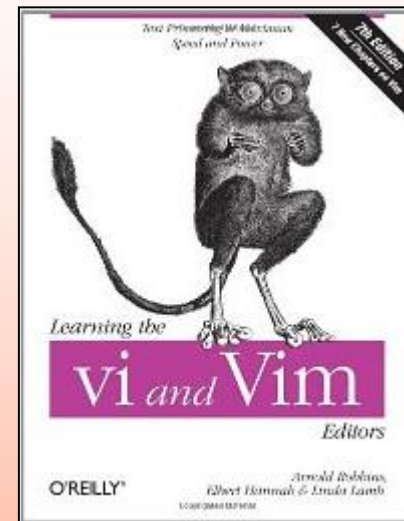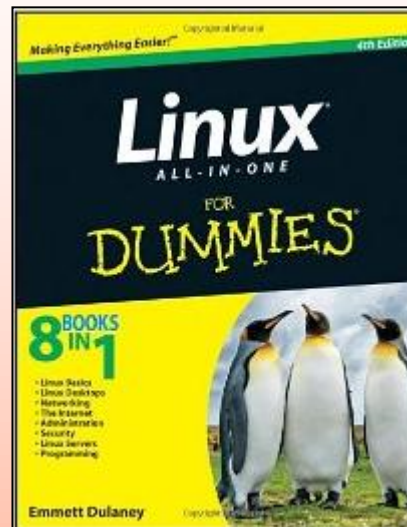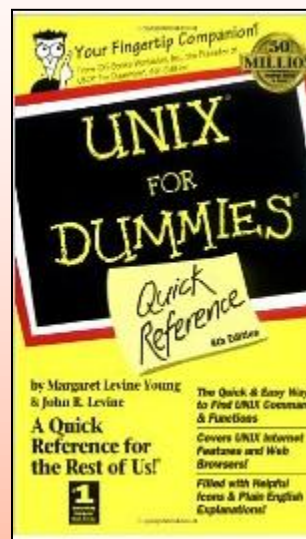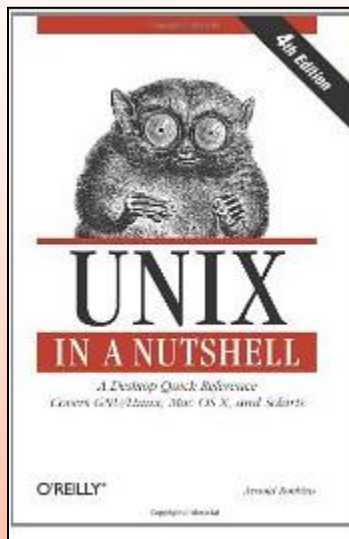States.40uhttp://purl.fdlp.gov/GPO/gpo10313

MarcEdit

MarcEdit menus
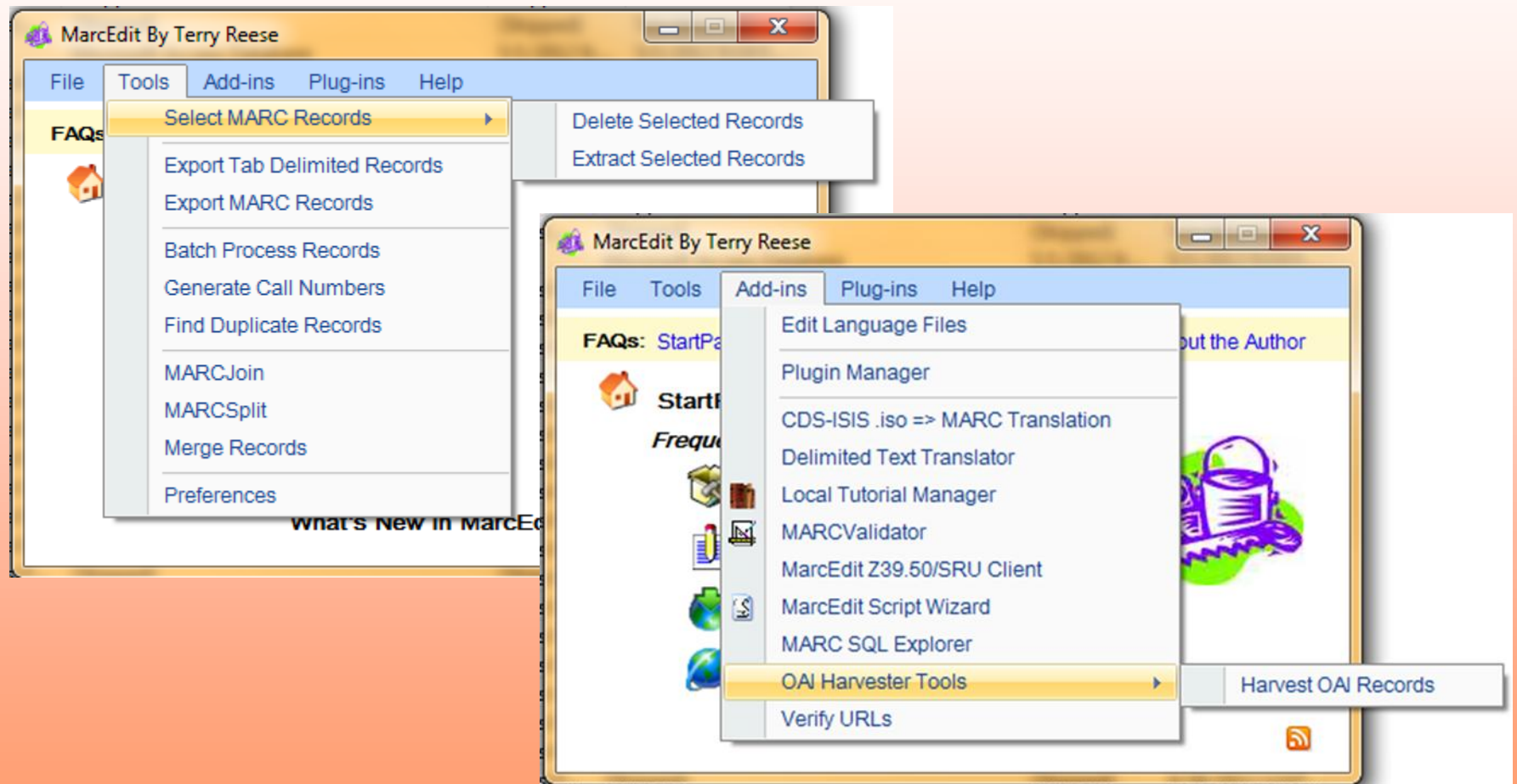
MarcEdit tools

What new competencies are needed?

- The whole ILS
  - How the staff modules work
  - How the OPAC display is created
  - Background processes
  - For a stable ILS, most systems work is maintenance
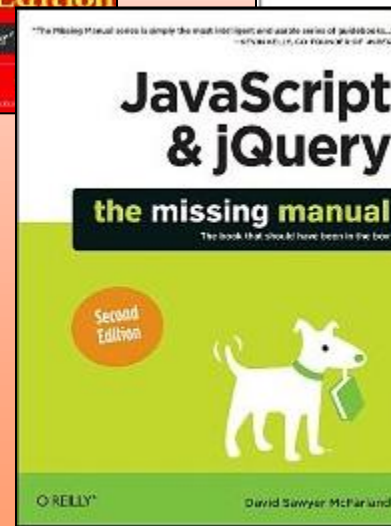
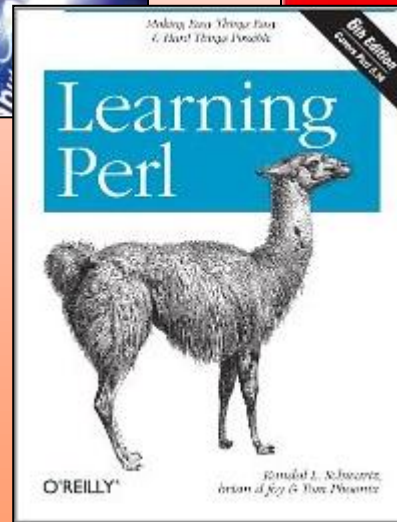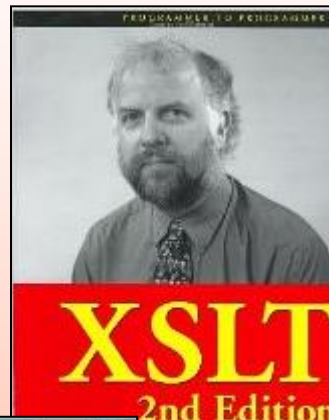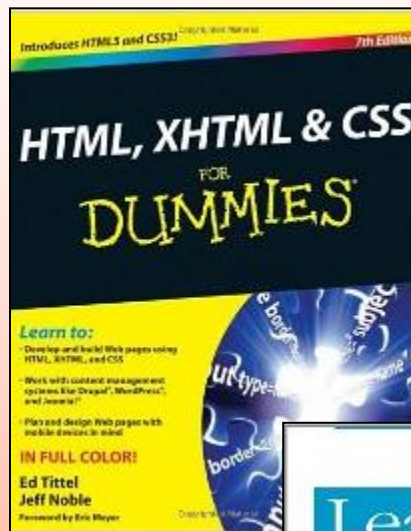# What new competencies are needed?

- Troubleshooting skills

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"Library systems" means the ILS and…

- Discovery services
- Institutional repositories
- Digital repositories
- Research data storage and curation

Working together to improve systems

- Beta testing of new releases
- Development of new modules in partnership with vendors or other institutions
- Participation in user groups
- Voting or providing feedback on enhancements or bug fixes

Dept. of Dead Technology

Buggy Whip Office
MARC Directorate
Rotary Dial Telephone Council

Resources

Terry Reese's MarcEdit

 http://people.oregonstate.edu/~reeset/marcedit/html/index.php

MarcEdit list

 https://listserv.gmu.edu/cgi-bin/wa?INDEX

Mozilla Firefox and Firebug

 http://www.mozilla.org/en-US/firefox/new/

 https://addons.mozilla.org/en-US/firefox/addon/firebug/?src=collection&collection_id=da0ecd99-2289-7ab0-7d57-e7c489c845c3

Questions?

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