



# PCC Umbrella Membership in ISNI: an initiative of the Program for Cooperative Cataloging

ISNI-VIAF Summit 2017

Michelle M Durocher

*Head, Metadata Management, Harvard Library*

PCC Policy Committee member



# Increased library interest in creation and management of identifiers

- More libraries have current use cases requiring the ability to search, create, maintain and manage identifiers for sharing & re-use, especially about entities on which they have authoritative information
- Strong interest in sharing this work as they have successfully shared bibliographic and authority work for years



# Program for Cooperative Cataloging

Some of the PCC's features & strengths:

- Committed to creating and sharing metadata openly for the benefit of all
- Creates policies & workflow best practices for data quality and consistency
- Develops and offers training & documentation for member support
- Contributes technology expertise to tool development and enhancement



# Inspiration from the PCC Vision Statement

- The Program for Cooperative Cataloging (PCC) community is an influential source of metadata expertise, experimentation, and training.
- The PCC community's data are trusted, integrated, and valued in the global data environment.



# PCC Vision & Strategic Directions

In January of 2015, the PCC issued a bold [Vision, Mission & Strategic Directions](#) document:

- Provide leadership for the **shift in authority control** from an approach primarily based on creating text strings to one focused on **managing identities** and entities
- Investigate options and develop a plan to **expand community participation in the creation of identifiers** and authority data.



# Complementary efforts within the PCC

- PCC URIs in MARC Task Group
- PCC Identity Management in NACO Task Group
- And now,

PCC Umbrella membership in ISNI as a new shared opportunity for libraries to pool collective resources to create and share identifiers on a global, cross-domain scale



# Common Library Use Cases for Identifiers

- Academic institution's faculty; organizational components and its changes parts; new scholars at the start of their careers (theses/dissertations)
  - An institutional repository needs all of the above
- Public and special libraries' unique, community-based entities coming to light through digitization efforts
- Cataloging-in-Publication programs as metadata collaborations with publishers



# PCC umbrella membership in ISNI provides PCC members with:

- Access to contribute to a global, canonical data source of persistent, unique identifiers for **persons and organizations**
- A platform for identity management work distinct from and complementary to traditional NACO authority work, ideally **lowering the barriers to participation** in the PCC
- Tools to mint identifiers for local needs and staying true to the values of the PCC by **sharing work globally**
- A channel to contribute to technical and policy infrastructure that supports **linked open data** and enables development of new services dependent on persistent, unique identifiers



# Benefits to ISNI in the PCC umbrella membership

- Collaboration with a group of libraries who, like ISNI, are committed to aligning "activities and investments with those that will have the **highest impact** within the global data environment"\* – from *PCC Strategic Directions*
- A larger community of metadata experts to contribute to **data integrity and maintenance**
- **Experienced colleagues** from the PCC's standing committees with whom **to partner** on training and documentation, best practice workflows, standards, tool development, and technical priorities



# Benefits to ISNI in the PCC umbrella membership (cont.)

- An added **data pipeline from libraries** that can diversify and enrich ISNI with authoritative data about institutions, their affiliates, and entities associated with uniquely held collections
- Develop a **simplified channel for libraries' batch projects** through a single optimized template for the PCC rather than needing to perform testing and set-up for each individual library at the institution level; this has been described by ISNI staff as significant effort and expense for them



# Mutual benefits to a PCC umbrella membership

- **Lower administrative costs for ISNI** due to the pooled membership, managed as a single PCC data source, in comparison with the overhead of onboarding individual library members with variable source codes
- An **affordable pricing model for libraries** to join ISNI as part of the PCC community, creating the shared solution that is needed for identifier management



# Next step #1: PCC ISNI pilot

- The pilot libraries will work within the ISNI systems, examining through actual use the functionality of existing tools and any gaps to effectively integrate identity management in ISNI within cataloging workflows
- Work with ISNI to establish a batch workflow process that lowers overhead for all and can be adopted as the common template within the PCC umbrella membership



# Next step #2: Identity Management in NACO Task Group

- Compare library use case needs with the options that ISNI provides
  - Are there changes necessary for the PCC to get the most from ISNI membership?
- Examine PCC/NACO policy barriers that currently constrain libraries in creating authorities, such as “literary warrant”
  - what guidelines would enable broader creation of identifiers that could be shared via PCC NACO?



# Next step #3: PCC ISNI

## Implementation working group

- PCC Steering Committee has requested formation of an ISNI Implementation group to resolve funding and business model issues associated with a sustainable PCC membership in ISNI, beyond the duration of the pilot.
- The work will get underway after the ISNI-VIAF Summit, building on the work done here



# Thank you!

Please contact me with questions or interest

Michelle Durocher

*michelle\_durocher@harvard.edu*