Virtual AskQC Office Hours

Thank you for joining us!
We will begin at 1:00 PM Eastern Daylight Time

Attendees are in listen-only mode

AskQC@oclc.org (Ask Quality Control) is the longstanding email address to which catalogers can send questions to OCLC Metadata Quality staff about cataloging policies, standards, and practices.
Housekeeping

• Please remain muted
• Today’s session is being recorded
• Recordings, slides, and notes are available at https://oc.lc/askqc
On the call today

Cynthia Whitacre  
Manager, Metadata Policy

Laura Ramsey  
Section Manager, WorldCat Metadata Quality

Jay Weitz  
Senior Consulting Database Specialist

Hayley Moreno  
Database Specialist II

Bryan Baldus  
Consulting Database Specialist

Nathan Putnam  
Director, Metadata Quality
WHAT IS THE EXPERT COMMUNITY?
Definition

OCLC's Expert Community provides the ability to make changes (additions, corrections, deletions of data) to almost all WorldCat master bibliographic records.

Crowd-sourcing
History: Prior to 2009

- Enhance Program started in 1983
- Minimal Level Upgrade introduced in 1985
- Database Enrichment began in 1991
- Adding 300 to CIP in 1993
- National Level Enhance in 1994


(Chapter 5 of Bibliographic Formats and Standards)
2009: Expert Community Experiment

• Introduced for an initial 6 months with extensive evaluation by OCLC Metadata Quality staff
• Conclusion after review: Positive
• Experiment discontinued and the Expert Community was made permanent
The name “Expert Community” acknowledges the community of experts that have built WorldCat since it started.

- The experts are you, the member library catalogers.
- Maintenance of WorldCat is shared more equally between OCLC staff and member libraries than under previous models.

A “social cataloging” model
Who can participate

• Connexion users who have a Full Level cataloging authorization or higher
• Record Manager users with the Cataloging Full role
Capabilities of Expert Community

• Replace (after editing) non-PCC records and non-CONSER authenticated continuing resource records.
  – You may change encoding level to upgrade records (Except “8” for CIP)
  – Edits may be done to add, delete, or change any fields with a few minor exceptions (019, 029, 938, 040 $c and $d)
Restrictions: What is not allowed

- Expert Community cannot change encoding level “8” in CIP records, but may otherwise edit the entire record
- Cannot edit CONSER records (coded “pcc” in 042)
- Cannot edit BIBCO records (coded “pcc” in 042)

You can enrich “pcc” records by adding summaries, contents notes, call numbers in schemes not present, and subject headings in schemes not present.
Resources for more details

- [https://www.oclc.org/support/services/worldcat/documentation/cataloging/questions.en.html](https://www.oclc.org/support/services/worldcat/documentation/cataloging/questions.en.html) (Expert Community FAQ)
FAQ Examples

• Can I improve and update records in all formats?
  – Yes, you can.

• Can I add URLs to master records?
  – Yes, you can already do that as part of the Database Enrichment capability.
Principles for the Expert Community

1. First, do no harm
2. If in doubt, DON’T

These are found on the Expert Community Guidelines page

(Added 3rd principle: If STILL in doubt, email askqc@oclc.org)

Advice:

Use your best judgement. Think about how others may use the record.
Meetings at ALA

• OCLC holds an **Expert Cataloging Community Sharing Session** at both Midwinter and Annual
• Timeframe is usually 10:30-Noon on Friday morning
• Jay Weitz coordinates and moderates those sessions; many folks from OCLC Metadata Quality attend
• Notes from the meetings are edited and widely shared afterwards
• All are welcome!
Questions about Expert Community?

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Please submit questions through chat
Any general questions?

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Please submit questions through chat
Thank you!

Send cataloging policy questions at anytime to: askqc@oclc.org

Session links available at: https://oc.lc/askqc

Next Virtual AskQC Office Hours: TBD

Stay tuned for more information on upcoming AskQC Office Hours!