

Vol.12 No.3 Winter, 1982 ISSN 0196-0679

InULA

Quarterly

AACR2

One Year Later



Implementation at the Undergraduate Library

The effect of the AACR2 implementation on the Undergraduate Library should first be considered with regard to the types of users it has.

UGL patrons are often students who use the library for less sophisticated research purposes, many of whom may not be aware of the different forms of a given personal name. They tend to approach the card catalog, or the reference desk, looking for the most popular

name of a given author, politician, or other well-known figure.

The implementation of AACR2 has benefited these users in that they do not have to be referred to another part of the catalog. For instance, they would look up *Stendhal* rather than *Beyle, Marie Henri*. They would find the name of an author as they know it rather than being confronted with an unfamiliar form of a name.

Perhaps even more important for these users are those name changes in which the last name remains the same, but the preceding names have been changed to the format most familiar to the majority of UGL patrons. These patrons now find *Jack Kerouac* under *Kerouac, Jack* rather than *Kerouac, John; Ernie Pyle* under *Pyle, Ernie* rather than *Pyle, Ernest Taylor*; and even *Pope Paul VI* under *Paul VI, Pope*, rather than the Latin *Paulus VI, Pope*.

Certain AACR2 changes, though, are rather confusing. For instance, *Andersen, Hans Christian* is now changed to *Andersen, H. C. (Hans Christian)*, and *Salinger, Jerome David* is *Salinger, J. D. (Jerome David)*. Practicality has dictated that old public catalog cards be parenthesized as follows:

*Andersen, H(ans) C(hristian)and
Salinger, J(erome) D(avid)*

The old cards and the new are interfiled. Another potential source of confusion is that for the time being, we have a backlog of major name changes which we have not yet begun to process. Therefore, for a period of time patrons will need to adjust to different formats for a given author's name.

Because of UGL's nature, many AACR2 changes do not affect it very seriously. Its holdings do not include many conference proceedings, and its collection consists predominantly of English language publications.

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Therefore, many corporate entry changes and cross references referring to name formats in different languages are not filed in the UGL public catalog. Nonetheless, the implementation of AACR2 has added to the work load of technical services within UGL, and an additional student employee was hired for approximately 10-12 hours per week to help make the necessary AACR2 changes.

Although UGL's holdings do not include many foreign language works, the collection does contain numerous English translations of important foreign works. The introduction of AACR2 uniform titles therefore potentially involves major changes in our public catalog. Furthermore, our filers, who in the past needed only be aware of the definite articles in English and a few European languages, are now dealing with articles in numerous different languages. These changes are, in contrast to others, of major consequence to UGL, and ones we expect to be of continuing concern to both patrons and staff.

One interesting side effect of the implementation of AACR2 is that it has given us the opportunity to work with the public catalog in UGL more intensively. Because we are not often confronted with sophisticated research questions, certain inconsistencies within the catalog have not previously surfaced. While handling AACR2 changes, we have identified certain problem areas in the catalog which were overlooked in the past. Here again, we are looking to ease the potential confusion which UGL patrons might encounter when dealing with our catalog. Because the conversion to AACR2 is an ongoing process, we hope to continue to confront the varying problems posed by this project, and use the implementation procedures as a means for improving our catalog to the benefit of our patrons.