

FAST Headings in the UNLV Libraries Catalog

A Laissez-Faire Approach!

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The logo for UNLV University Libraries, featuring a red and grey curved background. The text "UNLV" is in a large, white, serif font, and "UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES" is in a smaller, white, sans-serif font to its right.

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Numbers for Context

- OCLC WorldCat as a significant source for records
 - 34,951 OCLC records entered catalog in January-May 2015
- But not the only source of records
 - 64,583 total records entered catalog in January-May 2015

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54% of incoming bib records are identifiable OCLC records (defined as presence of OCoLC in 035)

January-May 2015 just an arbitrary recent time period

Laissez-faire Approach

- Most data is good data; generally keep most (but not all) data in incoming record.
 - Especially when it comes to batch loads (e.g. shelf-ready)
 - some quality assurance (QA) checks
 - but the idea is to not spend much time with majority of records
- FAST headings in WorldCat => FAST headings in our catalog

Describing our general approach to data in the catalog.

Example of shelf-ready – some QA, but the idea is not to spend a lot of individual time with these records.

Didn't have anything to prevent FAST headings from entering the catalog – not that we would have intentionally excluded them anyway.

Increasing number of FAST headings revealed...

- Display problems
- Example of \$0 appearing in public display:

SUBJECT	Child development
	Families
	Play
	Learning
	Child development. (OCoLC)fst00854393
	Families. (OCoLC)fst01728849
	Learning. (OCoLC)fst00994826
	Play. (OCoLC)fst01066938

Systematic addition of FAST to WorldCat records started in September 2013. Increasing presence of these records revealed indexing and display issues to resolve.

Display problems were relatively straightforward to solve. Have been implemented with the same ILS for some time, so fair to say that some of our indexing and display settings were pretty legacy. Libraries with more current ILSes, or more current implementations, probably did not see the same problems.

Increasing number of FAST headings revealed...

- Indexing issues
- Example of \$0 included in subject index:

#	Subject	# ENTRIES
25	Play -- Juvenile poetry	38
26	Play -- Juvenile videos	6
27	Play -- New York (State) -- New York	1
28	Play -- New York (State) -- New York -- Pictorial works	1
29	Play -- North America	1
30	Play -- North America -- Psychological aspects	2
31	Play. (OCoLC)fst01066938	1
32	Play of Daniel --> See Danielis ludus	1
33	[Play of plays]	1

Example of FAST heading previously indexed with \$0 – splitting the FAST version of Play

Again, this is probably another legacy setting that libraries with more current implementations of their ILS might not see. Had to have our subject index redone and our records reindexed.

Local cataloging policy

- Keep FAST headings in record – don't delete!
 - (we do delete some other headings)
- When upgrading, will delete FAST if no longer matches.
- Do not go out of our way to add FAST to originals, but if deriving from record that has FAST, do keep the FAST.

We do delete some other types of subject headings– examples: second indicator 5 (Canadian subject headings), second indicator 7 subfield 2 ram (French). Our basic considerations: do we think this heading will be used; do we have any ability to maintain this heading.

Maintenance issues (unresolved)

- Updating FAST headings in our local catalog
- \$0 identifier might help in future, but strings are used now

→ SUBJECT	600	0	0	Theseus,lcKing of Athens,vComic books, strips, etc
SUBJECT	650	0		Minotaur (Greek mythology)vComic books, strips, etc
SUBJECT	650	7		Minotaur (Greek mythology) 2fast 0(OCOLC)fst01023481
→ SUBJECT	650	7		<u>Theseus (Greek mythology) 2fast 0(OCOLC)fst01149949</u>
SUBJECT	655	0		Graphic novels
SUBJECT	655	7		Juvenile works. 2fast 0(OCOLC)fst01411637

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Note change in LC heading. Would want to find automated way of seeing equivalent change in FAST heading.

The subfield 0 might help us with this in the future, but the string is what is used (searched) in our catalog now.

Checking searchFAST shows that this identifier currently does resolve to the updated form of the name.

If wanted to address this, would likely attempt to work with our current authority control vendor on this, but not a huge priority.

Maintenance issues (unresolved)

- Records lacking FAST headings
 - Non-OCLC records
 - OCLC records with certain profiles (FAST might be stripped)
 - OCLC records otherwise lacking FAST headings
 - of 34,951 identified OCLC records, 13,218 do not have FAST headings
 - spot-checking reveals new records (<6 months) that might not yet be eligible for processing; also some older records

Mostly discussing new incoming records here. As is probably clear by now, we're not currently going out of our way to get FAST headings in records. Records lacking FAST headings include non-OCLC records (of course), OCLC records where the FAST might be getting stripped, and also some OCLC records where we initially thought we should be getting FAST headings but actually do not. Spot-checking shows some newer records (newer than the 6 month age limit for automated FAST processing?) but also older records (ineligible or not yet processed for other reasons?)

Do we want FAST headings in all of our records? ("All" could mean all new incoming records, or all as in everything in our catalog.) A question not really answered at this point, especially since we're not really leveraging the FAST headings for any purpose. At this point, we're basically just allowing (or not preventing) them to enter our catalog (with the minor adjustments when correcting/upgrading records as previously mentioned.) For these specific categories of records that lack FAST headings, we can adjust profiles... but the other categories would probably require more work. For now, I think we're ok with what we're doing. If record has LC headings, presume that the FAST can be derived at some point in the future (if we ever feel less laissez-faire about this!)

In summary

- Our approach for supporting FAST headings in catalog
 - Generally non-interventionist
 - Configuration changes to support indexing and display
 - Identified maintenance issues but nothing that really demands that we act right now

Questions?

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