# FAST Forward … for the Community

ALCTS CaMMS Faceted Subject Access Interest Group

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# Overview

- Seeking direction
- What we discovered
- What's next

# SEEKING DIRECTION

# Seeking Direction: the Survey

- How you use FAST

- Evaluation of current services

- Interest in new services:
  - Batch conversions
  - Integration into cataloging
  - Updates to WorldCat records
  - Ability to request new headings

# Seeking Direction: the Interviews

- January – March 2018
- 10 institutions:
  - British Library
  - Brown
  - Columbia
  - Cornell
  - Harvard
  - Penn State
  - Stanford
  - Yale
  - Analysis & Policy Observatory
  - Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology

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# Seeking Direction: the Conversations

- Reviewing the findings and each others' perspectives

- Discuss options for the future

- Determine initial next steps

# WHAT WE DISCOVERED

# Primary Needs and Concerns (1)

- FAST supported long-term

- Must continue to be easy to use

- Retain same tools (improve some)

- Add batch conversion, APIs (and integrate)

- Regular updates

# Primary Needs and Concerns (2)

- Continued access, preferably open
- Clear development path
- Add guidance on use
- Clearly defined relationship with LCSH
- Better content and coverage

# Why New Terms?

- Terms not accepted by SACO
- Terms specific to domains
- Terms specific to formats
- Time periods appropriate to other cultures

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# Why Alternative Terms?

- Offensive terms ("Illegal Aliens")
- Equivalent across cultures:
  - Australian term:  Public Service
  - UK term: Civil Service
  - US term: Public Administration
- American spelling and phrases ("health and hygiene")
- Public discussion

# Relationship to LCSH

- As primary source
- For new and alternative terms:
  - Track provenance
  - Track cultural applicability?
  - Link relationships to existing terms

# Better Content & Coverage

**Options:**

1) Submit proposals to SACO

2) Community provides new terminology

## *OR ...*

# Incorporate Other Vocabs: Pros

- Leverage expertise and contributions of others
- Avoid recreating the wheel
- Broader, deeper coverage

# Incorporate Other Vocabs: Cons

- Overhead and maintenance
- Loss of incoming vocabulary structure
- Makes FAST too complex and difficult to use

# Alternative Terms & Languages

- Multiple cultural options per language
- Multiple languages

# WHAT'S NEXT

# Potential Future Goals

- Coalesce multiple name/identity sources
- Ability to select sources
- Multi-lingual, multi-script
- Map to other vocabularies
- One-stop shop for multiple vocabularies?

# Community Involvement

- Suggest new terminology

- Vote on terms

- Working groups:
  - Assess other controlled vocabularies
  - Determine viability of mappings
  - Documentation
  - Term definitions, scope, and guidelines
  - Training resources

# Guidance and Engagement

**Editorial Policy Committee:**

- Oversees community engagement
- Establish editorial policies and principles
- Recommends strategic directions and improvements
- Sets priorities
- Advocates for FAST
- Facilitates dissemination of training resources

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# Next Steps

Develop editorial policy committee:

- Scope of work
- Structure
- Requirements for participation
- Selection
- Length of terms

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# More to come…

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Because
what is
known must
be shared.<sup>SM</sup>

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