Creating Order Out of Chaos: Introducing Name Authority into a Large ETD Collection
Overview

- Name Authority
- UNT Libraries Approach
  - UNT Name App
  - Narrow the scope
  - Develop a workflow
- Lessons Learned
- Q & A
Name Authority
Name Authority

Search and Retrieval

- Citation analysis
- Embargos
- Copyright management
- Linking researchers with their research
Name Authority

Common Issues

- Changing a name
- Abbreviations/initials
- Entry errors
- Similar or same names
- Pseudonyms
Name Authority

One Example

- *Samuel Clemens*
  - Clemens, Sameul Langhorne
  - Clemmens, Samuel
  - Clemens, S. L.
  - Twain, Mark
Name Authority

More Complex Example

- *Ellery Queen*
  - Dannay, Frederic
  - Lee, Manfred Bennington
    - Two names = 1 pseudonym
Name Authority

Many Interested Groups

- Virtual International Authority File (VIAF)
- Library of Congress (LOC)
- Wikipedia
- OCLC
Name Authority

Unique Author Identifiers

- ORCID
- ResearcherID
- International Standard Name Identifier (ISNI)
Name Authority

Random Sampling of 200 Names in our ETDs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>UNT ETD Collection</th>
<th>200 (random sampling)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>VIAF</td>
<td>28%</td>
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<td>LOC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wikipedia</td>
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<tr>
<td>WorldCat Identifier</td>
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Name Authority

Random Sampling of 200 Names in our ETDs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>ORCID</td>
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<td>ResearcherID</td>
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<td>ISNI</td>
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Name Authority

Random Sampling of 200 Names in our ETDs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Local bibliographic record</td>
<td>61%</td>
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<tr>
<td>UNT Name App</td>
<td>22%</td>
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Name Authority

Additional Challenges

- Entering names verbatim
- Over 7,000 ETDs
- Retroactive digitization
- Communication with metadata creators
UNT Libraries Approach
UNT Libraries Approach

1. Create a tool – UNT Name App
2. Narrow the scope
3. Develop a workflow
UNT Name App

A Tool for Consistency

- Reference
- Disambiguation
- Storage
- Access
UNT Name App

Five Stars of Open Linked Data

- Make it available on the web
- Make it available as structured data
- Use non-proprietary formats
- Use URIs to identify things
- Link to other data for context
UNT Name App

Going a Step Further

- Storing unique identifiers
- Vocabularies available to metadata creators
- Meaningful data for users
http://digital2.library.unt.edu/name/
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Date of Birth</th>
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<tr>
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Authorized: Acree, William E. (William Eugene)

URI: http://digital2.library.unt.edu/name/nm0000381

Affiliations
- University of Missouri-Rolla: Alumnus (1975)
- University of Missouri-Rolla: Alumnus (1977)
- University of Missouri-Rolla: Alumnus (1981)
- Phillips Petroleum Co: Research Associate (1980)
- University of Kansas: Research Associate (1980-1981)
- University of Kansas: Instructor (1981-1982)
- Kent State University: Faculty (1982-1988)
- Kent State University: Liquid Crystal Institute: Faculty (1985-1988)

Links:
- Internal: UNT Libraries Digital Collections
- UNT Faculty Profile: https://faculty.unt.edu/editprofile.php?pid=2006
- VIAF: http://viaf.org/viaf/92554693
- LOC: http://id.loc.gov/authorities/names/n83178609

Publishes
- Acree, William E., Jr.

As:
- Acree, Bill
Narrow the Scope

Decisions

- Born-digital ETDs (since 1999)
- Most relevant names
  - chairs
  - committee members
Develop a Workflow

Staged Approach

- Populate the UNT Name App
- Clean-up/ add authorized versions
- Include details and information
- Edit records in the ETD collection
Populate the UNT Name App

1. Allison, John
2. Allison, John M.
3. Allison, John M., Jr.
4. Allison, Patricia
5. Adams, R. N.
6. Adams, R. W.
7. Adelman, Amie
8. Aden, Robert C.
9. Adkins, Cecil
10. Adkins, Deborah H.
11. Adkins, Roscoe C.
Clean-up variations: Merging records
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</table>
Include details and information

- Affiliations
- Dates
- Location
- Subject Areas
Name: Cundari, Thomas R., 1964-

Name type: Personal

Biography:
- **Affiliations**
  - "Pace University, New York:" Alumnus (1985)
  - "University of Florida:" Alumnus (1990)
  - "National Institutes of Standards and Technology/Center for Advanced Research in Biotechnology:" Visiting Scientist (1992)
  - "Los Alamos National Laboratory:" Visiting Scientist (1994)
  - "Cornell Theory Center, Cornell University:" Visiting Scientist (1995)
  - "University of Memphis:" Faculty (1991-2000)
  - "Advanced Biomedical Computing Center, National Cancer Institute:" NSF Scholar in Residence at NIH (2001)
  - "Dana-Farber University:" Faculty (2000-2002)
  - "University of Memphis:" Faculty (2000-2002)
  - "University of North Texas:" Faculty (2002-)
  - "Center for Advanced Scientific Computing and Modeling:" Co-director (2005-)

- **Subject Areas**
  - Computational inorganic and organometallic chemistry

Compatible with MARKDOWN

End:
Conforms to EDTF format: YYYY-MM-DD

Disambiguation: 1964-
Include identifiers and links

- VIAF, LOC, WorldCat, etc.
- Faculty profiles
- LinkedIn
- ORCID, ISNI, etc.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
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<tr>
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<td><a href="https://faculty.unt.edu/editprofile.php?&amp;pid=1198">https://faculty.unt.edu/editprofile.php?&amp;pid=1198</a> UNT Faculty Profile</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Edit records in the ETD collection
What have we learned?
Lessons Learned

- Name authority is very important!
- Pulling lists helps a lot
  - Divide up the work
  - Simultaneously work on the project
- Focus on names you use, not names you could use
Questions?

Additional Information

- Implementing Name Authority Control into Institutional Repositories: A Staged Approach
  http://digital.library.unt.edu/ark:/67531/metadc172365

- Laura Waugh
  laura.waugh@unt.edu