

## **Interoperability Committee Report 2006**

Submitted by: Gail Wanner, Chair

Members: Mary Heath, Angela Thomas; Barbara Preece; Brenda Bailey-Hainer; Candy Zemon; Carrol Lunau; Clare MacKeigan; Collette Mak; Donna Dinberg; Gail Wanner; John Bodfish; Linda Zaleski; Mark Needleman; Matt Goldner; Tanner Wray; Ted Koppel; Tony Obrien

### **Goal:**

The Interoperability Group was formed to research and address issues with interoperability in three main categories: interoperability within a library standard, interoperability between library standards and interoperability beyond the library world. In 2005, this group discussed ways to achieve new levels of interoperability as quickly as possible. The group decided that leapfrogging today's issues and moving into the user environment of commercial search engines with a service called "GET IT" was the fastest and best approach. This idea was presented at the Forum in Denver and was accepted by the RRS members.

### **Activities:**

Several conference calls were held during the summer and fall of 2006. The purpose was to work on defining desired functionality for a GET-IT service, drafting and approving a functional specification and beginning development. The original hope was to have the prototype ready for use at MidWinter ALA but that has proven not to be possible and the current target is to have it ready for Annual in June 2007.

John Bodfish, OCLC PICA, and Mary Heath, California Digital Library, have done the design and coding work on the GET-IT prototype. They are in early stages yet, but the unique functionality that this service provides is the ability to parse a web page for isbn and other data elements rather than relying on metadata. A demonstration will be given at the Steering Committee meeting in Seattle on Friday, January 19.

A call was sent out to WebRLib and other lists, seeking volunteers to assist in development of the GET-IT service and the extensions. This did not result in any additional resources.

Discussions were held with Pat Stevens about the relationship of the Interoperability Group to NISO. A formal proposal was submitted to NISO but the Interop committee members decided to postpone acting on this until after the GET-IT project prototype was completed.

Several presentations were done at various library industry events to begin promotion of the GET-IT service. The sessions included: LITA, ACCESS, CODI, and the California Library Association. Response from audiences was largely positive although some librarians expressed concern about encouraging patrons to bypass their web sites and also at the inclusion of non-library resources in the display presented to patrons.