III. Authority in Ursus

As of January 2001, Ursus bibliographic records are output to OCLC for authority control. OCLC MARS Marc Record Service (http://www.wln.org/products/mars/default.htm) corrects and/or updates the bibliographic records per our MARS Profile. The MARS Profile was developed by the Authority Cleanup Committee whose members included representatives for Ursus1 users (University of Maine System) and Ursus2 users (Maine Infonet, Portland Public Library). The Profile is on file in the University of Maine System Office and encompasses Full MARS preprocessing for both Authority and MARC tag and field updating. Records changed by OCLC will be returned with a Modifying Agency Subfield (040) containing the change stamp "WaOLN"

The original load encompassed all bibliographic records up to a catalog date of 12/20/01. Records were returned to the Ursus database as per a pre-set load. (The current load table can be viewed by accessing Ursus M > MANAGEMENT information, I > INFORMATION about the system, C > CODES used, M > MARC load tables, BIB record from OCLC (authorities) (m2btab.boclc)). After the intial load, the load table was adjusted to maintain some key variable fields such as 856 and some selected 9XX fields. All pre-existing authority records were deleted from Ursus and a new authority file including authorities without cross references were loaded as requested from the OCLC MARS Record Service Profile. Since that time, records are output on a quarterly basis grouped by bibliographic record CATALOG DATE. Corrected records and new or changed authority records are loaded. Systems Office will notify all System Contacts when a new file is output and returned. During that time, any corrections or changes made to pre-existing bibliographic records included in that output file will be lost when the file is returned. Therefore, changes should be set aside until the file is returned. Conversely, any changes made to records that have already been output to OCLC MARS Marc Record Service should have authority work done in-house as they will not be output to OCLC again.