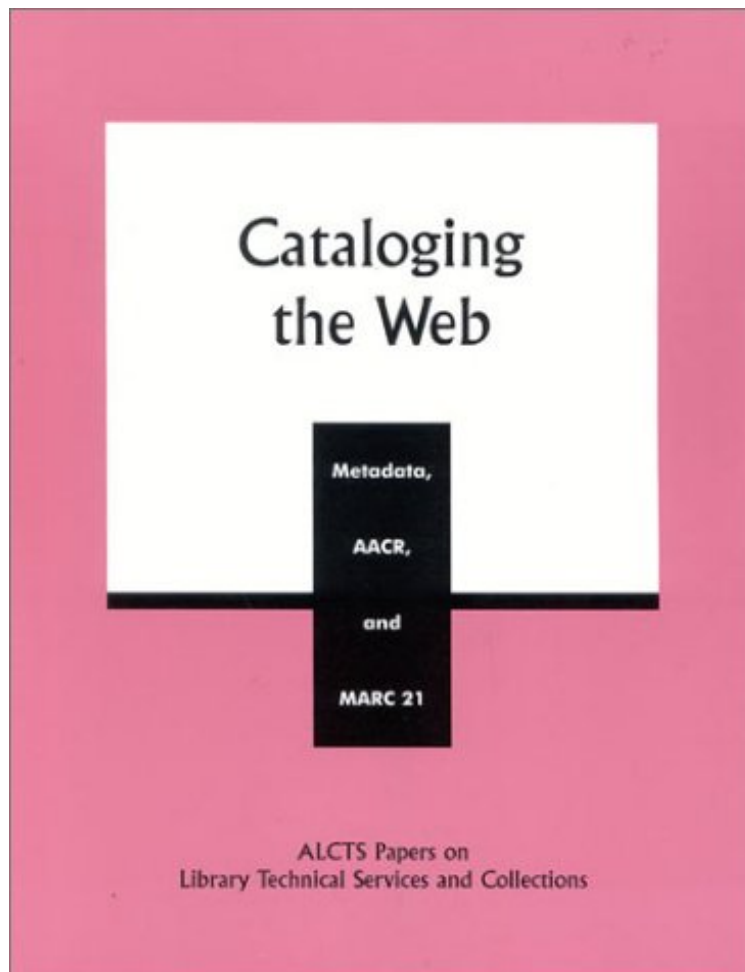


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Cataloging the Web: Metadata, AACR, and MARC 21 (ALCTS Papers on Library Technical Services and Collections)

Wayne Jones, Judith R. Ahronheim, Josephine Crawford

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Wayne Jones, Judith R. Ahronheim, Josephine Crawford : Cataloging the Web: Metadata, AACR, and MARC 21 (ALCTS Papers on Library Technical Services and Collections) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Cataloging the Web: Metadata, AACR, and MARC 21 (ALCTS Papers on Library Technical Services and Collections):

These papers, presented at ALCTS' July 2000 Preconference on Metadata for Web Resources by a virtual who's who of the digital world, provide a timely overview of the challenges and difficulties of bringing order to a most unruly

medium. Topics range from carefully considered viewpoints to possible standards to actual how-to's.

From Library Journal Cataloging the Web is a collection of papers presented at the Association for Library Collections and Technical Services' 2000 preconference "Metadata for Web Resources." (For a preview of the topics covered, the complete table of contents can be found on the publisher's web site, www.scarecrowpress.com.) The best parts are actually at the beginning and end. Jennifer Younger's introduction gives a nice overview of the topic past, present, and possible future, as well as a brief literature review. Clifford Lynch concludes the volume by urging us to broaden our thinking about metadata beyond its use for description and classification. In between lies the usual fare: Sheila Intner's thoughtful look at standards; Jean Hirons talking about the rule revisions for serials; Michael Gorman's diatribe about the worthlessness of most of what's on the web; testimonials for new products; and a preponderance of "how we're doing it" articles. In his preface, editor Jones tells us the goal of this book is "to give an overview of not only what is currently afoot on the Web but also what is possible." Unfortunately, Cataloging the Web doesn't quite reach this lofty aim, devoting instead most pages to rehashing the past and present and ignoring the future. Still, it's not too pricey, so if you're building your collection of cataloging reference sources, go ahead and buy it. April Bohannon, Virginia Beach P.L., VA Copyright 2002 Cahners Business Information, Inc. The papers will be inspirational for their focused interrogations of the appropriateness of traditional methods in conjunction with the benefits of newer standards and innovative softwares...will be of practical value to all working in this exciting area. (Library Information Update) The papers, by an impressive array of key players, cover both background issues and descriptions of real-world applications of metadata in an alphabet soup of projects. (Portals) A comprehensive overview of current thoughts and theories of Web control via metadata....Cataloging the Web, unlike other works, compiles essays on varying forms of metadata and it will no doubt be useful as a background source on particular projects, methods, and schemas. (Kristi L. Palmer Journal Of Internet Cataloging) This is essential reading for those who wish to become metadata librarians and a noteworthy reference for others. Curious librarians can use this as an instructional work to help understand the nomenclature and new acronyms. I recommend this work to archivists, library managers, library students, catalogers, Web designers, and computer experts. (Olac Newsletter) This book would be a worthwhile purchase for catalogers that are, or will be, involved in the cataloging of Internet resources. Administrators will also find much of the book very useful. (Technicalities) About the Author Wayne Jones is head of serials cataloging at MIT, and senior editor of The Serials Librarian. Judith R. Ahronheim, formerly head of the Original Cataloging Unit at the University of Michigan Graduate Library, currently serves the University as metadata specialist. Josephine Crawford is Head of Information Systems at the University of Minnesota Bio-Medical Library, also serving as an adjunct faculty member for the Master's program in library and information science at Dominican University and the College of St. Catherine.