

## BCC2008/SDC/2

### Subcommittee on Descriptive Cataloging 2008 Business Meeting Newport, Rhode Island

Submitted by Kathy Glennan, Chair

Members: Present: Kathy Glennan (Chair), Joe Bartl, (LC Representative), Steve Henry, Mark Scharff (MLA liaison to CC:DA), Terry Simpkins, Patricia Thomson

At its business meeting in Newport, the Subcommittee on Descriptive Cataloging devoted the bulk of its time to discussing 5JSC/LC/12, LC's *Proposed revision of RDA chap. 6, Additional instructions for musical works and expressions*. The Joint Steering Committee released this 38-page document less than two weeks before the MLA Annual Meeting. Kathy led the discussions, working to identify major issues and areas of agreement and disagreement that will help inform the MLA response to this document, which is due on Feb. 29. Issues discussed included:

- Retain "Selections" or extend "Selected novels [etc.]" concept to music instructions. No agreement about possible substitution of "Excerpts" instead.
- Create categories of instructions to reflect works by one composer and collaborative works, instead of the LC proposal's suggestion to use instrumental works and collaborative works.
- Agree with LC's approach to consider medium of performance as stable vs. flexible. No consensus on elimination of long title rule (6.18.0.3b).
- Concern about language issues, including the proposal to create preferred titles in the language of the cataloging agency, and using the composer's terminology to name works.
- Generally agree with the elimination of the rule of three for medium of performance, with the expectation that technology would help with the backwards compatibility issues.
- Strongly disagree with LC's 6.18.0.3c.1, Titles that are not distinctive. The Subcommittee found the closed list especially troubling, especially since LC articulated no obvious principle for what does and does not appear on this list.
- Consensus to put forward MLA's rule revision proposals to disentangle adaptations/arrangements in RDA 6.17.1 and 6.17.3.

The Subcommittee also discussed issues relating to 5JSC/LC/11, *Designation of Roles in RDA*, a 12-page document also released by the Joint Steering Committee just a few weeks before the Newport meeting. Our discussion centered on issues surrounding limiting specific role relationships to FRBR group 1 entities, as well as specific recommendations for clarifying definitions.

The Subcommittee membership changed at the end of the Newport meeting. Rob Freeborn and Terry Simpkins rotated off the Subcommittee after four years of service, as did Kathy Glennan, who completed her term as chair. We thank these three for their service. Mark Scharff will serve as the Subcommittee's new chair.

Our website (<http://bcc.musiclibraryassoc.org/Descriptive/Descriptive.html>) contains information about the Subcommittee, its activities, and the semi-annual CC:DA reports. We welcome comments and questions about descriptive cataloging at any time.

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*Last updated March 13, 2008*