BCC2009/SDC/4

MUSIC LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
BIBLIOGRAPHIC CONTROL COMMITTEE
Committee on Cataloging: Description and Access
ALA Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL, July 13, 2009
Reported by Mark Scharff, MLA Liaison to CC:DA

The Committee on Cataloging: Description and Access (CC:DA) met once during the ALA Annual Meeting in Chicago; the other sessions were cancelled for lack of agenda items, and to prevent a conflict with an *RDA* Update session on Saturday. The Chair, John Myers (Union College) led the discussions.

This report focuses on items of interest to the music library community. For more information about the meeting and for reports about activities mentioned below, please see the CC:DA web page at http://www.libraries.psu.edu/tas/jca/ccda/index.html. Presentation is more topical than chronological.

Reports

CC:DA Chair. The full report is at http://www.libraries.psu.edu/tas/jca/ccda/docs/chair49.pdf . The Chair reviewed the votes taken by electronic mail since Midwinter 2008, and asked for and received confirmation of the results. Both motions were associated with the development of *RDA (Resource Description and Access)*, authorizing the JSC representative, John Attig, to prepare and submit an ALA response to *RDA*-related documents. The first was to the revised proposals from the Library of Congress to change the *RDA* draft instructions for naming musical works, familiarly known as 5JSC/LC/12 followup and 5JSC/LC/12/follow up/2. As with the original LC/12, the ALA response drew heavily from the MLA response to the documents. The second was a response to the full draft of *RDA*. Myers also reported that the Task Force for Review of ISBD Area 0 had presented a final report and had been discharged. Finally, he announced that contrary to impressions given by CCS Executive Council actions, he would be serving another year as CC:DA chair.

Library of Congress (Barbara Tillett, LC liaison to CC:DA). For a detailed report of LC initiatives, visit: http://www.loc.gov/ala/an-2009-update.html

Barbara Tillett reviewed highlights from her report. Issues of particular interest to the music community include:

* Improvements in reducing the number of denials into the LC online catalog.
* More electronic materials, particularly e-serials, are being brought into the mandatory-deposit copyright program.
* The Cataloging and Policy Support Office (CPSO) has been renamed the Policy and Standards Division. Barbara Tillett is still its head. The e-mail address is now policy@loc.gov
* Barbara highlighted the Virtual International Authority File (VIAF), a cooperative effort between LC and an ever-growing number of national libraries to provide linkages between records in those libraries' authority files. Information on a given entity from the different is being presented in a merged, WorldCat Identities-like fashion. Records can be exported in MARC21 or in Unicode. See http://viaf.org/
* The IFLA *Statement of International Cataloguing Principles* has been published on the Web (see http://www.ifla.org/files/cataloguing/icp/icp_2009-en.pdf) and will appear in print in July 2009.
* Back issues of the *Cataloging Service Bulletin* have been digitized and are available online at http://www.loc.gov/cds/PDFdownloads/csb/ . LC will be assessing the future of the publication in the coming year.

ALA Publishing Services (Don Chatham, Associate Executive Director)

Chatham said that *RDA* was "moving forward on schedule," but that he would be looking to a Monday meeting with software developer Nannette Naught for confirmation. He critiqued the *RDA* Update session given on Saturday, mentioning that parts of it were too technical and were being presented to the wrong audience. ALA's conversations with ILS vendors about *RDA* have had mixed results—nothing happens for them, it seems, without a final text. LC has been initiating discussions with vendors, much more successfully, in advance of the *RDA* testing program, and Chatham hopes that communication will extend to ALA Publishing. This is part of the challenge of connecting the conceptual and practical aspects of *RDA*. As for pricing, Chatham noted that 1) not all costs have been calculated yet; 2) discussions with LC are ongoing re: Cataloger's Desktop; 3) the schemas and data registry have costs, too. There are still plans to market a basic *RDA* (the instructions) as a one-time purchase, which

he expects to be in the $125-$150 range (up from $100-$125 at Midwinter). A similar price would be used for a yearly subscription, with downward adjustments for multiple users. He expects "largely reliable" pricing to be ready by October, and projected a "late November" publication date for *RDA*. He noted that ALA Publishing provides approximately 50% of ALA's revenue, so that any shortfall would have to be made up by increased dues or conference registration fees.

Among the questions during the ensuing discussion:

- Will *RDA* be available to trainers during testing and implementation phases? Chatham said that participants in the LC *RDA* testing will have access at no cost, and that this might pertain to some trainers. The *RDA* software will have a beta test period prior to publication. The LC test can be thought of as a beta test, too, though he hopes and expects it to prompt no big changes in content. This will coincide with release of the product for purchase. He also anticipates some availability on a trial basis.
- When will a functional demo be available? Chatham replied that the "functional demo:" was the "flat content;" it wasn't clear whether he was referring to the PDF files in which the final draft appeared, or the screen shots that have been featured in *RDA* presentations for the past few months.
- Will *RDA* appear in translation? Yes—interest has been expressed from libraries in Germany and Canada. He doesn't foresee any translation appearing until after the initial publication, surmising that a translation should be built into the product, not just "poured into the software."
- What is the status of *RDA* vis-à-vis Cataloger's Desktop? The answer suggested that if there is a relationship developed, it might be that of Cataloger's Desktop being "in" *RDA*, rather than the other way around.
- What are the prospects for a print product? There will be something, but ALA doesn't think that need can be assessed until the online product is actually in use. A print derivative would also be a separate editorial process—the sheer size of *RDA* is daunting.
- What about a stand-alone electronic product, e.g. an e-book? Chatham replied that the software license would be very expensive, so this was not a likely outcome.
- Will there be special pricing for library schools, training needs, etc.? Yes, but not settled yet.

Joint Steering Committee (John Attig, ALA Representative)

Attig reported that ALA responses to the *RDA* full draft and the LC/12/follow up documents had been submitted. He offered special thanks to Kathy Glennan, Mark Scharff, and Kevin Randall (Northwestern University) for their contributions to those documents.

The JSC received 1600 specific comments on the *RDA* draft; they identified and dealt with 600 of them as high-priority items at their March meeting. That meeting marked the end of decision-making on the text, and a marked-up version of the text, running to 3000 pages, was delivered to the publisher on schedule. After the software vendor incorporates the text into the *RDA* software, external users will conduct beta testing. After that, the JSC will do a final review of the text for typo and error correction only—no rethinking will take place. The *RDA* revision process is a separate topic for future discussion. Attig noted that the JSC Web site had relocated to http://www.rda-jsc.org/ , and mentioned new documents there—mappings of *RDA* elements to various encoding schemes, known changes from AACR2, and a list of deferred issues. He thanked Adam Schiff (University of Washington) for his work on the *RDA* examples; committee members in turn thanked John for blogging the March JSC meeting (http://www.personal.psu.edu/jxa16/blogs/resource_description_and_access_ala_rep_notes/blog/)

CC:DA Webmaster (Patricia Hatch).

Migration efforts to move from the Penn State site to ALA Connect continue at a glacial pace. ALA Connect is still new, and members expressed some frustration with using it. Attig surmised that its ultimate value may be more for outreach than for being a working tool of the committee.

RDA Implementation Task Force (John Myers for Shawne Miksa).

The Task Force had its final meeting at this conference; it was discharged and changed into two new Task Forces—one for Planning and Training, and one for Update Programs. The CC:DA chair is an ex officio member of the Planning and Training Task Force. In assessing the Task Force presentations at Annual, the Preconference was deemed a success, with 126 participants and good feedback. The Saturday *RDA* Update program was less successful, for reasons mentioned earlier in this report. It's expected that there will be an Update Forum at Midwinter 2010, though its content is yet to be determined. Annual

2010 would feature a preconference and two program sessions—one a vendor panel on implementing, and a testing panel to provide some reflection on the testing period, at least anecdotally.

CCS Executive Committee meeting (John Myers)

The major point of interest for the committee was that the workload of the CC:DA Chair position has made it a very hard sell for potential candidates.   One possible remedy would be to increase the number of voting members and appoint one to be a vice-chair. The ALA representative to the JSC also has had a staggering workload; the coming months being akin to the "eye of a hurricane," may afford time to consider ways to lessen the load.

New Business

Attig reported that CC:DA had been invited to review the draft of the *Functional Requirements for Subject Authority Data (FRSAD)*. The deadline for comments was the end of July. The Subject Access Committee would normally have the lead in reviewing such a document; the invitation to CC:DA recognized the committee's experience with reviewing other such documents. It also reflected a leadership vacuum in SAC. A motion to establish a task force for this purpose was approved. Lori Robare (University of Oregon) volunteered to chair the group; five CC:DA members and liaisons volunteered to serve, and Robare was directed to recruit members from SAC.

Attig raised the question: with the completion of work on the 1st version of the *RDA* text, what now? He recommended that the committee start identifying instructions that will need revision sooner than later. The Committee of Principals, *RDA*'s issuing body, has not begun discussion of what a revision process would look like. Attig assumed that the JSC would continue to exist, but that other bodies may be more directly involved in revision processes. He opined that the March 2010 meeting of the JSC would start this discussion, but likely not entertain any revision proposals. Prioritizing will be a must, with bugs identified in the testing program coming first. Constituencies should use the List of Deferred Items as fodder for their proposals. (This will no doubt be a BCC task during the coming year).

Voting members Robert Maxwell (Brigham Young University) and Paul Weiss (independent consultant) finished their CC:DA service at this meeting; they will be replaced by Martha Yee (UCLA) and Bob Wolverton (Mississippi State University).   John Myers continues as chair for another year. The committee is scheduled to meet at ALA Midwinter 2010 on January 16 and 18.

Last updated August 18,

2009