

## **ALA ANNUAL CONFERENCE REPORT**

**Report from the ALCTS-CaMMS Subject Analysis Committee (SAC)  
and the SAC Genre/Form Implementation Subcommittee**

**Anaheim, June 22-25, 2012**

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### **Genre News**

LC will be creating a policy manual for LCGFT. It will contain general guidelines, and communities will need to create best practices.

SAC-SGFI compiled an online resource titled "Sources for Genre/Form Terms". It is available on the SACO website at <http://www.loc.gov/aba/pcc/saco/documents/Genre-Form%20Reference%20Sources.pdf>.

SAC-SGFI wrote three MARBI discussion papers on facets related to genre/form: chronological aspects, audience characteristics, and creator/contributor group categorizations. For explanation and outcomes of these papers, see the MARBI report.

The subcommittee discussed a report on geographic origin of work and place of production as an aspect related to genre/form. The report recommended that field 751 be used for the geographic origin aspect, along with relator terms or codes for things like place of performance, place of origin, or jurisdiction. The group will discuss these codes with the MARC Standards Office.

The group also addressed a discussion paper on demonyms (terms for persons from a certain place, e.g. Hoosier). It was agreed that perhaps this vocabulary can be crown sourced and doesn't need to be an LC vocabulary.

### **Genre Projects (in alphabetical order)**

#### **Cartography Project**

The most recent development for this project was an LC discussion paper from May 2012 LC paper on treatment of globes in *LCGFT*. There are currently three terms for globes: "Globes", "Lunar globes", and "Celestial globes". The paper proposes to use only the term "Globes", which would be post-coordinated with a subject heading for the heavenly body depicted.

#### **General Terms Project**

LC-PSD approved adding this project to the genre/form development timeline. The outcome will be a thesaurus of general-use genre/form terms to be incorporated into *LCGFT*. This project grew out of the SAC-SGFI 185/155 Working Group, which looked at the 255 free-floating form subdivisions in *LCSH*. 75 of these terms were deemed appropriate for *LCGFT* and are included in the project. The goal for completion of this project is ALA Midwinter 2013. A challenge for this project will be avoiding orphan

terms, while coming up with broadest terms which provide hierarchy and still maintain intellectual accuracy.

#### Law Project

The law project is facing a unique challenge. Unlike the music project, where genre and medium terms already exist (albeit as subject heading strings) in bibliographic records, law genre headings are not present and must be ferreted out from other parts of the record. Those working on the law project are developing strategies for identifying OCLC records that need each of the approximately 80 law genre terms. In many cases, a different strategy is needed for each term. After the records are identified in WorldCat and the terms added, law libraries will be given a crosswalk between the OCLC numbers and the law genre/form terms. They will then be expected to use global updating to merge the terms into their existing records. Some of the strategies used in the law project could inform work on the music projects as well.

#### Literature Project

SGFI appointed a Working Group on *LCGFT* Literature Terms to work on this project in conjunction with LC-PSD. The group includes representatives from public, school, and academic libraries, as well as vendors. The group held its first meeting during this Annual conference.

#### Moving Image Project

Being the first genre project to be undertaken, the moving image project is now in the stage of refining the established set of genre terms. PSD recently cancelled about 70 character- and franchise-based genre terms (like “Batman films” and “Star Trek television programs”). Resources should be assigned a subject heading for the character, and other access points should be used to bring out the franchise. Also, PSD cancelled 22 sport-related genre terms (like “Baseball films”). The genre term “Sports films” or “Sports television programs” should be used instead and post-coordinated with a subject heading for the sport depicted.

#### Music Project

The new thesaurus for medium of performance terms, *Library of Congress Medium of Performance Thesaurus for Music (LCMPT)*, is in development. It will be comparable to *LCSH* and *LCGFT* and is meant to be used alongside these two vocabularies.

#### Religion Project

The American Theological Library Association (ATLA) is partnering with other smaller library organizations relating to religion. They are finalizing a draft thesaurus that will be presented to PSD.

#### **Subject News**

LC is investigating creating broader terms (BTs) for terms having not BT (“orphan” terms). They are also conducting an experiment to add subject category codes (MARC 072 field) to authority records for subject headings. This information will help indicate

which pattern and free-floating headings pertain to a given heading. Both of these projects will help make *LCSH* more compatible with the semantic web.

Classification schedule M (Music) has been added to id.loc.gov. This is still a beta version and searchable by caption only, not class number. Eventually, users will be able to do a bulk download of a class schedule. The schedule is available at:

<http://id.loc.gov/authorities/classification.html>