Descriptive Cataloging Subcommittee Annual Report, July 2012- June 2013
Tracey Snyder, Chair

Members: Tracey Snyder (Chair, 2012), Jim Alberts (through January 2013), Sonia Archer-Capuzzo (2012), Sarah Cohen (2010), Elizabeth Cribbs (2013), Christopher Diamond (2013), Patty Falk (2011), Candy Feldt (through September 2012), Kathy Glennan (through July 2013), Damian Iseminger (2013), Gary Markham (2011), Elizabeth McCraw (2012), Charles Peters (2012), Amy Strickland (2012), Joe Bartl (LC Representative)

The 2012-2013 fiscal year was another busy one for DCS, with most of the subcommittee's activity centering on the ongoing revision of the new cataloging code, RDA.

In summer 2012, subcommittee members reviewed and provided feedback on 12 RDA revision proposals emanating from Library of Congress (LC), the Canadian Committee on Cataloguing (CCC), the Australian Committee on Cataloguing (ACOC), IAML, and the European RDA Interest Group (EURIG), as well as a discussion paper by the ALA Committee on Cataloging: Description and Access (CC:DA) Task Force on Machine-Actionable Data Elements in RDA Chapter 3.

At the November 2012 meeting of the Joint Steering Committee for Development of RDA (JSC), several music-related RDA revision proposals generated by MLA were deliberated and approved. The subcommittee communicated our feedback and input to the ALA representative to the JSC per his request in order to help finalize the approved revisions.

The subcommittee collaborated with members of OLAC in a discussion investigating the inconsistency between the RDA Chapter 2 element of statement of responsibility and the RDA Chapter 7 elements of performer and artistic/technical credits. MLA and OLAC submitted a joint discussion paper to CC:DA, which was discussed at ALA 2013.

In spring 2013, the Chair worked with the ALA representative to the JSC to propose new relationship designators for incidental music and refine existing relationship designators for cadenzas via the fast-track process for RDA revisions.

Members of DCS and other BCC subcommittees provided input on a few issues being investigated by the RDA Music Joint Working Group (RMJWG), two of which were ultimately addressed in RDA revision proposals. One proposal dealt with recording preferred titles of numbered parts of a work and the other with recording the preferred title of a musical work when the title consists solely of the name of one type of composition.

In spring and summer 2013, members of DCS and other BCC subcommittees collaborated to generate a significant RDA revision proposal that, if approved, will substantially improve the RDA instructions for recording medium of performance data for musical works.

The July 2013 release of the RDA Toolkit reflected several changes in instructions affecting the identification musical works, as a result of the successful RDA revision proposals created in part by DCS in the previous fiscal year (spring 2012).

At MLA 2013 in San Jose, subcommittee chair Tracey Snyder and subcommittee member Kathy Glennan served as two of the instructors for the daylong RDA preconference, which was by all accounts deemed successful. Tracey also organized the afternoon sessions for this training. Since the preconference, Tracey and the instructors have fielded numerous questions on RDA via personal email and email lists.

Past Goals

The subcommittee met its goal of reviewing (with other BCC subcommittees) the RDA revision proposals (proposals submitted summer 2012) from other constituencies (LC, CCC, ACOC, IAML, and EURIG) and providing useful commentary to inform the official MLA response that was submitted to ALA. The Chair conveyed summaries of the comments to ALA for inclusion in the official ALA responses.

The goal of collaborating with the Authorities Subcommittee to generate more RDA revision proposals as needed was quite successful. Subcommittee members and other BCC members collaborated to generate a significant RDA revision proposal that, if approved, will substantially improve the RDA instructions for recording medium of performance data for musical works.

The Chair will continue to serve on the joint RDA Music Revisions Facilitation Task Force (now under the auspices of the JSC) and will assist in determining further revisions needed. Status update: The new name of this group is RDA Music Joint Working Group (RMJWG). The Chair continues to serve as a representative of MLA.

The goal of developing develop content for the bibliographic portion of the 2013 RDA preconference was met with great success. Chair Tracey Snyder continues to maintain a LibGuide that provides access to the preconference materials and other instructional materials for music cataloging with RDA.

The goal of participating on the newly formed Task Force on Instructions for Recording Relationships (appointed by CC:DA) was met. Chair Tracey Snyder served on this group, which submitted a discussion paper to the JSC, via CC:DA.

Goals for 2013-2014

The Descriptive subcommittee, along with other BCC members, will review RDA revision proposals (proposals submitted to the JSC summer 2013) from other constituencies as needed and provide commentary if applicable, to inform the official ALA responses.

Generate RDA revision proposals as needed. MLA-sponsored proposals will be funneled through the RMJWG, of which chair Tracey Snyder is a substantially contributing member. Likely topics for this year's proposals include: preferred titles of compilations and how this relates especially to sound recordings, numeric designations in preferred titles, and continued revisions relating to refining instructions for medium of performance, particularly in light of developments with the *Library of Congress Medium of Performance Thesaurus* (LCMPT).

Continue to collaborate with members of OLAC to explore solutions for the problem of inconsistency between the RDA Chapter 2 element of statement of responsibility and the RDA Chapter 7 elements of performer and artistic/technical credits, following CC:DA discussion at ALA 2013 of the MLA/OLAC joint discussion paper that was submitted to CC:DA in spring 2013.

Chair Tracey Snyder and subcommittee member Damian Iseminger will serve as instructors for webinars on music cataloging in RDA. Snyder will also continue to maintain the preconference LibGuide for the time being.

These goals relate to the MLA Strategic Plan goal areas of Organizational Excellence (collaborative work with OLAC, ALA, and other organizations in preparing RDA revisions) and Education (RDA webinars, use of technology to provide professional development and training support via upcoming RDA webinars and continued maintenance of the RDA preconference LibGuide.)