

ALA Annual Meeting 2014, Las Vegas
Report from ACIG (Authority Control Interest Group) and OLAC-CAPC (Online
Audiovisual Catalogers – Cataloging Policy Committee)
Submitted by Ray Schmidt, Chair, Authorities Subcommittee, MLA-BCC

ACIG

Library of Congress Update (Janis L. Young, Library of Congress, Policy and Standards Division)

The Acquisitions and Bibliographic Access Directorate (ABA) is beginning a BIBFRAME Editor pilot. The pilot will test the editor as a mechanism for creating bibliographic records from scratch. It will include materials in English, in a western European language, and in a language in a non-roman script. It may also include a non-print format (mainly depending on whether another unit besides ABA joins in the project). Planning should be completed by September 2014, and the pilot is expected to last a year.

The RDA Toolkit February 2014 release included fast-track changes to RDA text and 28 new, deleted, or revised LC-PCC Policy Statements. The April 2014 release included the annual update to RDA by JSC (revisions approved in November 2013), fast-track changes to RDA, and 62 new, deleted, or revised LC-PCC Policy Statements. Because the April updates were so numerous, PSD put together a [table](#) that highlights some of the major changes to RDA. The table is meant to supplement rather than replace the Revision History and Update History in the Toolkit.

LC is providing free access to documentation on their [web site](#) in pdf form: LC Subject Headings, 36th edition (June 2014), and LC Classification (most current edition of each schedule). The plan for keeping current is to post new editions of LCSH and the class schedules each January, and earlier editions will be archived. Also available are the Subject Headings Manual (SHM) (current through the June 2014), and the Classification and Shelflisting Manual (current edition, 2013). Going forward, instruction sheets will be updated on an as-needed basis and superseded files will be overwritten. Interestingly, the introduction to LCSH was the most downloaded item on the web site in the last year.

LC continues to partner with several organizations to develop genre/form terms. By the end of 2014, general, literature, and religion terms are expected to come into LCGFT, and music terms will follow in January-February 2015. The Library of Congress Medium of performance Thesaurus for Music (LCMPT) was released and implemented by LC in February.

The Policy and Standards Division has begun work on the creation of LC Demographic Group Terms (LCDGT). The first step has been to compile LCSH classes of persons and ethnic group headings. The next step will be to determine which terms from this compiled list are likely to be used as characteristics of a creator and which are likely to be considered audiences for particular works. After this, terms will be assigned to

hierarchies, and approval of terms is scheduled for late 2014 or early 2015. The main focus of this project is literature and music.

LCMPT, the Library of Congress Medium of Performance Thesaurus for Music (Hermine Vermeij, Team Leader, Subject Specialists Catalogers at UCLA and past chair of the MLA Subject Access Subcommittee)

Vermeij provided an overview of LCMPT, the Library of Congress Medium of Performance Thesaurus for Music. Historically, music catalogers have used LCSH to record the medium of performance, even though it is not really a subject. Vermeij enumerated four problems associated with using LCSH for music:

- 1) Subject headings omit medium of performance when it is implied: “Concertos (Piano)” denotes the genre/form (Concertos) as well as the medium of performance (Piano), but “orchestra” is only implied, because most concertos are accompanied by an orchestra.
- 2) Many headings are constructed according to complex rules when it comes to the order in which several instruments are listed; if it isn’t exactly right, the heading won’t file correctly with others. Furthermore, these text strings can’t be parsed by a machine.
- 3) Genre/form and medium of performance are often conflated in subject headings, so, for instance, there is no way to retrieve all music for flute and piano. “Flute and piano music” is only used if you have no particular genre/form, while there are also headings like “Sonatas (Flute and piano)” and “Suites (Flute and piano).”
- 4) For percussion music, LCSH lacks granularity: “Percussion ensembles” is used for anything written for two or more percussionists, which does not convey which instruments are actually being played.

The solution to these problems is a combination of the Library of Congress Genre/Form Terms (LCGFT) and LCMPT. In 2007, the Library of Congress and the Music Library Association began a collaboration to remove music genre/form terms from LCSH and add them to LCGFT. Early on, it was decided that medium of performance terms were separate from genre/form terms, and were not to be included in LCGFT.

Work on the music portion of LCGFT is ongoing, and LC and MLA hope to have a tentative list ready by early 2015. There are about 900-1000 terms on this list. Music LCGFT terms will be post-coordinated with LCMPT terms to replace the music LCSH headings that have been used purely for genre/form access. Subject headings that have been used topically will remain in LCSH.

LCMPT was officially released in February. There are over 800 terms. It is different from LCSH in that the terms are generally singular and in lowercase. It is a true thesaurus; each term has at least one broader term, and many have scope notes. LCMPT is available

on Classification Web and can also be downloaded in [MARC UTF-8 format](#). It is available as [linked data](#) from LC's Linked data Service.

LCMPT authority records can be identified by an LCCN beginning with “mp...” in the 010 field and “\$e lcmpt” in the 040. LCMPT terms are coded in the 382 field in both bibliographic and authority records for musical works. Vermeij presented examples of MARC coding of various medium of performance terms in the 382 field. For details, see [Provisional Best Practices for Using LCMPT](#), now available from the Music Library Association.

Some issues that have not been fully resolved include:

382 subfield \$n (number of performers) doesn't work for piano 4 hands. The current stopgap is to use “\$v piano, 4 hands”.

Popular music does not easily lend itself to fully identifying medium of performance. It will need to be decided whether medium of performance is an important way to access popular music.

Recording number of ensembles: \$n only refers to the number of performers, so there is currently no way to record the number of ensembles, e.g. two orchestras. MLA is looking into a new MARC subfield for number of ensembles.

It is still unknown how LCMPT will work in BIBFRAME.

For now, music catalogers are continuing to use LCSH terms in 650s. Adding 382s and 655s to bibliographic records, and 382s to authority records, is encouraged. New terms may be proposed through the [SACO Music Funnel Project](#).

ProMusicDB (Christy Crawl, ProMusicDB Founder/Project Director)

ProMusicDB is a professional music credits database currently in development. From Crawl's perspective as a musician, credit information “validates our history, validates what we do” but it also matters in terms of getting paid for performances. For born-digital recordings, credit information is often lacking, and it is difficult for music unions and performance rights organizations to locate a musician's output in the marketplace. Crawl presented a prototype of ProMusicDB, discussed how identifiers are generated in the database, and read from [ProMusicDB ID: A Working Paper](#) by Vikram Sorathia.

ProMusicDB is intended to address the problem of validating and disambiguating names of musicians by having musicians sign into the system and contribute data about themselves. Access to the database would be verified through professional organizations of which the musician is a member (e.g. American Federation of Musicians, SAG-AFTRA, ASCAP or BMI). In another possible scenario, members of MLA would have access to the system in order to contribute data about musicians.

Crowl outlined the components of the ProMusicDB ID, which would uniquely identify every performance by a musician, while taking into account the complexities in capturing types of musical events and performers:

- type identifier: “who and what” information about the entity, e.g. music professional, live event
- date, e.g. birth date, date of first professional recording, date of joining professional organization
- location, e.g. birth place, place of event
- genre, from standard lists of genre identified by NARM
- credit: two digits representing type of contribution, based on DDEX artist role, e.g. ensemble, composer, lead artist
- unique number assigned by the system

Much of the data in the ProMusicDB ID will be verified against records of music unions and professional rights organizations.

LC/NACO RDA Phase 3 (Gary Strawn, Authorities Librarian, Northwestern University)

Strawn described the work of the PCC-appointed Acceptable Headings Task Force in determining and carrying out mechanical changes to authority records needed to accommodate RDA. In Phase 1, records that couldn't be used under RDA without further examination were marked with a 667 note. In Phase 2, mechanical changes to records were made such as expanded abbreviations, replacing “violoncello” with “cello,” and changing “\$t Selections” to “\$t Works. \$k Selections.”

Since then, catalogers have been expected to know that an authority record can be used under RDA unless it is marked otherwise. In March 2014, PCC appointed a new Task Force to investigate recoding such records explicitly as RDA records in a Phase 3 project. An estimated 7.5 million records would be affected. Changing records at the rate of that was used in Phases 1-2, 30,000 a day, would take a year. An alternative is to issue a new copy of entire file, which would entail a major disruption over a 2-week period. This is still under discussion.

Planned additional changes to be made in Phase 3 include:

- reconsideration of personal names \$c by determining which can be used under RDA, since the list of acceptable terms has been greatly expanded
- marking undifferentiated name records as non-RDA
- changes to medium of performance in music access points by converting standard combinations of instruments into equivalent strings (e.g. “\$m ... string trio” to “\$m violin, viola, cello”), and generating a 382 field; this is under review by MLA but changes will probably be made soon
- recoding certain 678 fields as 670s when the information contained is intended for catalogers rather than public display

- generation of 046 fields from fuller birth and death dates in 670 fields (copying dates from 100 \$d into the 046 was done during Phase 2)
- changes to relator terms, e.g. “editor of compilation” changed to “editor”; this affects under 10,000 authority records and will probably be done soon rather than wait for the big change
- adding ISNI into authority records in an 024 field

The Phase 3 Task Force expects to complete its report by March 15, 2015 at the latest. The report will propose a timetable for doing the work, and will be reviewed for approval by PCC. The Task Force is preparing a set of documents that describe planned changes. When these are available for download, inspection, and comments, there will be announcements on Facebook and Twitter, and on RDA and PCC lists.

Business meeting

Nathan Putnam (Head, Metadata Services, University of Maryland) is the new chair of ACIG ; Christina Hennessey (Cataloging Librarian Loyola Marymount University) is now the past chair; Scott Piepenburg (Head of Cataloging, Odum Library, Valdosta State University), is incoming vice-chair, and new members-at-large are Jodi Spillane (Cataloger, University of South Carolina) and Rosemary Groenwald (Head, Tech Services, Mount Prospect Public Library).

Brief discussions were held on possible presentation topics for Midwinter 2015 and on the historical basis for ACIG’s affiliation with both LITA and ALCTS within ALA.

OLAC-CAPC

Announcements

Kelley McGrath announced that there is still time to contribute to the OLAC Movie & Video Credit Annotation Experiment (see <http://olac-annotator.org>). The project is in need of volunteers to translate credits in languages other than English, particularly Turkish and Indonesian.

Membership

Two interns are beginning their terms: Patricia Ratkovich (University of Alabama) is starting her second term, and Thomas Whittaker (Indiana University) is starting his first term.

Three full CAPC member slots will be filled in the next cycle. Application information will be announced in late fall prior to ALA Midwinter 2015, and those two-year terms will begin after ALA Annual 2015. To encourage more participation, the Executive Board has changed the requirements for attendance for full CAPC members, who will now need to attend one CAPC meeting at an ALA Conference a year, not two.

CC:DA report (Kelley McGrath)

McGrath discussed a proposal to add new RDA Chapter 3 elements relating to optical discs. This proposal, put forward by OLAC, is a revised version of an earlier proposal to JSC (6JSC/ALA/6), and was developed with input from Alex Duryee of the consulting firm AV Preserve. The additional optical disc elements being proposed are: physical standard, recording method, and optical disc content type. Physical standard refers to the physical type of disc requiring a certain laser wavelength to be read (DVD, CD, Blu-Ray, Wii U). Recording method distinguishes between two means of getting data onto the disc, either “stamping” or “burning.” This distinction is important because burned discs (e.g. DVD-R or CD-RW), which tend to come from smaller publishers of educational titles, are not as stable as stamped discs. Content type refers to high-level categories of what an optical disc contains: music, video, or data. There was a suggestion from the floor that non-music audio might be an additional content type.

McGrath noted that JSC is interested in having RDA refer to external vocabularies for these elements, rather than maintaining them in RDA itself. It was noted that MLA is moving in this direction as well concerning music-related instructions (also at the request of JSC). However, established lists already exist for music in a way that they do not for AV materials. The possibility of OLAC’s maintaining external vocabulary lists for these elements was discussed; with the incorporation of additional terms, OLAC’s AV Glossary could serve as such a list.

McGrath also summarized two RDA revision proposals co-sponsored by OLAC and MLA, on recording duration and on technical and performing credits. Please see the report of the CC:DA liaison elsewhere in this issue for more information about these proposals.

MARC Advisory Committee (MAC) report (Cate Gerhart)

Gerhart reported on proposals under consideration by MAC at ALA Annual (please see report of the MAC liaison). She then brought up the issue of staying abreast of developments in BIBFRAME, suggesting that it would be a good idea to engage in ongoing discussions with BIBFRAME, and to report on BIBFRAME in the OLAC newsletter. She pointed out that MAC proposals and discussion papers now include implications for BIBFRAME—what it already can do successfully, what would have to be implemented, etc.

OCLC report (Jay Weitz)

OCLC-MARC Format updates for 2014: the 1st phase was implemented on May 11th, which included implementation of the repeatable 250 field, and subfield \$3 in the 250 field, as detailed in OCLC Technical Bulletin 263. Implementation of the 2nd phase is tentatively planned for August 2014, and includes the rest of the changes based on MARC 21 Bibliographic, Authority, and Holdings updates 16, 17, and 18, which will be

described in Technical Bulletin 264. The authority aspects of the MARC update implementation will need to be coordinated with the Library of Congress and PCC. There were recent changes to the Control Headings functionality in Connexion: headings in bibliographic records are no longer controlled by validation records or series-like phrase records in the authority file.

Connexion client 2.51 was released earlier this year, which corrected some errors regarding a small number of characters that were not exporting correctly. Versions 2.50 and 2.51 will continue to be supported by OCLC.

Additional reports

Mary Huismann gave reports on behalf of various OLAC members and Task Forces:

- Music OCLC Users Group (MOUG). New officers are: Bruce Evans, Chair; Michelle Hahn, Continuing Education Coordinator; Mary Huismann, Secretary/Newsletter Editor. OLAC is still in need of a new liaison to MOUG.
- The work of the Web Visioning Task Force has been completed, and recommendations will be published in an upcoming MOUG Newsletter. The Web Implementation Group will begin work on improvements to the website in terms of presentation, navigation, and interactivity.
- Association of Moving Image Archivists (AMIA). Thelma Ross is the Chair for the 2014-2016 term. AMIA is working on a revised edition of the AMIA Compendium of Moving Image Cataloging Practice. OLAC contributed to this project by gathering member responses to a survey that went out in January 2014. The revised compendium will include a complex analysis of this survey data. An Advisory Committee for [PBCore](#) has been formed to determine the direction of this schema, to make improvements to it, and encourage its use by public media organizations. The AMIA Cataloging and Metadata Committee is planning a workshop to be held as part of the 2014 AMIA Conference.
- NACO-AV Funnel (Peter Lisius). Following a period of “housecleaning” from July-October 2013, contributions to the funnel officially resumed in November 2013. There are currently two reviewers, Chuck Herrold and Peter Lisius. A NACO-AV preconference workshop is planned for the OLAC/MOUG meeting in Kansas City, October 2014. One of the long-term goals Lisius has outlined for the funnel is to officially incorporate the creation of motion picture, television program, and radio program title authority records into the work of the funnel.
- RDA Revision Proposals Task Force. The work of the original Task Force has been completed, but there are ongoing opportunities for RDA revisions. Huismann opened a discussion about whether there continues to be a need for a standing group for proposing RDA revisions. Task Force Chair Stacie Traill suggested that there should be coordinated leadership but that groups with specific expertise should be formed on a case-by-case basis. Traill also pointed out that the Task Force did identify some issues that would more appropriately be addressed as best practices rather than RDA revisions. Others emphasized the importance of having a standing group to meet short deadlines.

- DVD/Blu-Ray Disc RDA Guide Task Force. Since ALA Midwinter, the group has been working through the draft and adding examples, RDA instruction numbers, new introductory material, a section on relationships, and full MARC record examples. Completion of the guide is planned for September 1, 2014.
- Streaming Media/Video RDA Guide Task Force (Jeannette Ho). The group has nearly finished the revised best practices documents for cataloging. Sections have been completed on recording relationships and on the single vs. multiple record approaches. It includes sample records for streaming and audio resources. A final copy of the draft will be sent to CAPC for review in July 2014.

New business

The Video Games RDA Best Practices Task Force has been charged with developing a set of best practices for cataloging video games using RDA. The Chair is Greta de Groat. An aggressive timeline is planned, with completion of the work targeted for ALA Midwinter 2015. Janis Young (Library of Congress) reported on a problem identified with video games appearing in LCSH as subjects, which contradicts the Subject Headings Manual instruction H 405, which groups software under name headings. A complicating factor is that some existing subject headings for video games don't refer to a single game, but to a "franchise" for which a subject heading may be appropriate. There is also the question of whether to treat board games and table games as names. Young asked whether CAPC would be interested in taking up the issue of moving such subject headings out of LCSH and into the name authority file. CAPC members expressed a willingness to support a larger effort, possibly one led by the ALA Subject Analysis Committee.