

**MARC Formats/Metadata Subcommittees Joint Business Meeting Report**  
**MLA 2014 Atlanta**  
**Submitted by Lisa McFall and Sandy Rodriguez**

**Members present:** MARC Formats: Grace Fitzgerald, Ralph Hartsock, Mary Huismann, Karla Jurgemeyer, Sandy Rodriguez (chair), Robert Simon, Jay Weitz (OCLC representative), Steve Yusko (LC representative); Metadata: Deb Kulczak, Peter Hirsch, Lisa McFall (chair), Molly O'Brien, Deb Morris, Ann Shaffer, James Soe Nyun, Kimmy Szeto, Matthew Wise

**Members absent:** Metadata: Karen Lund (LC representative)

**Visitors present:** 36

This year the MARC Formats Subcommittee and Metadata Subcommittee met jointly. Members of both groups contributed to the discussion.

**1. Welcome**

At 4:35, Sandy Rodriguez (MARC) welcomed everyone to the first joint meeting of MARC Formats and Metadata, and noted that in the interest of time, reports would be brief or distributed via handouts. Subcommittee members from MARC Formats and Metadata introduced themselves and a sign-in sheet was passed around the room.

**2. Approve Minutes**

- a. The 2013 MARC Formats Subcommittee meeting minutes were approved (Ralph Hartsock moved; Grace Fitzgerald seconded).
- b. The 2013 Metadata Subcommittee meeting minutes were approved with the correction of Peter Hirsch's last name (Matthew Wise moved; Kimmy Szeto seconded).

**3. Thank You to Outgoing Members**

- a. Sandy thanked outgoing member, Grace Fitzgerald for her years of service on the committee.
- b. Lisa McFall (Metadata) thanked outgoing member, Kimmy Szeto for his years of service on the committee and for his work as interim chair while Lisa was on maternity leave.

**4. Call for New Members**

Both subcommittee chairs issued a call for new members with instructions that applications must be submitted in writing, stating specific interest with regard to the subcommittee to which the candidate is applying, and relevant background and expertise. Applications must be received via email or posted to the bulletin board by 8:00am, Saturday, March 1.

## 5. Reports

- a. MARBI/MAC (Rodriguez)
  - i. Sandy passed out her report, noting that while this past year we had no MLA-sponsored papers, this would likely change in the coming year with the work of the RDA Music Joint Working Group and Medium of Performance Project.
  - ii. MARBI to MAC transition: The last meeting of MARBI was held at ALA Annual 2013 in Chicago; the MARC Formats will now be maintained by the MARC Advisory Committee whose members are made up of representatives from different communities of practice (such as MLA). The members have voting privileges to make recommendations that will be carried forward to the MARC Steering Group, made up of the Library of Congress, Library and Archives Canada, the British Library, and the German National Library. The MARC Formats Subcommittee revised its charge this year to reflect the change.
  - iii. Papers submitted will now include a section on BIBFRAME. The purpose of its inclusion is to start looking ahead and consider another perspective, i.e., does the proposed change easily translate from MARC to BIBFRAME?
- b. ALCTS/LITA (Szeto)
  - i. Metadata Standards Committee: The committee decided that it can have a role in bridging the gap between software developers, programmers, and librarians as related to BIBFRAME development. The goal is for next year is how to address this.
  - ii. Metadata Interest Group: The meeting featured two presentations, one by Diane Hillman on linked data and metadata aggregation and the other by Sandra McIntyre and Amy Rudersdorf on the Digital Public Library of America.
- c. OCLC (Weitz)
  - i. OCLC has embarked on a pilot with four partner institutions to allow institutions the ability to merge duplicate records in WorldCat. The four partners are University of California-San Diego, University of Chicago, University of Pennsylvania, and the University of Washington.
  - ii. OCLC is working on reviewing and updating the Bibliographic Formats and Standards (BFAS). This effort has been in progress since last summer and they are roughly halfway through fields and elements. When a change is made, they have started adding revision dates to each page. Jay noted that suggestions for examples should be sent to OCLC. They have not yet begun review and revision of Chapters 1-5.

- d. Library of Congress (Yusko)
  - i. Steve noted the MARC to BIBFRAME effort at LC, emphasizing their current goal of experimenting with implementations to refine the vocabulary.
  - ii. American Office for ISMN have at least 100 publishers on board for assigning ISMNs. A webcast is available online.
  - iii. LC updated to Voyager 8.2.0 as of February 24. The main change is new left-match indexes for bibliographic and authority files, new passwords that are not just 5 characters long, and accommodation for 10-digit OCLC numbers.

## 6. Updates

- a. Music-related MARC changes (Rodriguez)
  - i. The “issue that wouldn’t die” was clarifying code definitions “a” and “z” in MARC 008/20 Format of Music to accommodate RDA’s definition of score.
    - Question from Kevin Kishimoto regarding if codes will validate: will not currently validate, but Jay will begin work on the two previous LC MARC updates once he’s back from MLA. Hope to have that work completed before the end of 2014. Might be some things done in the meantime to speed things up.
  - ii. Revised the definition for MARC 008/20 “j” performer-conductor part to provide more clarity.
  - iii. Revised MARC Bibliographic: Sound Recordings 007/04 (configuration of playback channels) “q” definition to align with the equivalent definitions in Motion Pictures and Videorecordings 007/08, allowing the use of “q” for surround sound. q - Quadraphonic, multichannel, or surround: LC has held off on renaming until it is issued in the next MARC Update. They will need to note the change in the content designator history.
- b. “Metadata for Music Resources” site (McFall) – formerly the Music Metadata Clearinghouse
  - i. Content is ready to go – link to prototype (wordpress site):  
<http://blsciblogs.baruch.cuny.edu/mfmr/>
  - ii. The BCC site should be migrating to the MLA website by the end of March, at which point the prototype can be transferred for comment.
  - iii. Send out for improvement/feedback.
  - iv. Hope to have final version by the end of June.

## 7. New Business

- a. ProMusicDB (Christy Crowl)
  - i. ProMusicDB is looking to create a site that will include history of professional musicians. They are working with musicians unions and professionals to compile information from trustworthy, authentic sources on songwriters and performers. Working with a team of technologists and musicians, they are trying to compile a non-commercially owned resource that will be a positive replacement for commercial databases with incorrect or incomplete information. ProMusicDB is trying to get NEH grants for continued development of this project. Christy will be talking at ETSC on Friday.
- b. MAC proposal ideas or other MARC change requests (Rodriguez)
  - i. 382 subfield \$n redefinition?
    - Discussion about the contradiction between the practices in the new *Provisional Best Practices Using LCMPT* and DCM Z1 regarding the application of 382 subfield \$n for recording number of ensembles. 382 subfield \$n is currently defined as “Number of performers of the same medium.” DCM Z1 instructs us to record the number of ensembles while the *Provisional Best Practices* instructs us to not use it as the current definition seems to exclude its use.
    - A few options were noted: (1) Leave the recommendation as is, even if it directly contradicts the Z1 instructions, (2) Redefine subfield \$n as “number of performers or ensembles of the same medium” or (3) request a change to DCM Z1 after the *Provisional Best Practices* are accepted.
    - Kimmy noted that sometimes the work calls for multiple ensembles so the concept of multiple ensembles exists and would need to be coded somewhere; Kathy Glennan pointed out that MAC would not approve of option 2 as they would not let a subfield mean two different things; it was also noted that the concept of coding range would not be acceptable (e.g., if subfield \$n follows an ensemble or specific medium of performance)
    - Other questions came up about the need for number of hands and feet and a possible need to address this as well.
    - The group concluded that a new subfield coding is needed to code number of ensembles. Sandy will contact Hermine Vermeij regarding a proposal.
  - ii. Ray Schmidt (Chair of Authorities Subcommittee) noted a need to revise the definition of Authorities 383 subfield \$c - Thematic Index number.
- c. BCC-sponsored sessions at MLA 2014

- i. BIBFRAME plenary; Digital Humanities in the Library (co-sponsored with ETSC); RDA: Where We Are One Year Later; RDA and Public Services: Library Systems and RDA Implementation for Music (co-sponsored with Public Services)
  - d. Programming ideas for 2015 (April/May deadline for proposals)
    - i. MARC-Metadata BIBFRAME transitions: Could ask Michael Colby (UC-Davis) to present on their multi-year project implementing BIBFRAME; LC and Zepheira should be consulted as well; sponsor a session/preconference on BIBFRAME, assuming that there would be some new developments prior to MLA 2015.
    - ii. “Metadata for Music Resources” site could be demonstrated.
    - iii. Migrating data: How do we get data from one place to another, vendor or something else?; how do we get MARC data into other schemes; what are some of the pitfalls?
    - iv. Cultures: BIBFRAME/MARC culture vs. digital libraries (metadata schemas) cultures; Grace noted that we should make friends with our programmers.
  - e. Upcoming tasks: annual report, annual goals for coming year
    - i. Carried over from ALA Midwinter, with ALCTS/PARS, continue working on updating the Metadata Standards and Guidelines Relevant to Digital Audio (this spring will be finished). Perhaps someone should also talk to someone involved with the National Recording Preservation Plan.
    - ii. Perhaps working with commercial metadata standards such as DDex and converting from one to another.
    - iii. Making full-display records translated to BIBFRAME and mapping fields to MARC.
    - iv. BIBFRAME modeling based on works as related to music: submit comments specific to work and provide feedback.
  - f. Other?
    - i. Non-MARC metadata schemas: The library world watches things develop and has been reactive instead of proactive. The new metadata standards committee of ALA uses the “wait and see” model, but we should make an effort to be more proactive about looking at new standards and schemas outside of libraries where we can contribute library knowledge to the development effort. (Matthew Wise)
    - ii. Early experimenters for BIBFRAME: Should BCC members pursue finding a way to create a group to evaluate this? If it is not possible to have an MLA-specific group, perhaps we could engage with the experimenters who have institutions that can support this or ally with OLAC?

- iii. PBCore: Experimentation and review for meeting music standards, it is currently mostly used by institutions associated with the American Archive. ProMusicDB and MusicBrainz.

Robert Simon motioned to adjourn and Molly O'Brien seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 5:39 p.m.