

**NACO-Music Project Advisory Committee
Report to the MLA Cataloging & Metadata Committee
March 2022, Virtual Meeting**

NMP Advisory Committee Members

Jacob Schaub (Vanderbilt University), Chair
Mark Scharff (Washington University in St. Louis), NMP Coordinator
Michi Hoban, Library of Congress Representative
Cate Gerhart (University of Washington), Member-at-large
Ann Churukian (Vassar College), Member-at-Large
Keith Knop (University of Georgia), CMC Representative

1. NMPAC membership changes

Jacob Schaub (Vanderbilt University) succeeded Mary Huisman (St. Olaf College) as the NMPAC Chair. Many thanks to Mary for a long record of service to NMPAC, including an extra year as Chair. Cate Gerhart (University of Washington) succeeded Casey Mullin as an at-large member. I'm grateful to Casey for his service, and happy to have Cate, a recent addition to NMP (though a seasoned cataloger) added to NMPAC.

2. NMP membership—changes

Four new personal participants were accepted into the Project since the 2020 annual meeting:

- Joshua Henry (Westminster Choir College of Rider University)
- Christian Hertzog (University of California-San Diego)
- Dorothee Schubel (George Mason University)
- Amanda Scott (Middle Tennessee State University)

Two new institutional members were accepted:

- George Mason University
- Great American Songbook Foundation
- Middle Tennessee State University

These are typical numbers. Adding a special library like the Great American Songbook Foundation is exciting.

At the risk of omission, I will mention the retirements of longtime NMP members Linda Blair (Eastman School of Music), Wendy Sistrunk (University of Missouri-Kansas City), and Jim Soe Nyun (University of California-San Diego).

3. Membership summary—active

- NMP currently has 85 individual participants from 62 institutions. The comparable numbers in the 2021 report were 88 individual participants from 63 institutions. The individual member number counts several members currently unaffiliated, and counts Morris Levy, who is serving as NMP’s series reviewer though not himself contributing NMP records.
- There are 27 institutions where the NMP position is vacant (all on the internal roster)
- The number of participants who have achieved independent contributor status under RDA is as follows:
 - 43 for name records (decrease of 3 from March 2021)
 - 30 for name-title records (no change)
 - 1 for series records (no change)

4. Project statistics

	NARs		SARs		TOTAL
	New	Changed	New	Changed	
FY 2021*	9,979	8,186	35	30	18,230
FY 2020†	8,987	12,215	41	9	21,252
+/- (actual)	992	4,029	6	21	3,022
+/- (%)	9.0	33.0	14.6	233.3	14.2
Cumulative‡	324,502	163,573	3,134	657	491,866

NARs = Name Authority Records

SARs = Series Authority Records

*October 1, 2020-September 30, 2021

†October 1, 2019-September 30, 2020

‡Through September 30, 2021

The increase in new records is gratifying, especially when we consider the retirement of NMP superstar Chuck Herrold and the lingering effects of the pandemic. The precipitous drop in numbers for changed records may be the mirror of what may have caused the number to soar from FY19 to FY20—authority-work projects suited to working from home.

Future directions

The move to add links to identifiers for NACO entities in the 024 field has moved past the test stage. It remains to be seen how routine this becomes; but a lot of attention has focused on Wikidata, including an LC project that is exploring creating Wikidata items for persons and then using a transformation tool to create “NACO lite” records from those items. This project is in very early stages; while the goal is to create records that do meet current PCC and LC standards for authority records, there are also discussions of whether changes to those practices might be justified for the sake of streamlining the record-creation process.

The question of how to name partial compilations of musical works by a single creator is still an open one. Do we continue to generally use conventional collective titles, or will we use

compilation titles to name those works? If the CCT option prevails, will we differentiate among compilations with differing content, or continue the “cloud of works” approach?

While many of the institutions in the “vacant” category will remain so because they no longer have sufficient institutional interest in NMP, others that become vacant through retirement will be monitored for recruitment. The Coordinator appreciates any help he can get in tracking those things.

5. Acknowledgements

Ann Churukian (Vassar College) rotates off NMPAC after this year’s meeting. Ann is one of the long-timers in NMP, dating back to her years working as a grant-funded cataloger in the Indiana University Music Library with Ralph Papakhian and Sue Stancu. She has been a faithful NMPAC member, and I am grateful for her input. More personally, I’m grateful to Ann for leaving IU to take her job at Vassar College—it made room for a newbie to get his first professional librarian job, a life-changing opportunity.

Respectfully submitted,

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