

NACO-Music Project Advisory Committee
Report to the MLA Cataloging & Metadata Committee
March 2023, 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

Janice Bunker (Brigham Young University), Member-at-Large

Keith Knop (University of Georgia), CMC Representative

1. NMPAC membership changes

Janice Bunker (Brigham Young University) succeeded Ann Churukian (Vassar College) as a member-at-large. I'm grateful to Janice for stepping into this role. I'm very grateful to Ann Churukian for her term of service, particularly since this has not been her first rodeo with NMPAC; she has been a member-at-large and a chair in the past. I also owe Ann a personal debt; when she left a grant-funded position at Indiana University Music Library to work at Vassar, I was privileged to step into that job, and my life was changed forever.

2. NMP membership—changes

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

- Jeremiah Kamtman (Manhattan School of Music)
- Treshani Perera (University of Kentucky)
- Anthony Sharp (University of California, Los Angeles)
- Garth Tardy (University of Missouri-Kansas City)

Two new institutional members were accepted:

- University of Memphis (currently inactive)
- Manhattan School of Music

Three institutional members resumed activity:

- University of Kentucky
- University of Missouri-Kansas City
- University of Texas at Austin

These are typical numbers.

At the risk of omission, I will mention the retirements of longtime NMP members Janet Bradford (Brigham Young University) and Phyllis Jones (Oberlin College).

3. Membership summary—active

- NMP currently has 84 individual participants from 63 institutions. The comparable numbers in the 2022 report were 85 individual participants from 62 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 29 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:
 - 42 for name records (decrease of 1 from March 2022)
 - 28 for name-title records (decrease of 1)
 - 2 for series records (increase of 1)

4. Project statistics

	NARs		SARs		TOTAL
	New	Changed	New	Changed	
FY 2022*	10,826	6,782	32	7	17,647
FY 2021†	9,979	8,186	35	30	18,230
+/- (actual)	847	1,404	3	23	583
+/- (%)	8.5	17.2	8.6	328.6	3.3
Cumulative‡	335,328	170,355	3,166	664	510,096

NARs = Name Authority Records

SARs = Series Authority Records

*October 1, 2021-September 30, 2022

†October 1, 2020-September 30, 2021

‡Through September 30, 2022

The increase in new records is gratifying, and a trend that I hope can continue even with the retirement of Phyllis Jones. The drop in numbers for changed records is far less than in the previous year, and may be reflecting a return to more historical levels, and also fewer encounters with pre-RDA records. The series numbers vary wildly, but there are so few participants in that category that trying to divine a trend is not very fruitful.

Future directions

While initiatives to broaden the creation of authority data beyond NACO members will likely continue to be explored, another area to monitor may be developing as LC moves closer to creating its metadata in BIBFRAME. Studies are ongoing as to how data will be able to move between BIBFRAME and MARC in both directions, and how much loss or

misinterpretation of data might occur. While I don't **think** this is nearly as large a concern for authority data as it is for bibliographic data, it bears watching.

The question of how to name partial compilations of musical works by a single creator is still an open one. The same questions I posed last year persist: 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

No one is rotating off the NMPAC this year. I do want to especially thank Jacob Schaub for his leadership and attentiveness as Chair.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Scharff, NMP Coordinator
Music/Special Collections Catalog Librarian
Washington University Libraries