

**Library of Congress Report**  
**ALA/ALCTS/CaMMS Committee on Cataloging: Description and Access**  
**American Library Association 2013 Midwinter Meeting**  
**January 18, 2013**

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This document covers only selected initiatives undertaken at the Library of Congress since the ALA 2012 Annual Meeting in Anaheim, with a focus on cataloging activities. A full document covering all LC activities is available on the "LC at ALA" Website, URL <http://www.loc.gov/ala/>

**LIBRARY OF CONGRESS EXHIBIT BOOTH**

The Library of Congress Exhibit booth is no. 603 in the Seattle Convention Center.

**Personnel Changes**

Barbara Tillett, chief of the Policy & Standards Division (PSD) since 1994, retired on November 16, 2012. Barbara had a rich and varied career before coming to LC. She served as a bibliographic analyst and programmer for the Tsunami Document Retrieval System at the University of Hawaii's Hawaii Institute of Geophysics and as a reference librarian at the University of Hawaii's Hamilton Library. She was the OCLC System coordinator at the University of California, San Diego, director of technical services at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography Library, and head of the University of California, San Diego's cataloging department. Tom Yee, the assistant chief of PSD, became acting chief of PSD in November, while continuing to serve as the acting chief of the Asian and Middle Eastern Division where he has been for the last year. Dave Reser began serving as the LC representative to the JSC in December 2012, with Kate James serving as back-up. With the approval of the JSC and the Committee of Principals, Barbara will continue to serve out the remainder of her term as JSC chair, through December of 2013. As PSD adjusts to increasing workloads and reduced staffing, we appreciate your patience and flexibility.

**Federal Budget Situation**

The Library began Fiscal year 2013 on October 1, 2012, under a Continuing Resolution (CR) funding the government through March 27, 2013. The possible across-the-board Federal budget sequestration, originally was targeted for January 1, has been delayed for at least 60 days. Library funding may be affected by the automatic sequestration that may yet take place beginning in March 2013, unless Congress passes and the President signs legislation to further delay or halt the impact of the sequestration. Library managers are taking a hard look at expenditures on contracts and other 'non-pay' budget resources, but the portion of the budget dedicated to personnel is so high that they are also considering reducing 2013 costs by filling only the most critical vacancies, authorizing voluntary leave without pay, and implementing furlough days.

**New Bibliographic Framework Initiative**

The Library of Congress published a high level model for BFI: "Bibliographic Framework as a Web of Data: Linked Data Model and Supporting Services" at URL <http://www.loc.gov/marc/transition/news/bibframe-112312.html> in November of 2012. A major focus of BFI is an effective migration plan for the community to make a transition from the MARC format to a new framework based on a Linked Data (LD) model, "BIBFRAME," while retaining as much as possible the robust and beneficial aspects of our library environment. The model was developed under contract by a Zepheira LLC team led by Eric Miller. Miller was a leader in the Semantic Web Initiative in its early days for the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C) and has also worked in the library and information science field. Zepheira has been active in the development of Semantic Web and library standards. The model is intended to serve as a strong starting point for discussion.

The Library has also worked with a small group of “Early Experimenters” from October to December, 2012, to experiment with the “BIBFRAME” model, looking at various types of material and various data content models. They included George Washington University, National Library of Medicine, Princeton University, OCLC, British Library, and Deutsche Nationalbibliothek, in addition to LC. That work will be reported on at the **LC New Bibliographic Framework Update Forum in Seattle: Sunday, January 27, 2013 (10:30-12:00, in the Conference Center of the Washington Convention Center, Room TCC 304).**

LC also made available for download two software code sets that convert current MARCXML records to BIBFRAME. Before the 2013 Midwinter Meeting, LC plans to also offer a conversion service that more of the community can use to experiment. Interested colleagues may subscribe to the BIBFRAME electronic discussion list from the Website at URL <[www.loc.gov/marc/transition](http://www.loc.gov/marc/transition)>.

### ***Library of Congress-Program for Cooperative Cataloging Policy Statements***

Originally developed as the *Library of Congress Policy Statements* for use by LC catalogers participating in the U.S. RDA Test in 2010, the Policy Statements received a new title in the October 2012 release of the *RDA Toolkit: Library of Congress-Program for Cooperative Cataloging Policy Statements (LC-PCC PS, or PS for short)*. The new title reflects the fact that the PSs represent a collaborative set of statements for both the Library of Congress and the PCC. An original PCC task group (chaired by Manon Theroux, U.S. Senate Library) began the review of existing PSs from a PCC perspective in early 2012, completing review of most of the statements, making recommendations on improvements for labeling, etc. The task of completing the un-reviewed chapters, and for reviewing/developing new statements, was given to the PCC Standing Committee on Standards (led by Rebecca Culbertson of the University of California, San Diego). The task is not yet complete but the end is in sight. Some topics that have been deferred until after the initial sweep, including recommendations for reorganizing content and producing an introduction, will be addressed in 2013.

*RDA Toolkit* releases in August, October, and December 2012 included over 250 changed, new, or deleted statements. Over 80 additional statements have been submitted for the next planned release of the *Toolkit*. The changes approved by the Joint Steering Committee for Development of RDA at its November 2012 meeting are also scheduled to be published in the next few months, so we are currently tracking the impact that these changes will have on *Policy Statements* and other documentation, and plan to coordinate the changes when possible.

The Joint Steering Committee for Development of RDA (JSC) met in Chicago, Ill., in November 2012, led by the chair of the JSC and LC representative, Barbara Tillett. Of the record high 57 proposals and discussion papers, 14 were submitted by the Library of Congress. Many in PSD and other LC units contribute to the development of RDA. Several staff serve on formal JSC groups: Kate James as chair of the current RDA Examples Group; Steve Yusko (LC Music Division) as chair of the RDA Music Joint Working Group, and Caitlin Hunter (LC Motion Picture, Broadcasting, and Recorded Sound Division) and Geraldine Ostrove (PSD) as members of the music group.

### **RDA Implementation**

On Jan. 4, 2013, the U.S. RDA Test Coordinating Committee issued its final quarterly update on the progress and actions undertaken to meet the recommendations in the Coordinating Committee’s Final Report, issued in June 2011. The Coordinating Committee was designated by the senior management at the Library of Congress (LC), National Agricultural Library (NAL), and National Library of Medicine (NLM) to assume this monitoring role. The Coordinating Committee monitored progress and activities related to RDA preparation and implementation during the interim period between the end of the U.S. Test on December 31, 2010, and RDA implementation to occur on March 31, 2013 and after. The Coordinating Committee found that its other recommendations of June 2011 had either been fulfilled or had progressed sufficiently for a joint implementation of RDA in 2013. The document is available at URL <[http://www.loc.gov/aba/rda/pdf/RDA\\_updates\\_04jan13.pdf](http://www.loc.gov/aba/rda/pdf/RDA_updates_04jan13.pdf)>.

## **RDA Training**

Training of Library of Congress staff for the implementation of *RDA: Resource Description and Access* (RDA) is nearing completion. To date, 400 employees have each received 36 hours of classroom training, covering *Functional Requirements for Bibliographic Records* theory, RDA instructions, *Library of Congress-Program for Cooperative Cataloging Policy Statements*, ‘best practices’ for authority records, and using the *RDA Toolkit*. All cataloging staff, including technicians, and selected reference personnel will be fully trained for the Library’s implementation of RDA on March 31, 2013, although some staff will be using RDA only for authority work. Over 150 separate training instruments—Word documents, PowerPoint presentations, online quizzes and tests, recorded videos, distance learning for Overseas Operations staff, exercises, and webinars—were developed in-house by staff of the Cooperative and Instructional Programs Division (COIN), the Policy and Standards Division, and selected contributors from around the Library and PCC partners. The complete training materials have been mounted on the Catalogers Learning Workshop Website, and all are invited to access them at URL

<<http://www.loc.gov/catworkshop/RDA%20training%20materials/index.html>>.

The Library’s six overseas offices completed RDA authorities training in November 2012 and are on track to complete RDA descriptive training by March 31, 2013. Using a collaborative online learning tool, COIN staff combined live and recorded webinars as well as self-paced text manuals to present content, receive comments, provide feedback, and gauge learning progress. The same approach was taken to train the Library’s catalogers in Culpeper, Va., who work at the Packard Campus of the National Audio-Visual Conservation Center. While some cataloging operations at LC will not use RDA as a bibliographic standard, all will be prepared for Day one for RDA authorities on March 31, 2013.

## **Subject and Classification Policy Review in Light of RDA**

PSD has begun to review the *Subject Headings Manual* and *Classification and Shelving Manual* to determine which instruction sheets need to be revised in light of RDA instructions regarding preferred access points, et cetera. Names and titles authorized in the LC/NACO Authority File (NAF) are printed in LCSH when they are used as a patterns or examples, or when subdivisions or special instructions must be printed. PSD is planning a series of projects to update the printed headings as soon as is feasible after the RDA Phase 2 project to revise headings in the NAF is completed (e.g., **Bible. O.T.** will be revised to **Bible. Old Testament**; the English abbreviation “Dept.” will become “Department”). Bibliographic file maintenance projects to update names used as subjects will also be undertaken. PSD is also planning projects to revise LC classification captions to the new forms of headings.

## **ALA-LC Romanization Tables**

Historically, 2012 was the most productive year for romanization table development. During the year, seven new tables were approved and another ten were updated. Staff in PSD and elsewhere in the Library of Congress worked closely with ALA’s Committee on Cataloging: African and Asian Materials (CC:AAM) and Committee on Cataloging: Description and Access (CC:DA).

Highlights of the year included:

- A new Cherokee table was approved. It was subsequently approved by the Cherokee Tri-Council in July. This is the first ALA-LC romanization table for a native American syllabary and marks an important milestone in improving access to Cherokee library materials.
- Several other new romanization tables were developed during 2012: Moroccan Tamazight and Syriac (February), Shan (June), Kazakh in Arabic script and Manchu (September), and Tod-Oirat-Old Kalmyk (October).
- Several older romanization tables that had not been updated in many years were reviewed and updated: Khmer (February), Bulgarian and Russian (June), Lepcha (September), Belarusian (October), and Arabic (in November). Corrections of

typographical errors were also addressed for Khmer (October), Assamese (November), and Bengali (November).

- A multi-year effort to update the Japanese romanization table was finally completed and approved in December 2012, with the dedicated assistance of a task force organized by the Council on East Asian Libraries.
- A multi-year effort to convert the 1998 print edition of the ALA-LC romanization tables to the MS Word™ DOC format was completed. The impetus for this project was to make future romanization table maintenance easier, as well as regularizing editorial practice across all romanization tables. All previously extant tables are now posted as PDF files. The source DOC files are also available online.

Other tables in various stages of development include Coptic (proposal being developed by Charles Riley, Yale University); Persian (LC staff are developing a list of Persian words that can be romanized several different ways, giving a preferred romanization for each; no target date has been identified); Tibetan (revision proposal based on Wylie transliteration scheme being developed by Lauran Hartley, Columbia University; no target date has been identified); Urdu (revision proposal being developed by Christina Oesterheld, Heidelberg University; draft expected shortly). Revision proposals for Mongolian and Uighur, initially submitted by Wayne Richter, Western Washington University, in 1998 and 1999 respectively, need additional editorial work and are awaiting automation support.

All current ALA-LC romanization tables are available on the Web at URL [www.loc.gov/catdir/cpsd/roman.html](http://www.loc.gov/catdir/cpsd/roman.html) . Any questions about romanization table development should be directed to Bruce Johnson (Policy & Standards Division) at [bjoh@loc.gov](mailto:bjoh@loc.gov).

#### **ALA Midwinter Meetings Discussing LC's Linked Data Service and/or BIBFRAME**

OCLC Linked Data Roundtable. Saturday, January 26, 10:30-12:00, Washington State Convention Center, Room 213. LC speaker: Kevin Ford.

MARC Formats Interest Group: "Transforming MARC: Repurposing, Reusing and Reimagining Data from MARC Records." Saturday, January 26th from 3pm to 4pm; Renaissance Seattle Hotel, Compass South room. Speakers: Roy Tennant (OCLC Research), Diane Hillman (Metadata Management Associates), and Sally McCallum (LC)

Linked Data for Holdings and Cataloging: Holdings Information Committee and the Continuing Resources Cataloging Committee: Saturday, January 26, 3:00-5:30 pm in the Washington State Convention Center. Room 611-614. Speakers: Eric Miller (Zepheira), Richard Wallis (OCLC)

LC New Bibliographic Framework Update Forum: Sunday, January 27, 2013 (10:30-12:00, in the Conference Center of the Washington Convention Center, Room TCC 304). Speakers: Roberta Shaffer, Beacher Wiggins, Sally McCallum, Kevin Ford (LC), Eric Miller (Zepheira), Reinhold Heuvelmann (DNB), Ted Fons (OCLC).

LC Linked Data Service at ID.LOC.GOV: Current Offerings and Uses: Sunday, January 27, 2:00-2:30 PM, LC Booth in the Exhibit Hall (Booth 603). LC speaker: Kevin Ford.

ALCTS CaMMS Subject Analysis Committee (SAC): Monday, January 28, 1:00-2:00 p.m. in the Westin Seattle, Elliott Bay. LC Speaker: Kevin Ford.