TO: Peter J. Rolla, Chair  
ALA/ALCTS/CaMMS/Committee on Cataloging: Description and Access (CC:DA)  
FROM: John Attig, JSC Representative  
RE: Variant title as access point (RDA 6.27.4.1)

The general guidelines on constructing variant access points representing the work (RDA 6.27.4.1) call for two specific types of variant access points: (a) a variant access point based on a variant title for the work, typically in the form of a name/title access point, and (b) a variant access point “using the preferred title for the work on its own.” However, there is no comparable instruction for constructing a variant access point using the variant title for the work on its own.

Although there is a blanket instruction to “construct additional variant access points if considered important for access”, it seems preferable to make this instruction explicit and unconditional (i.e., it should not depend on judgment about whether the access through the variant title is important).

Here is an example:

| Preferred title for the work: | Eats, shoots & leaves |
| Variant title for the work: | Eats, shoots, and leaves |
| Creator/Author: | Truss, Lynne |
| Authorized access point | Truss, Lynne. Eats, shoots & leaves |
| Variant access point: | Truss, Lynne. Eats, shoots, and leaves |
| Variant access point: | Eats, shoots & leaves |
| Variant access point: | Eats, shoots, and leaves |

The first variant access point follows the instruction in the second paragraph of 6.27.4.1; the second, the third paragraph of 6.27.4.1; the instruction specifying the third variant access point is missing.

This issue was raised by Deborah Fritz, who would like for RIMMF to provide this variant access point automatically. We therefore propose to add this instruction to 6.27.4.1:

**Proposed revision:**

6.27.4.1 General Guidelines on Constructing Variant Access Points Representing Works

Use a variant title for the work (see 6.2.3) as the basis for a variant access point.

**EXAMPLE**

Nibelunge Nôt

**Authorized access point for the work:** Nibelungenlied
If the authorized access point for the work has been constructed by using the
authorized access point representing a person, family, or corporate body followed by
the preferred title for the work (see 6.27.1.2–6.27.1.8), construct a variant access
point by combining (in this order):

a) the authorized access point representing that person (see 9.19.1), family
(see 10.10.1), or corporate body (see 11.13.1)

b) the variant title for the work.

**EXAMPLE**

Dickens, Charles, 1812–1870. Posthumous papers of the Pickwick Club

**Authorized access point for the work:** Dickens, Charles, 1812–1870. Pickwick papers

Solzhenitsyn, Aleksandr Isaevich, 1918–2008. Один день Ивана Денисовича

**Authorized access point for the work:** Solzhenitsyn, Aleksandr Isaevich, 1918–2008. Odin den' Ivana Denisovicha

Construct a variant access point by using the variant title for the work on its own.

**EXAMPLE**

Posthumous papers of the Pickwick Club

**Authorized access point for the work:** Dickens, Charles, 1812–1870. Pickwick papers

**Variant access point for the work:** Dickens, Charles, 1812–1870. Posthumous papers of the Pickwick Club

Один день Ивана Денисовича

**Authorized access point for the work:** Solzhenitsyn, Aleksandr Isaevich, 1918–2008. Odin den' Ivana Denisovicha

**Variant access point for the work:** Solzhenitsyn, Aleksandr Isaevich, 1918–2008. Odin den' Ivana Denisovicha

In addition, construct a variant access point by using the preferred title for the work on its own.

**EXAMPLE**

Giant animals series

**Authorized access point for the work:** Johnston, Marianne. Giant animals series

Catalogue of Roman portraits in the British Museum

**Authorized access point for the work:** British Museum. Catalogue of Roman portraits in the British Museum

Make additions to the variant access point, if considered important for identification.
Apply the instructions at 6.27.1.9, as applicable.

[remaining instructions and examples unchanged]
Clean copy:

**6.27.4.1 General Guidelines on Constructing Variant Access Points Representing Works**

Use a variant title for the work (see 6.2.3) as the basis for a variant access point.

**EXAMPLE**

Nibelunge Nôt  
**Authorized access point for the work:** Nibelungenlied

If the authorized access point for the work has been constructed by using the authorized access point representing a person, family, or corporate body followed by the preferred title for the work (see 6.27.1.2–6.27.1.8), construct a variant access point by combining (in this order):

a) the authorized access point representing that person (see 9.19.1), family (see 10.10.1), or corporate body (see 11.13.1)

b) the variant title for the work.

**EXAMPLE**

Dickens, Charles, 1812–1870. Posthumous papers of the Pickwick Club  
**Authorized access point for the work:** Dickens, Charles, 1812–1870. Pickwick papers

Solzhenitsyn, Aleksandr Isaevich, 1918–2008. Один день Ивана Денисовича  
**Authorized access point for the work:** Solzhenitsyn, Aleksandr Isaevich, 1918–2008. Odin den' Ivan Denisovicha

Construct a variant access point by using the variant title for the work on its own.

**EXAMPLE**

Posthumous papers of the Pickwick Club  
**Authorized access point for the work:** Dickens, Charles, 1812–1870. Pickwick papers

**Variant access point for the work:** Dickens, Charles, 1812–1870. Posthumous papers of the Pickwick Club

Один день Ивана Денисовича  
**Authorized access point for the work:** Solzhenitsyn, Aleksandr Isaevich, 1918–2008. Odin den' Ivan Denisovicha

**Variant access point for the work:** Solzhenitsyn, Aleksandr Isaevich, 1918–2008. Odin den' Ivan Denisovicha

Construct a variant access point by using the preferred title for the work on its own.

**EXAMPLE**

Giant animals series  
**Authorized access point for the work:** Johnston, Marianne. Giant animals series

Catalogue of Roman portraits in the British Museum  
**Authorized access point for the work:** British Museum. Catalogue of Roman portraits in the British Museum
Make additions to the variant access point, if considered important for identification. Apply the instructions at 6.27.1.9, as applicable.

[remaining instructions and examples unchanged]