

Library of Congress Report
ALA/ALCTS/CaMMS Committee on Cataloging: Description and Access
American Library Association 2015 Midwinter Meeting
Chicago, Illinois

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This document covers only selected initiatives undertaken at the Library of Congress since the ALA 2014 Annual Meeting in Las Vegas, with a focus on descriptive cataloging activities. A full document covering all LC activities (including cataloging topics related to subject analysis and classification) 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. **2014** in the McCormick Place West Convention Center.

Personnel Changes in ABA

Retirements: **Sime Lettina**, section head (Geography, Political Science, and Education), **Margaret Wayne**, section head (Benelux, France and Italy).

Appointments: **Zbigniew Kantorosinski**, chief (Germanic and Slavic Division), **Vera Clyburn**, chief (US Arts, Humanities, and Sciences Division), **Hector Morey**, section head (Africa Section), **Jessalyn Zoom**, section head (History and Military Science Section).

Appointments in progress: director, Nairobi field office, section heads: Literature, Southeast and South Asia, Russia, Southeast Europe, Iberia/Rio Office, Canada and Oceania.

Significant Library-wide Personnel Changes

David Mao, Law Librarian of Congress, was appointed Deputy Librarian of Congress, effective January 12, 2015. He also continues as acting Law Librarian pending a national search to appoint a permanent Law Librarian.

Robert Newlen, Assistant Law Librarian for Legislative and External Relations, was appointed Chief of Staff, effective January 12, 2015.

Mark Sweeney, director for Preservation, is serving as acting Associate Librarian of Congress for Library Services following the retirement Roberta I. Shaffer in August of 2014.

Elizabeth R. Scheffler, acting Associate Librarian for Strategic Initiatives/Chief Information Officer, pending national search for a Chief Information Officer and a Deputy Chief Information Officer, effective January 26.

Federal Budget

Although Fiscal year 2015 began on October 1, 2014, the final 2015 appropriation bill for the Library was not passed until mid-December. The Library’s appropriation amounted to a 2.1% increase over fiscal 2014 (the general material acquisitions budget was increased by over 11%).

Cataloger’s Desktop

The work on *Cataloger’s Desktop* focused on completely resystemizing the service. The underlying FAST Search software had become obsolete and the decision was made to migrate to open source retrieval software. LC staff conducted a series of focus group interviews to determine what Cataloger’s Desktop subscribers were looking for in the service, and the overwhelming message was that Desktop needed to be “search first” focused, rather than “browse first” as had been the case since 1994.

Notwithstanding the resystemization work, *Desktop* continued to have 100% system reliability. With the new system, Desktop is being hosted on the cloud, and system response time has improved from 2-8 seconds under the legacy system to under one-quarter second in the new system. Extensive context-

sensitive help, training videos, quick tips, and webinars were developed and posted for the new Desktop system. User feedback was extremely positive. Additional videos and training will be developed as the need arises. LC staff will be giving presentations about the new interface at the LC booth.

The Library is always eager to hear from subscribers to know how we can improve *Cataloger's Desktop*. Suggestions for new content or improved features should be sent to Bruce Johnson at LC at <bjoh@loc.gov>. Subscribe to the free *Cataloger's Desktop* discussion list at URL <www.loc.gov/cds/desktop/ugroup.html>.

ALA-LC Romanization Tables

During the year, two revision proposals and two new tables were approved, and five revision proposals are in varying stages of development. 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) to develop and review these tables.

Highlights of 2014 include:

- Typographic corrections of the Malayalam and Non-Slavic Language tables.
- A new Coptic table was reviewed and approved by CC:AAM.
- A new Romanian (Cyrillic script) table was reviewed and approved by CC:DA.

Five table revisions are in various stages of development:

- A proposed Mande languages (in N'ko script) table was developed by Charles Riley of Yale University. The draft has completed constituent review and final comments are being reviewed. A CC:AAM vote is anticipated shortly.
- A proposed Cham table was developed by Larry Ashmun of the University of Wisconsin-Madison and recommended by CORMOSEA. The draft is currently undergoing constituent review with a response deadline of February 5th.
- A revision of the Uighur table was developed by Wayne Richter (Western Washington University). This proposal was initially submitted in 1999, but additional work was needed to complete it. The draft proposal is currently undergoing constituent review with a response deadline of February 5th.
- A Tibetan revision proposal based on the Wylie transliteration scheme is being developed by Luran Hartley (Columbia University). The draft proposal is currently undergoing constituent review with a response deadline of March 1st.
- A revision of the Mongolian table is also being developed by Wayne Richter. This proposal was initially submitted in 1998 and needs considerable additional editorial work. No completion target date has been set.

All current *ALA-LC romanization tables* are available on the Web at URL <www.loc.gov/catdir/cps/roman.html>, as well as in *Cataloger's Desktop*. Any questions about romanization table development should be directed to Bruce Johnson (Policy & Standards Division) at <bjoh@loc.gov>.

Library of Congress-Program for Cooperative Cataloging Policy Statements

The *RDA Toolkit* release in October 2014 contained 4 new policy statements and 19 revised statements; there were no changes to the LC-PCC PSs in the August 2014 release of the Toolkit due to the migration of the maintenance platform to a new content management system. The next set of updates to the LC-PCC PSs will be in February of 2015. This release will contain policy statements reconciling the PCC requirements for non-book cataloging from the CONSER Standard Record and the BIBCO Standard Record.

Headings for Malaysian Jurisdictions, Features, Etc.

As announced at the 2014 Annual Conference, LC and the University of California, San Diego are working on a project to update the name and subject authority records associated with place names in

Malaysia to reflect changes to RDA 16.2.2.9, which removed Malaysia from the list of federations that includes the United States, Canada, and others.

LC and UCSD are working on the authority records state by state so it may be months before changes are made to a particular place name. Until the changes are made, catalogers should continue to use the existing headings in their established form. Earlier forms of name for the states without (Malaysia) and associated authority records will remain in the LC/NACO authority file. These will be valid for descriptive use for the time period before September 16, 1963, when the current Malaysian federation was formed. For example, the creator of a 1934 compilation of states laws is **Kedah**, and the creator of a 2010 compilation of state laws is **Kedah (Malaysia)**.

To date, the name authority and subject heading revisions have been completed for entities in the following states: Johor, Kedah, Pahang, and Sabah.

PCC RDA Authorities Phase 3 Task Group

As part of the implementation of RDA by the PCC, several phases of bulk changes to the Library of Congress/NACO Authority File (LC/NAF) have been made. The most recent round of changes is based on deliberations of the PCC RDA Authorities Phase 3 Task Group. This group is charged with planning and implementing changes to the LC/NAF that will programmatically bring the remaining portion of the LC/NACO Authority File into alignment with RDA, as well as populate existing name records with additional enhancements whenever possible.

The Task Group's analysis identified several clean-up projects needed prior to final Phase 3 testing and implementation; therefore, the Task Group split the project into two distinct phases: Phase 3A and Phase 3B. Phase 3A began on December 8, 2014 and after a break for the December holidays finished on January 6, 2015. An estimated 190,00 NARs were changed according to the following categories: changes involving the music medium of performance statement (subfield \$m), changes involving subfield \$c of personal names, addition of a 667 note to undifferentiated personal name records and the re-formulation of any field 678 not suitable for public display as a 670 field. Additional enhancements to the name records included: evaluation of the contents of the 370 field to comply with the best practices guidelines to align the names provided to match the authorized access point in the LC/NAF, generate the 382 field from certain music medium of performance statements, and generate the 046 field as appropriate. Detailed descriptions of the changes as well as of the upcoming Phase 3B are contained in the Task Group's report found at <http://files.library.northwestern.edu/public/rdaphase3/docs/>. Phase 3B is projected to take place during the summer of 2015, with the exact date yet to be determined.

LCHELP4RDA Email Account Retired

The LChelp4RDA@loc.gov email account was established by PSD in 2010 to answer questions from catalogers, at LC and from the broader community, related to the testing and implementation of RDA. Now that most targeted communities have implemented RDA, the number of questions to the account is down to a trickle, so the account is being retired. The policy@loc.gov account should be used instead of LChelp4RDA for any cataloging-related questions.

Revision of the *ISSN Manual*

A new edition of the *ISSN Manual* is expected to be available by the end of January 2015. It replaces the 2012 edition and includes clarified rules for ISSN assignments and some elements new to ISSN records such as RDA content, media, and carrier types, source of description and others.

LC's Integrated Library System

The Library continues to add enhancements to the new user interface to the Library of Congress Online Catalog at this address: catalog.loc.gov. In December 2014 the ILS Program Office incorporated its open URL resolver, called [FindIt!](#), into the record displays for books, serials and integrating resources. Catalog users can click on the [FindIt!](#) button to discover all the options for access to titles as licensed content in the Library's E-Resources Catalog or other sources.

Bibliographic Framework Initiative

The Network Development and MARC Standards Office sponsored and published on the BIBFRAME website a study of models used for Moving Image and Recorded Sound material that was carried out by AudioVisual Preservation Solutions (AVPreserve), with the report examining that material against common community description models and BIBFRAME.

Other projects begun in the last 6 months, with consultant assistance, include making BIBFRAME descriptions an option for result sets from Z39.50 and SRU searches to the LC Voyager LCDB database, joining the MARCXML, MODS, and DC result set formats already available (completed but awaiting implementation on the LC system). Another study is investigating use of the SRU protocol for retrieving from a triple store backend. The AV study described above will be followed up later in Spring 2015 by an investigation of the overlap of PREMIS and BIBFRAME vocabularies and how the two might work together. In addition two small contracts are developing tools that are due in February 2015. One is for development of a search and display “stub” system that could be used by experimenters; a second is for a profile editor that would enable experimenters to easily adjust the templates used by the BFE.