

Library of Congress Report
ALA/ALCTS/CaMMS Committee on Cataloging: Description and Access
American Library Association 2017 Midwinter Meeting
Atlanta, Georgia

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This document covers only selected initiatives undertaken at the Library of Congress since the ALA 2016 Annual Meeting in Orlando, 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. 1214 at the Georgia World Congress Center.

Significant Library-wide Personnel Changes

Dr. Carla D. Hayden took the oath of office as the 14th Librarian of Congress on Sept. 14, 2016, in the Great Hall of the Thomas Jefferson Building. Chief Justice John J. Roberts administered the oath of office. Speaker of the House Paul Ryan (R-WI), Senators Roy Blunt (R-MO), and Barbara Mikulski (D-MD) participated in the event, attended by 24 Members of Congress.

David S. Mao continues as Deputy Librarian of Congress. *Robert R. Newlen* is the Deputy Librarian of Congress for Institutional Advancement, a newly established position. *Liz Morrison* is the Chief of Staff. *Roswell Encina* is the Library’s Chief Communications Officer. *Karyn Temple Claggett* was appointed acting register of copyrights effective Oct. 23, 2016. *Al Banks* was appointed director for Technology Policy in Library Services, effective Dec. 25, 2016.

Federal Budget

Although Fiscal year 2017 began on October 1, 2016, most of the federal government, including the Library of Congress, has been operating under a succession of continuing resolutions (CRs) until a final appropriations bill is passed into law. The current CR funds the government through April 28, 2017.

Other Staffing and Personnel Changes

David Williamson, ABA cataloging automation specialist, retired from the Library on Dec. 31, 2016. He was active in the Program for Cooperative Cataloging Standing Committee on Automation and was known for his work in developing software that streamlined intake of new materials, promoted quality control, and reduced the costs of bibliographic control.

Mary Kay Pietris, Senior Cataloging Policy Specialist, retired Sept. 30, 2016 after 44 years at LC.

Ferolyn Meyer, head of the Benelux, France, and Italy Section, ALAWE, retired Jan. 19.

Yan “Clara” Liao was appointed head of the Law Section, US Programs, Law and Literature Division (USPRLL) in ABA, effective Sept. 19, 2016. James Hafner was appointed head of the Science, Medicine, and Agriculture Section, US Arts, Sciences, and Humanities Division (USASH), effective Oct. 2, 2016. Shawn McCarthy was appointed Supervisory Technician of the USPRLL CIP Technical Team effective Sept. 6, 2016, completing the CIP and Dewey Program’s supervisory structure.

Manon Theroux was appointed cooperative programs specialist in the Cooperative and Instructional Programs Division (COIN), effective Aug. 8, 2016.

Damian Iseminger was appointed head of the Bibliographic Access Section in the Music Division, effective January 9, 2017.

Paul Frank was promoted to the position of PCC Program Coordinator in the Cooperative and Instructional Programs Division, effective Sept. 12, 2016. Dana Beltran and Catherine Wagner joined the Training and Instructional Design Section of the Cooperative and Instructional Programs Division in October 2016.

Kate James and *Melanie Polutta* were appointed to Cataloging Policy Specialist positions effective Oct. 17, 2016. *Veronica L. Ranieri*, became an assistant editor in the Data Integrity Section, Policy and Standards Division, on Sept. 6, 2016.

Merger of PSD and the Cooperative and Instructional Programs Division

In July of 2016, the Director of the Acquisitions and Bibliographic Access Division, Beacher Wiggins, began a process to merge two ABA divisions: the Policy & Standards Division and the Cooperative and Instructional Programs Division. These two divisions are prime candidates for merging because of the overlap, intersection, and related tasks carried out by the staff of both divisions. These include the focus on standards; sharing cataloging policy decisions; responding to queries from the cataloging community; interacting with internal and external constituents as LC experts; providing training and briefings; and producing/maintaining documentation. A new organizational structure is under consideration for completion by the close of 2017.

Cataloger's Desktop

Over the past six months, the focus on *Cataloger's Desktop* development has been on enhancing search and retrieval through two major projects. The first project, called "Query suggestions," enables Desktop to anticipate what the searcher wants by typing ahead as searches are entered into the searchbox. For example, if "ser" is typed into the searchbox, a dropdown box appears just below the searchbox with up to 8 suggested queries and 5 suggested *Cataloger's Desktop* resource titles. Each suggested query or title highlights matches to what you've typed in the searchbox and can be selected by either left mouse-clicking or using the down arrow key and then clicking "enter." This feature also takes advantage of Desktop's fuzzy matching capabilities (e.g. "serr" will retrieve "serials").

The second project, called "Metadata enhancement," makes *Cataloger's Desktop* searches narrower, better focused, and more precise by programmatically enhancing metadata attached to Desktop resources. The change involved generating a terminology dictionary created from glossaries, dictionaries, and term lists recommended by roughly two dozen subject matter experts from inside and outside of LC. These terms were deduped, and generic or ambiguous terms were removed from the resulting vocabulary. Once the vocabulary was complete, it was indexed against the 330+ *Cataloger's Desktop* resources, and metadata was added at the paragraph level. The resulting metadata supports dramatically improved access without requiring the searcher to use the "right" terminology. This vocabulary has also been added to Desktop's suggested search feature, which enables Desktop to anticipate what the searcher is looking for.

Suggestions for improving *Cataloger's Desktop* 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

The pace of ALA-LC Romanization Table development has slowed over the past year. During the period, one proposed new table was approved. Ongoing exploration of additional enhancements to the Japanese table was supported by Library of Congress staff.

Highlights of 2016 include:

- A proposed new Deseret table was received from Kjerste Christensen of Brigham Young University. The proposal was approved by CC:DA.
- A revision of the Mongolian table is 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.

- A minor correction to the Ukrainian table was posted in December.

All current ALA-LC romanization tables are available on the Web at 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 August 2016 contained 43 new, revised, or deleted LC-PCC PSs developed by PSD staff in conjunction with the PCC Standing Committee on Standards. There were 6 updates in the October 2016 release. Summaries for each LC-PCC PS release are available at http://www.loc.gov/aba/rda/lcps_access.html. The next release will be February of 2016.

Cataloging Distribution Service

In November 2016, CDS launched an open-access version of its robust MARC distribution service. The new provision, called MDSCoconnect, makes available the Library's 2014 retrospective files and provides access to Books All, Classification, Computer Files, Maps, Music, Name Authorities, Serials, Subject Authorities and Visual Materials. Nearly 25 million MARC records are available in three formats: UTF8, MARC8 and XML. The service is cloud-hosted through the Amazon Workdocs file sharing services. The open-access data is being made available primarily for research and development, at no cost to users and can be easily downloaded. Read more about MDSCoconnect at URL <https://www.loc.gov/cds/products/marcDist.php>.

Bibliographic Framework Initiative

This initiative is an investigation of the emerging Linked Open Data environment for sharing of bibliographic descriptions that currently use the MARC Format. Documentation of the project is available from the BIBFRAME web site, URL <http://www.loc.gov/bibframe>.

In fiscal 2016, the Library of Congress continued development of the Bibliographic Framework model and vocabulary to replace MARC 21 as a cataloging metadata standard in order to reap the benefits of newer technology, particularly data linking. The Library built on the work and tools developed in 2015 to begin a BIBFRAME Pilot at the beginning of fiscal 2016 that enabled input of native BIBFRAME descriptions by experienced catalogers in ABA and the Library's motion picture, music, prints and photographs, and recorded sound processing units. The Network Development and MARC Standards Office (NDMSO) in ABA and COIN staff collaborated to make the pilot a groundbreaking effort to have production catalogers use a linked data oriented system to create bibliographic descriptions. The Pilot continued officially for six months (October 2015 through March 2016), achieved its aim and was considered a success.

The following tools and components contributed to the Pilot and to the encouragement of experimentation with BIBFRAME by the community, since they are made available for download on the software sharing site, GitHub:

BIBFRAME model and vocabulary. The input from catalogers participating in testing the system enabled NDMSO to make considerable improvements in the basic model and data element vocabulary. Using the input from the Pilot, from the community via a listserv and GitHub, from expert consultants and from a Program for Cooperative Cataloging review committee, a BIBFRAME 2.0 model and vocabulary were developed and published in April 2016. Following that the specifications for the conversion of MARC data to the BIBFRAME 2.0 vocabulary were begun in preparation for a Pilot of BIBFRAME 2.0 in fiscal 2017.

BIBFRAME infrastructure. In fiscal 2016 NDMSO continued upgrading servers and systems to handle new traffic loads anticipated for linked data resolution, label lookup, and other services related to the BIBFRAME project and LC's Linked Data Service (LDS/ID) at id.loc.gov. An upgrade to the

MarkLogic datastore server software to MarkLogic Version 8 was installed and data conversion began. This upgrade will enable the inclusion of native handling of RDF triples in the database and security updates. This effort will continue in 2017 as we move the new system to production and begin to take advantage of its new features. The staging server for LDS/ID will also be upgraded to support the next BIBFRAME Pilot.

BIBFRAME Editor (BFE). Development of the BIBFRAME Editor continued in fiscal 2016, and was integrated with profiles provided by the Profile Editor. Lookups were also developed for resources within ID that were needed by the Editor. The enhanced BIBFRAME Editor was successfully used in the BIBFRAME Pilot to develop descriptions of library resources using the BIBFRAME 1.0 model and vocabulary. Version 0.2 of the editor was released Oct. 26, 2015. A new version of the editor is under development using the BIBFRAME 2.0 ontology. See URL <<https://github.com/lcnetdev/bfe>>.

BIBFRAME Profile Editor. A BIBFRAME Profile Editor, which was needed to make the BFE flexible for use with different forms of material, was used with the BFE in support of the BIBFRAME Pilot. Version 1.2 of the Profile editor was released in fiscal 2016, including profiles for Monographs, Serials, Notated Music, Cartographic, BluRayDVD, Audio CD and 35mm Feature Films using the BIBFRAME 1.0 Ontology. Profiles for the BIBFRAME 2.0 Ontology and upcoming new Pilot were under development at the end of the year. See <<https://github.com/lcnetdev/profile-edit>>.

The ABA Cooperative and Instructional Programs Division and NDMSO continue to work together on BIBFRAME development and testing. A report was issued June 2016 on BIBFRAME Pilot Phase One, the test of BIBFRAME vocabulary 1.0 conducted September 2015-March 2016:

<https://www.loc.gov/bibframe/docs/pdf/bibframe-pilot-phase1-analysis.pdf>. A webinar on “Library of Congress BIBFRAME Developments” was held October 2016 as an introduction to the “From MARC to BIBFRAME” series sponsored by the ALA division ALCTS (Association for Library Collections and Technical Services), and the recording was made freely available at URL <<http://www.ala.org/alcts/confevents/upcoming/webinar/101216>>.

Participants in the BIBFRAME Pilot continue to keep their BIBFRAME skills current by working one day a week with the BIBFRAME Editor and by attending monthly open sessions where findings can be shared. BIBFRAME Pilot Phase Two is scheduled to begin in 2017. Testing BIBFRAME vocabulary 2.0 will be the primary focus of this next pilot.

The BIBFRAME Update Forum will be held on Sunday, January 22, at 10:30 am in rooms B302-B305 of the Georgia World Congress Center. Speakers will be Sally McCallum and Beacher Wiggins (LC), Nancy Lorimer (Stanford), Wayne Schneider (Index Data), and Roy Tennant (OCLC).