MARBI and the USMARC Advisory Group met in two sessions during the ALA midwinter meeting in New Orleans. Chair Jacqueline Riley led the sessions. The paper of most interest to the music library community was: Proposal No. 98-3 on expanding the use of field 028 (Publisher Number).

Another paper of interest was: Proposal No. 98-6: Definition of values (Electronic) in 008 character positions, which continued the discussion on coding for content rather than carrier and resulted in the approval of a value for electronic as a form of item for music materials.

Another paper of interest for its music component was: Discussion Paper No. 104: Definition of Field 007 (Physical Description Fixed Field) for tactile materials, which included recommendations on coding for the braille music format.

Discussions on these issues are outlined below.

The Library of Congress reported that the third Bibliographic Format update has been released. It will be the last update released before the combined CAN/MARC and USMARC formats for both Bibliographic and Authorities are issued, probably in the fourth quarter of this year. An updated list of the organization codes will be out soon. Information on the delay in the implementation of the change in indicator values for multiple surnames as well as information on the restructuring of the LCCN are found on the MARC home page at http://lcweb.loc.gov/marc/.

Proposals

98-1: Redefinition of Field 210 (Abbreviated Key Title) in the USMARC Bibliographic Format (Approved)

This proposal recommended that field 210 be broadened to include both abbreviations of the key title and abbreviated titles not based on the key title. It also recommended that organizations other than the ISSN center who create abbreviated titles for indexing and/or abstracting services be allowed to place their abbreviated titles in this field for purposes of indexing or identification.

98-2: Definition of Fields 541, 561, and 562 in the USMARC Holdings Format (Approved in part)

Two proposals were presented in this paper. The first proposal, that additional note fields be defined in the USMARC Holdings Format, was approved. These fields, the 541, 561, and 562, are copy specific by nature and were seen as appropriate fields for the holdings format. The second proposal was that a link code be defined for holdings to relate the holdings field with the appropriate 852 field in order to identify holdings note fields that are linked to a particular holding or copy in that record. Decisions on this portion of the proposal, as well as a suggestion that the 541, 561, and 562 fields be made obsolete in the bibliographic format, were deferred.

98-3: Expanding the Use of Field 028 (Publisher Number) (Approved)

This paper proposed expanding the definition of field 028 to include music related materials other than sound recordings, videorecordings, and printed music. The name of value 3 was changed and a new first indicator value 5 was defined for other publisher numbers. Concerns with when to include information preceding the numeric portion of the number were left unresolved.

98-4: Elimination of Tag Conflicts in the USMARC Bibliographic, Community Information, and Holdings Formats
During SGML development work, it was discovered that two significant tag conflicts exist where the same field tag was used for very different kinds of data. In the Community Information format, field 004 (Coded Dates Fixed Field) differs considerably in content and use from the Holdings format field 004 (Control number for Related Bibliographic Record) and in the bibliographic format, provisional field 551 (Entity and Attribute Information Notes), differs considerably in content and use from the Community Information format field 551 (Budget Note). This approved proposal eliminates those conflicts.

98-5: Additional Definition of Field 080 (UDC) (Approved)

This proposal recommended defining subfields for field 080 to indicate edition and subdivisions of the UCD numbers. This field has never been fully developed in USMARC because format users have never used UDC numbers to any great extent. Now the National Library and a consortium of libraries in Estonia are using the USMARC format and would like to make full use of this field.

98-6: Definition of Value s (Electronic) in 008 Character Positions (Approved option 1)

This paper proposed that a code be added in the 008 to indicate that the carrier of an item is electronic. In this way, electronic items may be identified in a way similar to that of microforms. For music materials, a new value "s" for Electronic has been added to the 008/23 and 006/06.

Discussion Papers

DP 104: Defining Field 007 (Physical Description Fixed Field) for TactileMaterials in the USMARC Bibliographic and Holdings Formats

To aid in retrieval and limiting of material, this paper explored the possible definition of a field 007 to indicate physical characteristics for tactile material, including braille music. The Canadian and European communities will be consulted and the paper will come back as a proposal.

DP 105: Reading Program Information

This discussion paper presented ways to treat information related to interactive multimedia Reading Programs that involve relationships with published reading materials. While recognizing that a general need exists that should be addressed, a great deal of discussion ensued regarding that fact that the information being considered was not inherent in the item in hand. A proposal will be presented based on the straw poll indicating a preference for a strippable 5XX field for this information.

DP 106: New Type of Date Code

This discussion paper concerned the establishment of a new type of date code in the bibliographic format to provide access to incorrect publication dates appearing on items. Most of the discussion centered on the problem with multiple dates and the fact that there is not enough room to accommodate them. It was suggested that overflow go into the 046 and that the user be referred to the 046. The paper will return as a proposal.

DP 107: Defining Field 856 in the USMARC Authorities Format

This paper discussed extending the 856 field to the authorities format as a potential means of improving access to the web pages of organizations. A major focus of discussion was on whether or not this is outside the scope of the authority record's purpose. This paper will come back to the group as a proposal.

Submitted by Karen Little, Chair, Subcommittee on MARC Formats
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