The following are highlights of the Committee on Cataloging: Description and Access meetings at the ALA Annual Conference in New Orleans, June 26 and 28, 1999. For more information, please visit the CC:DA website at www.ala.org/alcts/organization/ccs/ccda/ccda.html.

Report from the Chair:
Daniel Kinney reported that the two task forces assigned to review the AMIM cataloging manual and the IFLA guidelines for OPAC displays have completed their work and that their respective reports were voted upon and approved via e-mail prior to the conference.

Report of the ALA Representative to the Joint Steering Committee:
Brian Schottlaender announced that the JSC has recently written a mission statement, which emphasizes its renewed commitment to work "in a timely and proactive manner to formulate a cataloguing code that is responsive to changes in the information environment and that results in cost-effective cataloguing." In support of this mission, it has also decided that henceforth all new amendments to AACR2 will be issued electronically (e.g., web postings, software upgrades, etc.) on an annual basis.

Report from the Task Force on Rule 0.24:
Martha Yee presented the Task Force's most recent report, which examines two particular aspects of Rule 0.24, instructions for dealing with items that belong to more than one class of material and instructions for applying the rules to an edition of a work (expression) that exists in multiple physical formats (manifestations). The report offers a series of options for dealing with each of these problems, outlining the advantages of each option. The Committee preferred Option 2 for multiple characteristics, which recommends that Part I of AACR2 be reorganized by ISBD areas (one chapter per area), and Option 5 for format variations, which recommends that a new record not be created for each physical format. However, the MLA representative argued for the inclusion of an option to allow for separate manifestation records when desirable, such as for cassette and CD recordings of the same performance or videotape and DVD recordings of the same movie.

Report from the Task Force on the Harmonization of ISBD(ER):
Lynne Howarth presented a draft version of the ISBD(ER) Task Force's report, which recommends revisions to Chapter 9 (Computer Files) and the Glossary of AACR2 in light of the recently-published International Standard Bibliographic Description for Electronic Resources. The final version of the report will be posted to the CC:DA website on or before July 30 for Committee review and approval.

Report of the Task Force on Seriality and AACR2R:
Wayne Jones reported that the Seriality Task Force was just beginning its work. There was also an update from Jean Hirons on her report, "Revising AACR2 to Accommodate Seriality," in which she recommends the use of latest title entry and multiple publishing statements (earliest and latest) for "continuing entities."

Report of the Task Force on Metadata:
Mary Larsgaard reported that the Metadata Task Force's meeting on Sunday had included short presentations on RDF (Resource Description Format) and XML (eXtensible Markup Language). The slides for these presentations are available online, as are the minutes of the meeting, from the CC:DA website. Larsgaard also chairs the committee which is planning a metadata preconference for the annual meeting in July 2000 (Chicago).

Joint Meeting of MARBI and CC:DA:
For the third year in a row, MARBI and CC:DA met together on Monday afternoon to discuss issues of common interest. Seriality, metadata, and their relationship to the descriptive cataloging rules and the communications format were examined.