

BCC99/SAS/3

1999 ALA ANNUAL MEETING ALCTS CCS SUBJECT ANALYSIS COMMITTEE REPORT June 27 and 28, 1999

The following report represents selected coverage of topics from the SAC meetings in New Orleans on June 27 and 28, 1999.

1. Sears List of Subject Headings

The second update to the 16th edition of *Sears List of Subject Headings* was made available on tape in USMARC Authority format. These changes will all appear in the 17th edition, which is scheduled for publication in the spring of 2000. The 6th edition of *Sears List of Subject Headings: Canadian Companion* will be published in 2000 following the publication of the 17th edition, mentioned above. Comments or questions may be directed to Joseph Miller, editor at jmiller@hwwilson.com

2. LC report (Lynn El-Hoshy)

The Library of Congress continues to prepare for its Bicentennial, which will be celebrated on April 24, 2000. Some activities related to the LC Bicentennial include the mailing of “toolkits” to 16,000 public libraries, the Local Legacies project and the reconstruction of the Thomas Jefferson Collection at LC. For more information on the LC Bicentennial, look at <http://lcweb.loc.gov/bicentennial>

LC has formed the Digital Futures Group to work on the integration of digital resources into the Library’s core collections. This group has chartered three teams to look at issues of content and collection development, infrastructure development, and access tools. At this point, there are 44 collections online and an additional 53 in development.

New publications offered at the LC booth included editions of LC Classification schedules released this year (including class M), the *Basic Serials Cataloging Workshop*, and the new *MARC 21 Format for Bibliographic Data*.

LC is on schedule for implementation of its new Voyager integrated library system (ILS). Cataloging, circulation and the OPAC are scheduled to go “live” in August, with acquisitions and serials check-in to begin in October. LC will have three RFPs out for bid this year related to the conversion of manual inventory information into the ILS.

The PREMARC file of about 4.7 million bibliographic records will be loaded in the ILS. Most of these records were created prior to the adoption of AACR2 and may contain headings that differ from current practice. LC is planning a project to bring just the headings on these records into conformity with current descriptive and subject cataloging practice. It is anticipated that the project will take five years for completion. Many of the headings were established some time back and are considered offensive by contemporary standards (e.g. Children, Abnormal and backward). Until each heading has been evaluated and brought into alignment with current practice, it will be identified by the character string [from old catalog]. Revised PREMARC records will not be redistributed to the utilities.

Changes anticipated with implementation of the Voyager ILS include 1) improvement of system availability to seven days a week, 24 hours a day; 2) all LC records will be in a single database, and 3) search access to LC’s authority files will no longer be possible.

Other cataloging projects in process at LC include the conversion of Chinese bibliographic records from the Wade-Giles to pinyin system of romanization and the implementation of the Electronic Cataloging in Publication (ECIP) program.

The Special Materials Cataloging Division continues to offer the Music Cataloging Sabbatical. This provides an

opportunity for qualified music catalogers to for a three to six month period. For more information, contact Susan Vita (svit@loc.gov) or Phillip De Sellem (pdes@loc.gov).

On February 17, 1999, LC began implementation of subfield v in subject headings to code subject subdivisions functioning as forms, in bibliographic records for monographs, serials, moving image and sound recordings. Application in map records was delayed until the implementation of the ILS. Information of the new subfield can be found in the 1998 Update No. 2 and 1999 Update No. 1 to the *Subject Cataloging Manual: Subject Headings* and in the 11th edition of *Free-Floating Subdivisions: An Alphabetical Index*. Subdivision authority records are being created using the new 18X field.

In the preparation for the transition to the ILS, publication of the *Subject Heading Weekly Lists* will be suspended, between July 14th and September 8, 1999. LC catalogers and SACO participants will continue to propose headings during that period; all proposals submitted during that period will appear on WL99-36 and subsequent lists.

In a major change, the heading combinations **Reference books—[any subject]** will be replaced with a new free-floating subdivision **—Reference books** for use under subjects. This will eliminate the assignment of the set of headings **Reference books—[subject]** and **[subject]—Bibliography**; a listing will be assigned only **[subject]—Reference books—Bibliography**.

3. Dewey Decimal Classification

Dewey for Windows Version 1.20 is now available.

Forest Press has published *Dewey Decimal Classification: Francophone Perspectives/Classification décimale Dewey: Perspectives francophones*, proceedings from a workshop held at IFLA 1998.

Decimal Classification Additions, Notes and Decisions (DC&), vol. 6, no. 2, was published on the Dewey Web site early in 1999. Beginning with this issue, DC& has changed to electronic publication only. New and changed entries appear monthly on the Dewey Web site. <http://www.oclc.org/fp/>

Editorial work continues on unabridged Edition 22, scheduled for publication in 2003. Revision of Table 2's Area 44 (France) is being undertaken in collaboration with French-speaking colleagues. The Editorial Policy Committee has approved changes for Table 1 (Standard Subdivisions) and Literature (800).

4. Report of the SAC Subcommittee to Promote Subject Relationships/Reference Structures

Gregory Wool reported on the subcommittee's program, "Oh Say Can You See Also?" which was held on June 26. In the coming year, the subcommittee plans to investigate subject referencing in bibliographic databases on CD-ROM and the internet.

5. IFLA Review of OPAC Guidelines

The subcommittee commented on the draft of *Guidelines for OPAC Displays*. Most of the comments focused on organization and points needing clarification. The report will be sent on to CSS.

6. SAC Task Force on LCSH Subject Heading Revisions Relating to the Poor People's Policy

A new charge was devised for the task force to respond to the ALA Council Resolution on the headings addressed by Sanford Berman. This charge will go to the ALCTS representative to Council after approval by CSS. The report will go to CCS Executive at the Midwinter meeting.

7. Report of the SAC Subcommittee on Metadata and Subject Analysis

The subcommittee continues to work on its document on subject analysis in the Dublin Core Record. Lois Mai Chan would like to share its recommendations at IFLA.

8. Report of the SAC Subcommittee on Form Headings/Subdivisions Implementation

Due to continuing concern on the implementation of subfield v, the subcommittee presented an additional education forum at this ALA meeting. In further response, the subcommittee has decided to work on a checklist, based on usage prescribed in the *Subject Cataloging Manual*, to assist catalogers and authorities librarians in usage of the subfield, as well as for conversion of subfield coding. A draft is anticipated by Midwinter.

9. Report of the SAC Subcommittee on the Revision of the Fiction Guidelines

The manuscript of the revised *Guidelines* was voted by CCS Executive for passage to ALA publishing. The subcommittee considers its work completed.

10. Report of the SAC Subcommittee on Metadata and Classification

The report of the subcommittee was accepted, along with its recommendations regarding application, display of class numbers and captions, movement across resources, search, retrieval and overview – as well as areas for further investigation. The Subject Analysis subcommittee will promote the report through a discussion forum at Annual 2000, and will produce a “user-friendly” publication which promotes the report’s recommendations

11 . Announcements

Arlene Taylor announced that the next installation in the Catalog Form and Function Committee’s Briefing Papers series would appear in the next *ALCTS Newsletter*. The paper, “Access to Form Data in Online Catalogs,” was authored by Harriette Hemmasi, Mary Charles Lasater, and David Miller, and edited by Taylor. The *Newsletter* is now online; back issues are archived and accessible via the ALCTS home page. http://ala8.ala.org/alcts/alcts_news/

Alva Stone, Florida State University, announced a double special issue of *Cataloging & Classification Quarterly*, titled *The LCSH Century: Sense and Sensibility in Subject Access*. This festschrift, celebrating LCSH’s centennial, is planned for publication in December or January.

Submitted by Michael Colby

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