Subject Analysis Committee

Subcommittee on Genre/Form Implementation Discussion Paper: Identifying relationships to categories of persons

The Subcommittee on Genre/Form Implementation submitted a discussion paper to SAC attempting to narrow down the options for identifying and recording certain aspects of resources that, while sometimes expressed in combination with genre/form terms, are out of scope for LCGFT. These categories can relate to audience or creator of a work (or contributor to an expression).

Current LCSH headings acting as genre/form headings express these relationships in all kinds of ways. Some examples are African American children’s writings; Buddhist music; Jazz $z Lithuania; and Korean language $v Textbooks for foreign speakers. The subcommittee identified several categories of these characteristics, including age group, ethnic group, language group, and nationality group.

In the committee’s discussion of the paper, the following consensuses were reached:

- The terms for audience and creator/contributor should be in the form of plural nouns.
- There should be two MARC fields (one for audience characteristics and one for creator/contributor characteristics), perhaps in the 3XX block. The terms should be separate components rather than composites (e.g. “Deaf” and “Gays” rather than “Deaf gays”). There was some disagreement about whether or not terms should come from an established vocabulary (such as LCSH) or if a new vocabulary should be created.

Chair’s Report

SAC unanimously approved the proposal from the Subcommittee on Genre/Form Implementation on setting. SAC recommended that a new relator term and code be established for “setting” that could be used in the 610, 611, 648, 650, and 651 fields.

SAC also approved another proposal from the Subcommittee on Genre/Form Implementation on 185/155 terms. The proposal makes recommendations to LC for adding general genre/form terms to LCGFT, based on existing form subdivisions (185s). If LC approves the project, these terms could become the base of a non-disciplinary genre/form project.
SAC Subcommittee on Genre-Form Implementation

The subcommittee has compiled a list of reference sources to be used when establishing genre/form terms in various disciplines, which will be posted on the SACO Web site.

There was substantial discussion about geographic origin of works and how it can be expressed in MARC. The subcommittee plans to work on a MARBI discussion paper about options for this, including expanding the 752 (Added Entry – Hierarchical Place Name) or adding the 370 (Associated Place) to the bibliographic format. The subcommittee also discussed options for recording demonyms (names used for residents of a locality or citizens of a country) in authority records.

LC has begun the literature genre/form project, starting to get a list of literature terms from LCSH together. Since there is no professional organization of literature librarians, some members of the subcommittee offered to put a task force together to partner with LC on the literature project.

Submitted by Hermine Vermeij, MLA-BCC Subject Access Subcommittee Chair