MARC Advisory Committee, June 27-28, 2015

Meeting at the American Library Association’s Annual meeting, 2015. Notes prepared for the Music Library Association Cataloging and Metadata Committee by Jim Soe Nyun.

Full agenda and links to papers and proposals online at: http://www.loc.gov/marc/mac/an2015_age.html

These notes follow the structure of the agenda.

MARC Advisory Committee, Session I, June 27, 2015

Minutes for the January/February, 2015 Midwinter meetings were approved.

Discussion Paper No. 2015-DP02: Coding 007 Field Positions for Digital Sound Recordings in the MARC 21 Bibliographic Format; sponsored by the Canadian Committee on Metadata Exchange (CCM)

This paper proposed several changes to the MARC format to accommodate remote-access audio content. MAC supported many of the suggestions and proposed other options in other areas. The discussion paper will return as a formal MARC proposal.

Details on individual elements:

007/00: Agreed that the definition needed to be changed but MAC would like different wording, to both broaden the definition to accommodate remote audio and align the definition with our current use of value “s” for materials that aren’t strictly recordings of sound vibrations, e.g. piano rolls. The drafters may look to existing definitions of “sound recording” that could be adapted.

007/01: MAC preferred the use of code “r,” “remote,” to the method in the paper.

007/03: Supported adding “n” for “not applicable.”

007/10: General support for the proposed “n” code, though some felt the existing “u” for “unknown” was sufficient.

Business Meeting

Library of Congress Report: Sally McCallum noted briefly that the MARC update had been released, along with a Technical Notice devoted to new source codes, including several devoted to insect taxonomies.

Reinhold Heuvelmann announced that the DNB had worked with German-language data sources, including those outside Germany, to extend the GND file of authorities. MARC was used to transfer information into the GND’s proprietary storage format. The process required extending the MARC format with local fields for authorities-related needs. Some of these uses could be of interest to the rest of the MARC community, and will be coming to MAC in the form of several discussion papers.
MARC Advisory Committee, Session II, June 28

Meeting opened with a discussion of Steven Folsom’s informal discussion paper, "URIs in MARC: A Call for Best Practices.” Originally this was a paper submitted to PCC, but Sally McCallum proposed that it should come to MAC as an FYI. Much lively discussion of many of the points in the paper ensued, with support for many of the points, and further questions on others. There is value in identifying identifiers that are dereferencable, as well as those that represent real-world objects. Some questions centered on whether MARC needed to extended to record information about an identifier when that information would be fairly straightforward for a conversion or reconciliation tool to provide. In the end the final conclusion was that MAC could not act on the questions raised since MAC’s role was to react to proposal put forward by one of its constituent communities. The author was scheduled to meet with PCC immediately after the MAC meeting, and proposals or discussion papers may result from that discussion.

Proposal No. 2015-07, Extending the Use of Subfield $0 (Authority record control number or standard number) to Encompass Content, Media and Carrier Type; sponsored by the British Library.

Proposal passed with the amendment that subfield $0’s use would also be validated in fields 337 and 338 of the MARC holdings format.

Proposal No. 2015-09, Defining 670 $w (Bibliographic record control number) in the MARC 21 Authority Format; sponsored by the Library of Congress

Passed with unanimous support.

Proposal No. 2015-08, Recording RDA Format of Notated Music in the MARC 21 Bibliographic and Authority Formats; sponsored by the Canadian Committee on Metadata Exchange (CCM).

Motion to add instructions to repeat $a when terms come from a single vocabulary recorded in $2, accepted; motion accepted.

Amended proposal passed with unanimous support.