BCC98/SMF/4

1998 Annual Report

Bibliographic Control Committee, Subcommittee on MARC Formats

Members: Kathryn P. Glennan, chair (from Feb. 1998); Karen R. Little, chair (to Feb. 1998); Ann Caldwell (to Feb. 1998); Ian Fairclough; Ed Glazier (to July 1998); Alice LaSota (from Feb. 1998); Ralph Papakhian; David Thomas (to Feb. 1998); William Walker (from Feb. 1998); Jay Weitz; Steve Yusko; Christine Zuger.

Activities:

As the MLA representative, Karen Little attended MARBI meetings during ALA Midwinter in January; Kathy Glennan attended these meetings during ALA Annual in June. At the January 1998 meeting, MARBI approved a proposal that expanded the definition of field 028 to include music-related materials other than sound recordings, videorecordings and printed music, such as the publishers' numbers that frequently appear on libretti; anticipated implementation is 1999. This proposal originated from the Subcommittee's discussions beginning in 1996 and was co-sponsored by MLA and OLAC. Also in January, MARBI continued its discussion about the content vs. carrier issue, approving a proposal to encode "electronic" as a form of item for music materials. At the June 1998 meeting, MARBI approved a proposal to create a specific 007 field for printed music in the bibliographic format. This raised the question of what "printed music" should be called when that music is digitized. Kathy raised the query on MLA-L and received numerous responses; the overall consensus was to use "notated music." This recommendation has been forwarded to the Library of Congress.

At the Subcommittee's open meeting in Boston, we discussed the March 1996 announcement that "Compact disc" should be included in the Systems Detail Note (538 field) rather than a general note field. General consensus was that this change was not desirable, and this perspective was communicated back to Library of Congress. Also, the issue of linking fields was raised again; this concept was approved in theory by MARBI in the summer of 1994. To date, there has not been much interest in pursuing this concept, so the Subcommittee continues to view this as a tabled item.

Work progressed intermittently on the Subcommittee's webpage, and additional documents were identified for inclusion.

The Los Angeles open meeting will feature the usual review of MARBI activities and late-breaking MARC issues.

Submitted by Kathryn P. Glennan

Last updated April 18, 2000