MUSIC LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
SUBJECT ACCESS SUBCOMMITTEE
ANNUAL REPORT
July 2005-June 2006

Members include Beth Flood, Chair; Stacey Allison-Cassin (new), Keith Chapman, Neil Hughes, Mary Huismann (retiring), Lynne Jaffe, Geraldine Ostrove (LC Representative), Jenn Riley, Jon Stroop, and John Wagstaff (new).

The Subject Access Subcommittee met at the MLA Annual Conference in Memphis. The committee discussed ongoing issues to be monitored, such as OCLC's FAST project, the development of LC Classification Training Materials, and possible expansion of period subdivisions for music. The committee also discussed the current state of the Music Thesaurus Project and possible ways to proceed with work regarding this project. Committee member Jenn Riley will talk with Harriette Hemmasi about the possibility of transferring existing files to the committee's domain. The project will then need to be reviewed for currency and applicability; how such a thesaurus will be used, whether external to LCSH or as an addition to it, will also need to be examined.

The committee briefly discussed use of the 655 field for form/genre subject terminology, in light of the conference session Genre Terms: Definition, Use, Application which was co-sponsored by the committee with the Technical Services Roundtable and immediately followed the committee's business meeting.

Chair Mark McKnight and member Mary Huismann completed their terms with this meeting and their contributions to the subcommittee were gratefully acknowledged.

The committee has been discussing a proposal by Gerry Ostrove to solicit MLA’s possible participation in LC’s implementation of the X55 field (form/genre terms) for LCSH music headings. The next proposed step in this process is for the Subject Access Subcommittee to correspond with LC liaisons in order to formulate an ordered task list, possible strategies for implementing those tasks, and a hypothetical timeline. Also, a SACO Music Funnel, similar to the NACO Music Project, was proposed as a way to implement these changes. These proposals are still under discussion.

As an MLA Liaison, subcommittee chair Beth Flood attended meetings of the ALA/ALCTS Subject Analysis Committee at the Annual Conference in New Orleans in June. Of particular interest were discussion of OCLC’s FAST project and the use of form/genre terms. This ALA committee will be sponsoring a program at ALA Annual 2007 on current developments in form/genre terms.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth Flood, Chair
Subject Access Subcommittee

Last updated November 7, 2006