ANNUAL REPORT 2011-2012
BCC Metadata Subcommittee


Report on Activities:

The Metadata Subcommittee, with its parent Bibliographic Control Committee, sponsored a program at the MLA 2012 Annual Meeting on “RDA and Linked Data: Moving Beyond the Rules” by Kimmy Szeto of SUNY Maritime College and Jenn Riley of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. The session was attended by an overflow crowd and was extremely well received.

Our Subcommittee's focus this year has been continuing to work to release an online Music Metadata Clearinghouse. We are compiling information for five initial sections for the clearinghouse: metadata standards and their best practice application to music, best practice workflow documentation, places to get metadata training, metadata creation and management tools, and documentation of what types of resources specific metadata standards are good for. We expect the initial version of the Clearinghouse will be released in the next year.

Following the MLA 2012 annual meeting in Dallas, Eric Harbeson from the University of Colorado at Boulder resigned from the subcommittee, and in his place we welcomed Lisa McFall from Hamilton College.

Committee handbook status:

The BCC Metadata Subcommittee is covered by the extensive BCC Procedures Manual.

List of previous goals and progress made toward each goal:

1. Complete analysis of the data from the Music Metadata Clearinghouse survey, and use the findings to create a more formal plan for the initial version of the Clearinghouse and its growth over time.

   We have created a structure for the initial Clearinghouse release based on the highest priorities identified by respondents to the survey we issued about Clearinghouse content. We do not yet, however, have a plan for its growth over time.

2. Prepare initial content for the Clearinghouse to be approved by the MLA Board, and go live with this content by Spring 2012.

   We missed our goal for a Spring 2012 release, and expect to now release the initial version of the Clearinghouse in this reporting year.
3. Continue to explore partnership with groups outside of MLA, to bring knowledge of music metadata issues to relevant groups, and to inform MLA of initiatives relevant to our work going on in other areas.

The Subcommittee chair has continued her relationship as a liaison to the ALA Metadata Interest Group, and to represent music metadata issues to that group. We have performed no other formal activities in this area in this reporting year.

List of goals for the next year and how they relate to the MLA Strategic Plan:

1. Prepare initial content for the Clearinghouse to be approved by the MLA Board, and go live with this content by Spring 2012.

2. Continue to explore partnership with groups outside of MLA, to bring knowledge of music metadata issues to relevant groups, and to inform MLA of initiatives relevant to our work going on in other areas.

Both of these goals are in direct support of the MLA Strategic Plan objective “Use new technologies to build greater public awareness, understanding and support for the Association, music libraries and music librarianship.”