BCC2004/SDC/2

Subcommittee on Descriptive Cataloging
Submitted by Kathy Glennan (substituting for Nancy Lorimer, Chair)

The Subcommittee on Descriptive Cataloging held a joint open meeting with the Subcommittee on Subject Access during the Washington, DC conference.

Since Nancy Lorimer, the Subcommittee’s retiring Chair, was unable to attend the meeting, Kathy Glennan substituted for her. Using Nancy’s prepared comments, Kathy brought the MLA membership up-to-date regarding discussions at CC:DA surrounding possible modifications to the Specific Material Designations in Chapter 6 of AACR2, including whether or not to add terms reflecting “conventional terminology” or “terms in common use” to the rules for area 5. While the Joint Steering Committee has not approved additional SMDs in Chapters 6 & 7 at this time, effective with the 2004 Amendments, they have added an optional rule to use conventional terminology in these chapters, following the wording of rule 9.5B1. The Subcommittee continues to have serious concerns about the implications of adding such terminology to the SMDs and will write LC to express our viewpoint, which was supported by the open meeting attendees.

Matthew Wise, currently a voting member of CC:DA, reported on the JSC's decision to move forward with AACR3. This has raised several questions. When will amendments to AACR2 cease? Who will edit the new rules? When might AACR3 be published?

The Subcommittee discussed similar issues at its business meeting. Three members rotated off the Subcommittee at the close of the 2004 conference, with thanks for their service: Michi Hoban, D.J. Hoek, and Nancy Lorimer.

For more information about the Subcommittee, its activities and the semi-annual CC:DA reports, please visit our website available at http://bcc.musiclibraryassoc.org/Descriptive/Descriptive.html. We welcome comments and questions about descriptive cataloging at any time.

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