This year the Subject Access Subcommittee and the Genre/Form Task Force met jointly. Members of both groups contributed to the discussions.

SUBJECT ACCESS SUBCOMMITTEE

ALA Report (Hermine Vermeij)

Hermine went over the three MARBI proposals that the SAC Subcommittee on Genre/Form Implementation presented at ALA Midwinter; all three proposals will have a large impact on genre/form and medium of performance work. A 385 field was defined for audience characteristics (authority and bibliographic formats), a 386 field was defined for creator/contributor characteristics (authority and bibliographic formats), and revisions were made to the 046 (authority and bibliographic format) and 648 (bibliographic format only) fields to allow for chronological aspects to be coded more accurately. Elements that were previously encoded in LCSH headings (e.g. Rock music $y 1961-1970; Jews--Music; Music for the blind) but were considered out of scope for the Library of Congress Genre/Form Thesaurus (LCGFT) will now be able to be coded separately in MARC.

Work continues on genre/form: the literature group is finalizing an initial draft of their thesaurus to submit to LC by late 2013, which includes over 514 terms. And the general group is putting together a hierarchy of general genre/form terms (some taken from LCSH form subdivisions).

Medium of Performance

The group discussed at length a number of issues related to medium of performance and work on the Library of Congress Medium of Performance Thesaurus (LCMPT), focusing on terms for ensembles, compound terms (terms with more than one concept, like chorus SATB and piano one hand), and structure of the hierarchy. The Subject Access Subcommittee will prepare several discussion papers to follow up on issues raised at this meeting. The LC group will begin working on a draft hierarchy for SAS review.

Recognition of Service
Thank you to Janet Bradford, Nancy Lorimer, Carlos Peña, and Karen Peters, whose terms on the Subject Access Subcommittee are now complete.

GENRE/FORM TASK FORCE

The task force has developed a first draft of the hierarchy. They also proposed three top genre terms: Art music, Popular music, and Folk music, along with four more top terms for additional access: Functional music, Occasional music, Vocal forms, and Instrumental forms.

The task force also touched on carrier/format terms and whether or not they fit into LCGFT. The LC group will follow up.

The task force plans to begin creating authority records during the next year. They also plan to work on training, systems issues, and current implementation in order to wrap up the Task Force work by MLA 2015. A new task force should be formed to examine the issues related to retrospective implementation and plan how to accomplish it.

Submitted by:
Hermine Vermeij, Subject Access Subcommittee Chair
Beth Iseminger, Genre/Form Task Force Chair