TO: Daniel Joudrey, Chair of ALCTS CCS Subject Analysis Committee

FROM: Adam Schiff, Chair of SAC Subcommittee on Genre/Form Implementation

RE: Recommendations of the 185/155 Working Group

DATE: June 9, 2011

The SAC Subcommittee on Genre/Form Implementation formed the 185/155 Working Group in 2010. The idea behind the group was to identify some terms of general application to many types of resources that could be recommended for inclusion in the Library of Congress Genre/Form Terms for Library and Archival Materials (LCGFT). The subcommittee felt that it was undesirable to wait until LC completed all of the discipline or format-specific genre/form projects that it is currently working on, and that libraries and archives would find it very useful to have some general terms available for use sooner rather than later. With the completion of the cartographic and law projects, there are already some general terms such as **Directories**, **Indexes**, **Maps**, and **Periodicals** that have been approved by LC for inclusion in LCGFT. Current and future genre/form projects undertaken by LC will doubtless also need many of the same general terms, so getting them into LCGFT would seem to be a priority and will make it easier to fit terms from different disciplines into a single hierarchical structure. The subcommittee decided that a good place to start for generally applicable terms would be the free-floating form subdivisions in LCSH.

Members of the task group included co-chairs Yael Mandelstam and Mary Mastraccio, Adam Schiff, Hermine Vermeij, Lia Contursi, and Robert Maxwell. They worked their way through all existing authority records for free-floating form subdivisions (those tagged as 185 in MARC), and decided whether each form subdivision should be included in LCGFT and established as a genre/form authority (tagged 155) and in what form. They also made recommendations about whether the established form subdivision should be retained in LCSH, or modified or cancelled in some cases. The entire SAC subcommittee reviewed and commented on a preliminary version of the recommendations and had an opportunity to comment on the final version before voting to approve it.

Whenever possible, the group strived to have the equivalent 185 subdivision and 155 heading in the same form. In some cases this was not possible or it requires a revision to the 185 subdivision. A commonly recommended change for subdivisions is to pluralize them (e.g., change the form subdivision **Bibliography** to **Bibliographies**).

In some cases, the group is recommending that the scope of a particular term be broadened for wider use. For example, the form subdivision **Pamphlets** is currently limited for use as a form subdivision under 16th, 17th and 18th century period subdivisions of European and American

history and under individual wars for short, separately published, usually polemical essays or treatises regarding controversial issues of contemporary interest, especially political or religious matters. The group recommends that the usage be expanded to make this truly free-floating. It is doubtful that library users could understand the particular limitation in scope of the term. The form subdivision **Photographs from space** can currently only be used for collections of photographs. The group is recommending that LC remove this restriction to collections from the scope note.

In some cases, where there are existing efforts underway or planned for the future (e.g., LC's religion, music, literature projects, and the Genre/Form Subcommittee's project to look at related aspects of genre/form such as language and nationality), the group has recommended deferring to those projects. They also identified potential future projects that they felt would better be deferred to, such as art and architecture.

Attached please find a spreadsheet with the recommendations of the working group, which have been voted on and approved by the entire Subcommittee on Genre/Form Implementation. The spreadsheet is organized as follows:

Control Number: The Library of Congress control number for the free-floating form subdivision authority record.

185 Term: The established free-floating form subdivision from the authority record.

680 Scope Note: Any scope notes present in the authority record.

Discipline: A note on whether the term is of general application or of limited use in one or more disciplines.

Create 155: Do we recommend creating a genre/form authority record for the 185 term in LCGFT? In some cases the answer is yes, in some cases it is yes but in some modified form, in some cases no, and in some cases we recommend deferring to another project.

155 Comments & Recommendations: Comments on and explication of the recommendation in the previous column.

Keep/Cancel/Modify 185: Recommendations on the disposition of the 185 free-floating form subdivision authority record. Keep it as is? Cancel it? Keep it but modify it in some way?

185 Comments & Recommendations: Comments on and explication of the recommendation in the previous column.

The SAC Subcommittee on Genre/Form Implementation is forwarding the attached recommendations for discussion and approval by SAC, and if approved, for submission as an official recommendation from SAC to the Library of Congress Policy and Standards Division.