February 11, 2018

TO: Authority Control Interest Group
FROM: Janis L. Young
*   Policy and Standards Division, Library of Congress*
RE: LC update

I am unable to attend the conference due to the federal budget situation, so I am submitting this written report of LC's activities in lieu of a presentation. I am available to answer any questions over email at jayo@loc.gov.

Statistics on Authority Work at LC.

	FY17	FY16
New name authority records	72,991	78,612
New LC Subject Headings	2,664	3,084
New LC Classification Numbers	2,306	2,716
Total authority records created	77,961	84,412

Library of Congress-Program for Cooperative Cataloging Policy Statements. The *RDA Toolkit* release in August 2017 contained 25 revised LC-PCC PSs developed by PSD staff in conjunction with the PCC Standing Committee on Standards.   The summary for the release is available at http://www.loc.gov/aba/rda/pdf/LCPCCPS_changes_2017_August.pdf. Since the text of the *RDA Toolkit* is currently "frozen" while the preparations for the 3R Project continue (see http://www.rdatoolkit.org/3Rproject), the LC-PCC Policy Statements are frozen as well. Should it become necessary to issue new or revised policy statements prior to the release of the 3R Project, they will be posted at: http://www.loc.gov/aba/rda/lcps_access.html.

ALA-LC Romanization Tables. The ALA-LC Romanization tables are developed jointly by the Library of Congress (LC) and the American Library Association (ALA). Since the ALA Annual Conference in 2017, the ALCTS Committee on Cataloging: Asian and African Materials (CC:AAM) has approved a new Uzbek romanization table and a revised Azerbaijani table. In addition, the Uzbek section of the Non-Slavic Languages (in Cyrillic Script) table has been removed.

The new and revised tables may be downloaded from the ALA-LC Romanization Tables webpage, http://www.loc.gov/catdir/cpso/roman.html.

Headings for Sexual and Gender Minorities. The hierarchies for approximately 70 classes of persons headings qualified by *gay*, *lesbian*, *bisexual*, *transgender*, and *transsexual* have been revised to bring them into agreement with general LCSH practice, and the BTs will now reflect the unqualified heading (e.g., **Lesbian authors** has the BT **Authors**).

Formerly, such headings often were assigned numerous BTs that created deep and sometimes uneven hierarchies. A heading qualified by *lesbian*, for example, may have been assigned BTs that were qualified by *lesbian* or *women* or *gay*, or all of the above.

Notable New and Revised Headings. Several new and revised headings of note have been approved since the Annual Conference.

- The heading **Denialism** was approved in August 2017. In LCSH, most headings express "both sides of the same coin" and are used for both positive and negative treatments of the topic; regardless, PSD occasionally receives proposals for various "denialisms" (e.g., genocide denialism; climate change denialism). The general heading **Denialism** may be assigned along with the heading for the concept being denied if desired.
- The heading **Fake news** was approved in December 2017 with the scope note, "Here are entered works on news stories, disinformation, and hoaxes published online, often through social media, that are deliberately written to attract and mislead readers by exploiting entrenched biases."
- The heading **Dwarfs** was revised into two headings, **Dwarfs (Folklore)** and **Dwarfs (Persons)**, in August 2017. All of the dependent headings were revised likewise (e.g., **Dwarfs in literature** was revised to **Dwarfs (Folklore) in literature** and **Dwarfs (Persons) in literature**).
- The heading **Transgenderism** was updated to the more current terminology **Gender nonconformity** in July 2017.
- The heading for the Egyptian protests that began in 2011 was revised from **Egypt—History—Protests—2011-** to **Egypt—History—Protests, 2011-2013** in January 2018. At the same time, the headings for the history and the politics of Egypt since 1981 were updated to reflect the end of Hosni Mubarak's presidency. The new headings are: **Egypt—History—1981-2011**; **Egypt—History—2011-** ; **Egypt—Politics and government—1981-2011**; and **Egypt—Politics and government—2011-** .

Classification of Social Media. In January 2018, a new classification range, PN4550-4583 (Social media), was approved. Works about the content of social media and collections of excerpts from social media, including the content of individual social media platforms, will be classified there. Works about the technological and sociological aspects of social media will continue to be classed in the T and HM schedules, respectively.

Citations to Support Classification Proposals. Unlike subject proposals, only a citation to the work being cataloged is required for most classification proposals, and that citation usually does not need to include a clear statement of the work's relationship to the number being proposed. The classification proposal policy differs from that for subject proposals because policy specialists can view the associated bibliographic record in the proposing library's catalog and examine the subject headings assigned to determine whether the classification number proposed is necessary and appropriate. (In the case of literary author numbers, the author's name authority record is examined instead of, or in addition to, the bib record.) Occasionally, though, fully cataloged bib records are not publicly available in the library's catalog, which makes approval of the proposals much more difficult.

For now, the policy of optionally adding a clear statement of the work's relationship to the proposal remains unchanged. However, all catalogers who are proposing classification numbers are encouraged to add such statements to their proposals when the associated bib record either is not publicly available, or does not include the appropriate subject headings.

PSD thanks those catalogers who include such statements as a matter of course.

Literary Author Numbers in Name Authority Records. PCC members may use the 053 field to record literary author numbers in name authority records only if the classification number has been assigned in a completed bibliographic record displayed in LC's online catalog. If the number does not appear in a completed LC bibliographic record, the PCC member must request LC verification of the desired number by using the form at http://www.loc.gov/aba/pcc/053/053prop.html.

It is important to follow this procedure because LC's catalog includes numerous records that are suppressed from the OPAC. PCC libraries therefore are unable to determine whether the numbers they wish to assign conflict with literary author numbers previously established in LC's catalog.

This procedure should also be followed when a PCC member has made a proposal to add the literary author number to the LC classification schedules. The number that was proposed may have to be adjusted for a variety of reasons, and there is a high potential that an inaccurate number will be used by an unsuspecting cataloger if the number is included in the name authority record before it is approved by PSD.

PCC members who wish to add literary author numbers that are not verified by LC may use the 053 field with second indicator 4, and include the library's MARC institution code. *Example:*

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053 #4 $a [number] $5 [MARC institution code]
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Descriptive Cataloging Manual (DCM) Z1 provides a full explanation of the above policy.

Genre/Form Terms for Artistic and Visual Works. In February 2018 the Policy and Standards Division (PSD) will approve approximately 50 new LC genre/form terms for artistic and visual works. This genre/form project is a collaboration undertaken by PSD and the Cataloging Advisory Committee of the Art Libraries Society of North America (ARLIS/NA). PSD wholeheartedly thanks the members of the Committee for their time and effort. The proposed terms appear on Tentative List 1802a (http://classificationweb.net/tentative-subjects/1802a.html), to be approved on February 16, 2018.

The proposals represent broad categories of artistic and visual works and can be readily used in general libraries that need to provide high-level genre/form access to their collections of visual works. They do not attempt to replicate the breadth and depth of specialized vocabularies such as the *Thesaurus for Graphic Materials* and the *Art & Architecture Thesaurus*.

Materials that are acquired for art collections are usually visual in nature, but are not always inherently artistic. That is, the materials are not "art for art's sake" but were instead created to serve an informational, documentary, or other purpose (e.g., architectural drawings, trading cards, photographs). The practical need for terms that describe materials that are not artistic in the narrow sense led the Cataloging Advisory Committee and PSD to determine that the highest-level broader term for those terms that represent materials that are not inherently artistic should be **Visual works**.

This decision required the reconsideration some of the existing hierarchies in LCGFT, because numerous approved terms describe visual works. The current top terms **Motion pictures**, **Television programs**, and **Video recordings** will become narrower terms under **Visual works**, as will the high-level term **Maps**. The hierarchies for several other individual terms that refer to visual materials will also be adjusted (e.g., **Worm's-eye views**). Those proposed revisions appear on Tentative List 1802a along with the proposals for the new terms.

Phase 3 of LCDGT Development. *Library of Congress Demographic Group Terms* (LCDGT) is intended to describe the creators of, and contributors to, resources, and also the intended audience of resources. Terms may be assigned in bibliographic records and in authority records for works and expressions.

Phase 3 of the vocabulary's development, which began in January 2016, was intended to test the policies governing the structure of LCDGT. Proposals were therefore accepted for new and revised terms, inasmuch as they were needed for new cataloging. Sufficient proposals have been received to allow a thorough evaluation of LCDGT's structure and principles, so Phase 3 has ended as of January 2018. Additional proposals will not be accepted until further notice.