**ALA Core Subject Analysis Committee**

**Subcommittee on Faceted Vocabularies**

*Report to SAC*

May 31, 2022

Summary of Activities since January 2022

**Membership Updates:**

* One member (Jennifer Olson) resigned early; 3 additional members (Karen Anderson, Lisa Cavalear, Candy Riley) are rotating off on July 1, 2022, after four years of service
  + SSFV heartily thanks these colleagues for their service and for their engagement with our important work
* SSFV is in the process of selecting a new Chair to begin a two-year term in July 2022. Details will be announced soon
* Current Chair Casey Mullin will remain on SSFV as the new liaison from the PCC Policy Committee, effective July 1. This will facilitate a smooth transition with the new Chair
  + The current PCC liaison to SSFV (Kelley McGrath) will transition to a new regular SSFV membership term in July 2022
* SSFV is in the process of appointing 3 new members to begin a new two-year term in July 2022

**Retrospective Implementation Best Practices:**

The ALA Core SAC Subcommittee on Faceted Vocabularies (SSFV) is proud to announce the publication of a new resource entitled ***Retrospective Implementation of Library of Congress Faceted Vocabularies: Best Practices for Librarians and Programmers.***It is now available on the ALA Institutional Repository: [http://hdl.handle.net/11213/17998](https://nam12.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fhdl.handle.net%2F11213%2F17998&data=05%7C01%7C%7Cbdf6b8d4670d44212e0f08da2c596ddf%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C637871059857287229%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=wQK0llLTBJJRXuuhKv1rfSa8%2FSOnfIiBqI6ItGg322I%3D&reserved=0). This first published version incorporates feedback received during the public review period earlier this year. SSFV is grateful for this engagement by the broader community, and welcomes continued feedback on an ongoing basis. Please direct your questions and feedback to Casey Mullin, SSFV Chair ([caseymullin1@outlook.com](mailto:caseymullin1@outlook.com)).

BACKGROUND**:**

This resource (several years in the making) describes a set of best practices for implementers wishing to apply LC faceted vocabularies--using purpose-built fields in the MARC 21 bibliographic format--retrospectively to library catalogs, utilizing automated and semi-automated processes. It is also intended to serve as an ever-growing hub of information for all matters related to retrospective implementation of LC faceted vocabularies, including efforts undertaken by specialist communities of practice, library consortia/cooperatives, library systems vendors, etc. Lastly, it articulates a “roadmap” for ongoing work by SSFV and allied communities of practice.

This integrating resource is modular in nature and subject to dynamic, ongoing updates. Early versions of these best practices will be incomplete. At the time of this initial release, some modules have been developed by SSFV or other entities, whereas other modules remain to be developed (and are represented by a placeholder in the summary document). The following modules are available to implementers now:

* Genre/Form: mapping MARC fixed field codes to 655 and 385 fields
* Genre/Form: mapping LCSH form subdivisions (and select topical subdivisions) to 655, 385, 386 fields
* Genre/Form: mapping LCSH music form headings to 655 fields (not SSFV's own work, but a brief description of and links to the Music Library Association’s work)
* Medium of Performance: mapping LCSH music form headings to 382 fields (not SSFV's own work, but a brief description of and links to MLA's work)

Two appendices contain links to resources for current implementation of faceted vocabularies, and a bibliography of literature on display and indexing of faceted data, respectively.

SSFV anticipates updating and re-releasing the summary document periodically. However, the modules themselves are even more dynamic and subject to frequent updates, particularly as the LC vocabularies continue to grow and evolve. Implementers are advised to take into account the “last updated” date on each module when consulting that module; this date may be later than the “last updated” date on the summary document.

**Task Group Updates**:

In order to facilitate concurrent work in multiple areas of focus, SSFV carries out much of its work in three task groups, each of which focuses on one or more bibliographic facets. All SSFV members serve on at least one task group.

In spring 2022, SSFV discharged its existing facet-based task groups and charged four new project-based groups. They are as follows:

* Group 1: Genre/Form: create LCGFT mappings for LCSH literary headings (retrospective implementation module)
  + Members: 4
  + Goals through July 1, 2022
    - Pull full list of LCSH literary headings for analysis (using id.loc.gov and other tools)
    - Isolate genre/form-based stems (e.g., “…poetry”)
    - Begin creating preliminary mappings based on stems
* Group 2: Demographic/Geographic: create/refine mappings of LCSH headings to 370/385/386 fields (retrospective implementation module)
  + Members: 4
  + Goals through July 1, 2022
    - Check recent LC monthly lists to identify recently-added LCDGT terms; update existing mapping spreadsheet (650 🡪 370/385/386) for those terms
* Group 3: Genre/Form: prepare and submit LCGFT proposals for gaps in the LCSH subdivision mappings
  + Members: 2
  + Goals through July 1, 2022
    - Create separate spreadsheet based on LCSH subdivisions flagged “orange” in the form subdivision mapping module (i.e., exact LCGFT mapping does not yet exist; a new LCGFT term should be proposed)
    - Determine which of these orange-flagged subdivisions merit SACO proposals at this time
    - Contact LC PTCP to alert them that new SACO proposals will be forthcoming from SSFV/SAC’s MARC code
* Group 4: Genre/Form: test and refine LCSH subdivision mappings with OCLC and other interested parties (retrospective implementation)
  + Members: 3
  + Goals through July 1, 2022
    - Identify form subdivision mappings to constitute a “phase 2” of testing with OCLC (“Phase 1” occurred in summer/fall 2021)
    - Study results of “phase 1” tests and determine if mapping changes are warranted
    - Check recent LC monthly lists to identify new/revised LCGFT terms that may impact existing form subdivision mappings, or warrant new mappings

Respectfully submitted,

Casey Mullin, Chair