**ALA Core Subject Analysis Committee**

**Subcommittee on Faceted Vocabularies**

*Report to SAC*

February 18, 2021

Summary of Activities since June 2020

**Membership change:**

The following member resigned from SSFV:

* Netanel Ganin, Library of Congress

SSFV heartily thanks Netanel for his service, particularly his leadership of the demographic task group.

**Task Group Updates**: in order to facilitate concurrent work in multiple areas of focus, SSFV carries out 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.

1. Genre/Form Task Group (leader: Casey Mullin (Western Washington University))
   1. *Status report, February 2021:*
      1. The group continues to polish two mapping spreadsheets, which can be used in machine-assisted retrospective applications:
         1. LCSH form subdivisions (and select topical subdivisions) to LCGFT equivalents as well as demographic term equivalents as applicable
         2. MARC fixed field codes to LCGFT equivalents
      2. Next steps
         1. Finalize mapping spreadsheets in the coming weeks
         2. Write introductory narrative to forthcoming [retrospective implementation toolkit](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1EFKfVaww3Episf17zOTIEMd6cJFzBoo6DbVyw2zOo_Q/edit?usp=sharing), articulating the following
            1. Possibilities and parameters of retrospective implementation projects
            2. Methodologies
            3. Problematic areas/unresolved issues
            4. Role of human review
            5. Tools available
            6. Tools to be developed
         3. Share mapping spreadsheets and narrative to SAC for feedback. SSFV expects to develop and release toolkit modules to the public over time, with mappings subject to regular updates (as LCSH and the LC faceted vocabularies evolve)
2. Demographic/Geographic Task Group (co-leaders: Lisa Cavalear (MARCIVE Inc.), Jen Olson (University of Hartford))
   1. *Merger*: The Demographic and Geographic task groups have merged, in order to benefit from a larger talent pool, and in recognition of the significant overlap between these two areas in the facet-verse (e.g., demonyms in 386 and their corresponding geographic places in 370).
   2. *Work plan for coming year:* 
      1. Continue work on LCSH demographic mappings
      2. Coordinate with Genre/form group where overlap exists (e.g., LCSH form subdivisions)
      3. Look at 370 semantics, including possibility of vocabulary for $i/$4 to specify nature of place (creation, setting, etc.)
      4. While developing the above, develop narratives that can be incorporated into the SSFV retrospective implementation toolkit, or published as separate white papers, etc.
      5. Compile list of lacunae in LCDGT
         1. Use LCSH demographic mappings to LCSH headings as a starting point
         2. Add additional terms/concepts as they emerge in ongoing work (whether or not they are already in LCSH)
         3. Possibly create Google form for community members to submit ideas
3. Chronological Task Group (leader: Casey Mullin (Western Washington University))
   1. *Status report, February 2021*:
      1. *Best Practices for Recording Faceted Chronological Data in Bibliographic Records*, version 1.0 nearly finished
         1. Updates include abundant clarifications, explanatory captions for examples, etc.
      2. Submitted proposal to MARC Advisory Group (MAC): 2021-06 (<https://www.loc.gov/marc/mac/2021/2021-06.html>)
         1. MAC approved option 1 described in the paper (defining 1st indicator values for type of entity in the bibliographic format, as well as defining subfields $3, $x and $v in the bibliographic and authority formats)
         2. The chronological best practices will be further revised to incorporate these MARC changes after they are fully implemented

**Summary of SAC Actions to be Requested Through June 2021**

1. Review and approval of version 1.0 of the *Best Practices for Recording Faceted Chronological Data in Bibliographic Records*, and publication in the ALA Institutional Repository
   1. Version control is a concern: does ALA have a method for this in its IR?
2. Review of forthcoming retrospective implementation toolkit modules (genre/form mapping spreadsheets and accompanying white paper), and approval for broader community feedback

Respectfully submitted,

Casey Mullin