

**Library of Congress Report on Subject Cataloging  
ALA ALCTS CCS Subject Analysis Committee (SAC)  
Midwinter Meeting, Denver, Colorado  
February 11, 2018**

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*Note from the Liaison: I am unable to attend the conference due to the federal budget situation, but will be available to answer any questions over email. Please use the SAC listserv ([camms-sac@lists.ala.org](mailto:camms-sac@lists.ala.org)) to ask questions that are of general interest.*

The full briefing document for Library of Congress staff attending ALA is available on the LC web site at <http://www.loc.gov/ala>. It consists of information about all Library service units, divisions, and offices, and covers initiatives undertaken since the ALA's Annual Conference held in Chicago, Illinois, in June 2017.

**GENERAL**

**Exhibit Booth.** The Library's Pavilion is exhibit booth no. 1522 in the Colorado Convention Center. Free promotional items and documents are available, as are 20-percent-off coupons for use at LC's online shop. Staff members are also present to respond to questions from ALA attendees. There will be a video about the Library, LOC trivia games, and selfie screen at the Pavilion but no theater presentations.

**Personnel Changes.** *Robert Newlen*, deputy librarian of Congress, retired from the Library effective Sept. 30, 2017.

*Mark Sweeney*, associate librarian for Library Services, is also serving as acting deputy librarian of Congress, effective Sept. 30, 2017.

*Joseph Puccio*, head of the Collection Development Office, assumed collateral duties as acting associate librarian for Library Services, effective Sept. 30, 2017.

*Bruce Johnson*, senior library information systems specialist in the Policy and Standards Division, *Cataloger's Desktop* product manager, and a former president of the Association for Library Collections and Technical Services (ALCTS, an ALA division), retired from the Library Dec. 31, 2017, after 33 years of service at the Library.

*Elmer Klebs*, head of the US Serials-Social Sciences Sciences Section, US Arts, Sciences, and Humanities Division, passed away Aug 16, 2017.

*Ethel Tillman*, an assistant editor in the Data Integrity Section of the Policy and Standards Division, retired in Jan. 2018 after 41 years of service at LC.

*Dr. Kimberley Bugg* was appointed chief of the Humanities and Social Sciences Division, effective Oct. 1, 2017. She became chief of the Reference and Reader Services Division when that division was established on Jan. 21, 2018.

*Field offices.* *Pamela Howard-Reguindín* was appointed field director for the Rio de Janeiro overseas office, effective Sept. 3, 2017. *Fehl Cannon* was appointed acting field director for the Islamabad overseas office, effective Sept. 17, 2017. *Phong Tran* was appointed deputy field director for the New Delhi overseas office, effective Nov. 12, 2017. *Debra McKern* was appointed field director in residence (on Capitol Hill) Wash, effective Nov. 12, 2017. The overseas offices are administered in ABA and perform acquisitions, cataloging, preservation, and current awareness functions for approximately 75 countries where the publishing industry is not well developed or for which the Library does not have language expertise on Capitol Hill. The offices also acquire collection materials, on a cost-recovery basis, for other research libraries through their Cooperative Acquisitions Programs.

**New Internships and Fellowships Portal.** The Library launched the Internships and Fellowships Portal, a publicly accessible website to promote and recruit candidates for the Library's many fellowship, internship, residency and volunteer opportunities. The Portal promotes no less than 80 programs across the Library, and provides a one-stop-shop for opportunity seekers. The Portal was seamlessly integrated within the Library's web presence, and includes a discovery tool, FAQs, and testimonials from past participants. The Portal aims to increase awareness and access to the Library's many fellowship, internship and volunteer programs, and is available at [www.loc.gov/ifp](http://www.loc.gov/ifp).

**Number of Service Copies.** Fiscal 2017 was the third full year in which the policy to retain just one copy, in most cases, of U.S. monographs (instead of two) was in place with the following results:

During the year, the Collections Access, Loan and Management Division withdrew 115,470 total items from the collections. This made available 11,547 linear feet (or 2.18 miles) of shelf space in the Library's overcrowded book stacks.

A continuing secondary objective of the program is to find a worthwhile use for the retrospective volumes that are withdrawn from the Library's existing collections. To reach that goal, the Library has partnered with two nonprofit organizations, Books for Africa and Bridge to Asia. During the year, 94,091 books were picked up by Books for Africa, and 23,347 were picked up by Bridge to Asia. The total number of books transferred from the Library to these partners was 117,438.

**Library of Congress Labs.** National Digital Initiatives launched labs.loc.gov in September 2017 as a new online space designed to empower exploration and discovery in digital collections. Library of Congress Labs will host a changing selection of experiments, projects, events and resources designed to encourage creative use of the Library's digital collections. To help demonstrate what exciting discoveries are possible, the new site also features a gallery of projects from innovators-in-residence and challenge winners, blog posts, and video presentations from leaders in the field. Labs will enable users at every level of technical knowledge to engage with the Library's digital collections. Visitors will have the opportunity to try experimental applications; crowdsourcing programs will allow the public to add their knowledge to the Library's collections; and tutorials will provide a stepping stone for new computational discovery of the Library's API and data sets.

## **GENERAL CATALOGING**

**Next Generation Library Platform.** The Library is conducting market research for a next generation library service platform with vendors to learn about technology trends and developments in order to identify the Library's business needs for a next generation system. In addition, staff throughout the Library are working to identify high-level business needs with the goal of issuing a Request For Information later in 2018.

**PCC Strategic Planning.** The PCC Policy Committee (PoCo) met Nov. 2-3, 2017, at the Library of Congress. Prior to the meeting, the committee engaged in a full-day facilitated strategic planning session focused on developing the PCC vision, mission, and strategic directions for 2018-2021. A summary of the outcomes of the PoCo meeting, with links to many of the presentations and reports, has been posted at <http://www.loc.gov/aba/pcc/documents/PoCo-2017/PoCo-2017-Outcomes.pdf>.

**BIBFRAME.** Sally McCallum, chief of the Network Development and MARC Standards Office in ABA, will moderate the BIBFRAME Update Forum on Sunday, Feb. 11, 2018, beginning at 10:30 am in Rooms 601-603 of the Colorado Convention Center. The Forum will also feature speakers from IndexData, ExLibris, the LD4P project, and OCLC.

The Network Development & MARC Standards Office (NDMSO) in the ABA Directorate is the focal point for technical standards, linked data exploration, and related planning in Library Services. In fiscal 2017, NDMSO continued development of the Bibliographic Framework (BIBFRAME) model and vocabulary to replace MARC 21 as a cataloging metadata standard in order to reap the benefits of newer technology, particularly data linking. The Library built on the work and tools developed in the BIBFRAME pilot in fiscal 2016 to begin a new BIBFRAME 2.0 Pilot that enabled input of native BIBFRAME descriptions by 65 catalogers starting in June 2017. Training was completed in July 2017 and all training materials were made publicly available at <http://www.loc.gov/catworkshop/bibframe>. The second phase of the pilot offered a much better simulation of an actual cataloging workflow than the first pilot did. Pilot participants create bibliographic descriptions in both BIBFRAME and MARC 21 for each resource being cataloged. Testing includes input of bibliographic data using BIBFRAME 2.0 vocabulary, input of non-Latin scripts, ability to incorporate authority data, and a fuller level of interaction with a live BIBFRAME 2.0 database consisting of the complete BIBFRAME conversion of the Library of Congress bibliographic file. Participants catalog using both the existing MARC-based LC ILS and the BIBFRAME Editor, creating their BIBFRAME descriptions first. Use of the BIBFRAME Editor will provide the designers with valuable feedback on the new approach to creating bibliographic metadata. The second pilot will continue at least until June 2018.

This year NDMSO continued upgrading servers and systems to handle new traffic loads anticipated for linked data resolution, label lookup, and other services related to the BIBFRAME project and the Library's Linked Data Service, LDS/ID. An upgrade to the MarkLogic datastore server software to Version 8 with a semantic module was installed and moved to production. This upgrade included native handling of Resource Description Framework (RDF) triples in the database as well as security updates. This effort will continue in fiscal 2018 as load-balancing front end servers are added and the systems are tuned. The staging server for LDS/ID was also upgraded and expanded to support the BIBFRAME 2.0 Pilot, and 16 vocabularies were added that allowed pilot participants to choose authority terms from dropdown lists in the BIBFRAME Editor.

### **Library of Congress Acquisitions and Cataloging Production.**

<i>Acquisitions Work</i>	FY17	FY16
Items purchased for LC collections	647,999	667,923
Items acquired for LC by non-purchase	1,472,501	2,528,371
Expenditures for collections purchases	\$23,900,000	\$26,500,000
<i>Bibliographic Records Completed</i>	FY17	FY16
Original	209,213	156,012
Collection-level cataloging	1,395	1,260
Copy cataloging	85,623	69,707
Minimal level cataloging	<u>75,976</u>	<u>55,609</u>
Total records completed	372,207	282,588
Total volumes cataloged	389,040	424,053
<i>Authority Work</i>	FY17	FY16
New name authority records	72,991	78,612
New LC Subject Headings	2,664	3,084
New LC Classification Numbers	<u>2,306</u>	<u>2,716</u>
Total authority records created	77,961	84,412

### **DESCRIPTIVE CATALOGING**

**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/LCPCPS\\_changes\\_2017\\_August.pdf](http://www.loc.gov/aba/rda/pdf/LCPCPS_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](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/cps/roman.html>.

**PCC Membership in ISNI.** A year-long pilot project, coordinated by Harvard University, began in July 2017 to explore PCC membership in the ISNI (International Standard Name Identifier) program. Participants in the pilot are drawn from twelve PCC institutions, the three PCC Standing Committees, and the PCC Identity Management in NACO Task Group. Goals include developing a better understanding of ISNI tools and systems, identifying needs and issues that arise when incorporating ISNIs into metadata workflows, creating PCC documentation and training, and pursuing a cost-effective scaling of broader PCC involvement in ISNI. More information is available on the PCC ISNI Pilot website at <https://wiki.duraspace.org/display/PCCISNI/PCC+ISNI+Pilot+Home>.

## **SUBJECT HEADINGS AND CLASSIFICATION**

**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**

**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.

### **DEMOGRAPHIC GROUP TERMS**

**Phase 3 of 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.