**Networked Resources and Metadata Committee (NRMC)**

**2000 ALA Annual Conference Meetings  
MINUTES  
July 7 and 9, 2000**

**Friday, July 7, 2000, Meeting  
2:00–4:00 p.m. — RAD (Radisson Hotel), Symphony Room**

**Attendance:**  
***Members***: William Fietzer, Arlene Klair, Janet Carter, John Attig, Cecilia Preston, Lisa Rowlison, Willy Cromwell-Kessler, Mary Woodley, Wayne Jones, Richard Baumgarten, Sandra Lawson, Evelyn Frangakis, Keith Powell, Kay Flowers  
***Others:*** Mary Larsgaard, John Byrum, Bernie Karon, Mary Woodley, Sue Zuriff, Sherman Clarke, Francie Mrkick, SueYoung Park, Pat Vince, Dot Hope, Sherry Davids, Joe Altimus, Norma Hendrickson, Cathy Gerhart, Judith Hopkins, Verna Urbanski, Greta De Groat, Allene Hayes, Reve Schubert, Charlotte Ames, Mary Tipton, C.E. Abramson, Lucille M. Rosa, Rob Withers

1. **Welcome**  
   Substituting for Ann Fox, William Fietzer welcomed all of the Committee members along with those people in attendance in the surrounding audience.
2. **Announcements**  
   Fietzer announced that he would be substituting for Ann Fox at the Friday meeting. She would chair the Sunday meeting.
3. **Introductions**  
   Fietzer introduced himself and provided his title and institutional affiliation. The rest of the Committee and those people in attendance introduced themselves in the same fashion.
4. **Review of meeting agendas**  
   Having been previously distributed to the Committee members via e-mail, the working agenda was approved as written.
5. **Review of rosters**  
   Having been previously distributed to the Committee members via e-mail, the rosters were approved as written.
6. **Minutes of 2000 ALA Midwinter Conference NRMC meetings**  
   The minutes from the Midwinter Conference were approved as written.
7. **NRMC future Saturday or Sunday meetings**  
   The Committee agreed to the following meeting schedule for future ALA annual conferences: Friday 2:00–4:00 p.m. and Sunday 9:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.
8. **NRMC Web page (J. Attig)**  
   John Attig noted that the Web site will be updated with the new name: Networked Resources and Metadata Committee, in place of the former Digital Resources Committee. He also noted the appearance of some new Situation Reports (and the updating of the Copyright page) and along with the possible reorganization of the home page by topics (depending on the direction of the reorganization discussion).
9. **NRMC proposed 2001 program (S. Lawson)**  
   Sandra Lawson, Chair of the Programs Subcommittee reported on plans for the ALA 2001 two hour program. The topic is to be presented to ALCTS in two days hence, and their response will be given in three to four weeks. Specific ideas for speakers on the identified topic were discussed. Several excellent ideas were listed as persons to approach. It was noted that Lawson’s term is ending, however she is willing to work closely with the incumbent to finish planning for the program.
10. **Task Force on the Structure of NRMC (K. Powell)**  
    On March 2, 2000 the ALCTS Networked Resources and Metadata Committee (NRMC) Task Force on Review of NRMC Structure was formed consisting of members Kay Flowers, Arlene Klair, and Keith Powell, as Chair. The task force was charged with reviewing the current subcommittee structure within the NRMC and providing recommendations on whether to retain the current subcommittee structure of the committee or disband it and use task forces in their stead.

***Charge***

***Report***

1. **Report on Preservation (E. Frangakis/I. Schubert)**
2. **Copyright: status (D. Davis)**  
   Denise Davis started her report by announcing that the work of the Copyright subcommittee is winding down. The following have been accomplished since her last report:
   1. Successful panel discussion at ALA Midwinter, San Antonio, TX in January 2000. The speakers enlightened the committee on issues associated with digital content and its distribution. Remarks were positive both from committee members and ALA members who attended the discussion.  
      Note: It would be useful to keep abreast of developments in the digital rights arena, especially as it impacts distribution of e-journal content.
   2. Assessment of NRMC subcommittees — Her recommendation to the assessment task group was to abolish the subcommittee on Copyright and make “copyright of digital content” a task force topic. Annual updating on issues associated with copyright, fair use, and legislation would be sufficient for ALCTS NRMC to fully function.

The website for copyright remains unchanged from October 1999. She suggests folding the page into a “key issues” page for ALCTS NRMC. (just a suggestion)

1. **Standards and Standards Bibliography: status (C. Preston)**  
   Cecilia Preston reported on the new NISO specifications that they have promulgated for comment and revision. They include the new BICI standard, the use of the ISBN (13 characters), and the employment of Dublin Core as a base standard of content information for interoperability among different platforms and schemas. She acknowledged that DC contains only 15 unqualified elements for descriptive purposes, but the qualifying elements could be done at a later time. She asked the Committee how we wanted to respond to the NISO standards and urged us to send our comments to the NISO home page.

She also reported on the IETF [NISO] workshop on electronic journals that met in February. Enecryption and data privacy issues are impeding policy development done by the IETF. She added that if you’re interested in these developments, show interest by attending a meeting or comment on their interest page and you become a member of the working group.

Preston addressed the status of the Committee bibliography on metadata. Its major problem is one of maintenance, i.e., keeping the information current. The statistics page is not good; the entire bibliography needs to be organized in some sort of hierarchical form. The counter on the first page shows an average of 250 hits per week, which indicates interest in the topic and in our materials devoted to it. The transport protocol page shows 100 hits per week.

She concluded her presentation by providing the date, time and location of the NISO annual meeting.

1. **Human-Machine Interface: status (K. Powell)**  
   The HMI Subcommittee has coordinated the NRMC co-sponsorship of a program at ALA 2000 Annual Conference with the LITA Human-Machine Interface Interest Group. The program, “People Count: User-Centered Interface Design,” and will be presented Sunday, July 9th from 2:00–5:30pm in room MCC-N228 (McCormick Place).

Other activities of the HMI Subcommittee, such as a review of the subcommittee charge, are on hold until further decisions are made regarding NRMC structure, as outlined in the report submitted by the Task Force on Review of NRMC Structure.

1. **Outreach: status (W. Fietzer**  
   Fietzer reported that the subcommittee had not met; some members’ terms had expired and needed to be filled. The existence of the Subcommittee itself remains in doubt, pending the outcome of the Committee’s deliberations on reorganization. Fietzer also reported that he had contacted the Freedom of Information subcommittee on intellectual property regarding his concerns about commercialization of information property rights. They included it as part of issues to be addressed in their next meeting.
2. **NRMC/Media Resources Committee liaison and NRMC program volunteer**
3. **Updates and discussion:**
   1. **CC:DA (A. Sandberg-Fox, liaison/John Attig)**  
      John Attig reported on behalf of Ann Fox that there was little to report because the CC:DA Committee had not yet met.
   2. **MARBI (J. Attig)** John Attig reported on the implications of format changes proposed by the committee:
      * Serials and Integrating Resources: A discussion paper recommends that records for integrating resources use the serials 008 field (i.e., that they be cataloged in the serials format);
      * In Leader/07, it is recommended that code "s" continue to be used for serials and a new code "i" be used for integrating resources such as web sites;
      * Field 856: A proposal is being made to add a specific subfield to field 856 for recording the clickable text which will link to the resource in cases when it is not desired to display and click on the URL ($u) itself. Adding various codes (s or i) to the leader 007 creates display and indexing problems for local systems
4. **Old business**  
   There was no old business to be discussed.
5. **New business**  
   New business involved the naming of subcommittee chairs pending the outcome of the reorganization discussion.
6. **Adjournment**  
   The meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

**Sunday, July 9, 2000, Meeting**  
9:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. — HYT (Hyatt Regency Hotel), Grand Ballroom E

**Attendance:**  
***Members***: William Fietzer, Ann Sandberg-Fox, Arlene Klair, Janet Carter, John Attig, Cecilia Preston, Lisa Rowlison, Willy Cromwell-Kessler, Mary Woodley, Wayne Jones, Richard Baumgarten, Sandra Lawson, Evelyn Frangakis, Keith Powell, Kay Flowers  
***Others:*** Mary Larsgaard, John Byrum, Bernie Karon, Mary Woodley, Sue Zuriff, Sherman Clarke, Francie Mrkick, SueYoung Park, Pat Vince, Dot Hope, Sherry Davids, Joe Altimus, Norma Hendrickson, Cathy Gerhart, Judith Hopkins, Verna Urbanski, Greta De Groat, Allene Hayes, Reve Schubert, Charlotte Ames, Mary Tipton, C.E. Abramson, Lucille M. Rosa, Rob Withers

1. **Welcome**
2. **Introductions**  
   NRMC Chair Ann Sandberg-Fox began the meeting with welcoming remarks which were followed by self-introductions of all persons present which included members of the NRMC, members of the CC:DA Task Force on Metadata, and the audience at large.
3. **Announcements**  
   At Friday’s meeting (7/7/00) the Committee agreed to the following meeting schedule for future ALA annual conferences: Friday 2:00–4:00 p.m. and Sunday 9:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.
4. **Agenda Modivications**  
   “Unfinished Business” will be added to the agenda as item 8.
5. **Report on the CC:DA Preconference on Metadata (Mary Larsgaard)**  
   Mary Larsgaard began her report with the announcement that the preconference was a success: there was good content and a broad spectrum of interest. Participants included 361 paid registrants and 29 faculty. Wayne Jones is responsible for publishing the papers of the preconference. Jones anticipates the papers will be available by the Midwinter meeting.

There is a possibility that a series of regional institutes similar to the metadata preconference will be offered. If so, the faculty would be reduced to 2-3 persons and the content would be regularly updated. The ALCTS planning committee would be responsible for following through with this idea.

Larsgaard recommended that another preconference on metadata be offered in the future.

1. **Presentation: “Metadata Issues in Building a Consortial Information Hub” (Willy Cromwell-Kessler**  
   Willy Cromwell-Kessler presented the Detroit Area Library Network’s (DALNET) plan for integrating access to the diverse materials available in the 22 member institutions via an information hub which will rely heavily on a tailored set of metatdata. Issues and questions surrounding the project, including systems architecture, indexing, goals and content of metadata, and financing, etc. were discussed.
2. **Final Report of the CC:DA Task Force on Metadata (Mary Larsgaard, chair)**  
   Mary Larsgaard led a discussion of the Task Force’s final report. The Task Force interpreted their charge in a manner seen as most beneficial to the issues at hand rather than a literal reading of the Charge document itself. Larsgaard presented Committee members each with a copy of “Conceptual Map of the Resource Description Landscape."

Discussion of the five charges and summary of work done as found in the Summary section of the report led to a dialogue on future directions for NRMC. William Fietzer (NRMC Chair, 2000/01) recommended the following directions as suggested by the CC:DA Task Force on Metadata Final Report:

* 1. Continued development of specialized conceptual maps to further identify metadata types and their variety through partnered relationships; partners yet to be identified;
  2. Addressing cataloging issues and incorporating metadata definitions into the new edition of AACR as well as MARC21; create a liaison to CC:DA for these purposes;
  3. Address issues of interfacing, especially with respect to seamlessness, indexing, and a diversity of resources;
  4. Non-traditional methods of knowledge management (could be related to item 2 or may stand on its own).

Discussion of NRMC goals and the approach to these issues followed. It was concluded that each of the four topic areas would be managed by a separate NRMC sub-committee.

1. **Unfinished business**
   1. The Committee will continue discussion of the report Review of NRMC Structure online as a quorum was not present to facilitate final decisions. The approach to sub-committees, whether they be time-limited and issue-specific, or on-going was discussed. There is a possibility that some of the existing on-going subcommittees will be disbanded in favor of issue-specific time-limited task forces.

Janet D. Carter raised a concern about the balance of the NRMC’s scope. It was felt that our focus was perhaps too centered on technical issues such as cataloging at the expense of a more balanced focus that includes collection management issues. Cecilia Preston suggested that a revaluation of NRMC goals would benefit an identification of paths and directions for NRMC development and interest. Further it was noted that of the four future NRMC directions identified (see 7. above) item 1 (development of conceptual maps) may lend itself to a re-balancing since issues of collections and their management are key to this issue.

A question was raised regarding duplication of effort with other ALA groups. It was concluded that the NRMC would actively promote liaison relationships with appropriate committees and would share ideas of topical concern when relevant.

Preston noted that there would be a recommendation to ALCTS to create a standards committee which would cover a variety of issues and would allow for an integrated approach across several committees. The NRMC standards sub-committee would be disbanded. It was suggested that the new committee’s charge would require specific exclusions in order to avoid conflict with MARBI and CC:DA.

* 1. Sandra Lawson, Chair of the Programs Subcommittee reported on plans for the ALA 2001 two hour program. The topic is to be presented to ALCTS in two days hence, and their response will be given in three to four weeks. Specific ideas for speakers on the identified topic were discussed. Several excellent ideas were listed as persons to approach. It was noted that Lawson’s term is ending, however she is willing to work closely with the incumbent to finish planning for the program.

Carter noted that NRMC has also agreed to co-present a program with the Media Resources Committee. Carter will continue working with the Media Resources Committee on that program.

* 1. John Attig noted that the website will be updated with the new name: Networked Resources and Metadata Committee, in place of the former Digital Resources Committee.
  2. Fietzer concluded the business of the meeting with a very kind thanks to Sandberg-Fox for all her work and guidance and special recognition and appreciation for her many accomplishments. This was followed by cheer and applause from all in attendance.

1. **Adjournment**  
   The meeting adjourned at 12:15 p.m.