

ARLIS/NA

ART LIBRARIES SOCIETY of NORTH AMERICA

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Cataloging Advisory Committee Meeting

March 22nd 2015

Submitted by Marie-Chantal L'Ecuyer-Coelho

Facilitator: Marie-Chantal L'Ecuyer-Coelho

Participants

Marie-Chantal L'Ecuyer-Coelho, CAC member, Chair; Sherman Clarke, CAC member, SAC liaison; Liz O'Keefe, CAC member, MAC liaison; Maria Oldal, CAC member; Dan Lipcan, CAC member; Tamara Fultz, CAC member; Eric Wolf, Board liaison; Daniel Starr; Jamie Lausch Vander Broek; Libby Dechman; Heather Slania; Karen Stafford; Brenda Lozano; Anne Champagne; [and eight others]

1. Welcome words

Marie-Chantal L'Ecuyer-Coelho, the new Chair, welcomed attendees.

2. CAC's membership information

Marie-Chantal announced that Allison Hausladen moved in summer 2014 to a new position; therefore, Allison decided to step down from the Cataloging Advisory Committee and asked to be replaced as liaison to ALA's Committee on Cataloging: Description & Access (CC:DA). Liz O'Keefe expressed an interest in moving from the MARC Advisory Committee (MAC) liaison to the CC:DA liaison position since she has been active lately in CC:DA discussions and proposals. This would leave the MAC liaison position to be filled. The two liaison positions require cataloging expertise and a willingness to attend two ALA conferences per year. Sherman Clarke reminded attendees that the next ALA conferences will be held in San Francisco and Boston; this may affect the choice of liaison. Eric Wolf, the CAC's liaison to the Board, mentioned that funding for travel expenses might be requested from the mid-year ARLIS Executive Board meeting, even though the deadline is past (the resignation of the current liaison and consequent need for a late appointment could be invoked to explain why the CAC did not meet the deadline). If someone is interested in the MAC liaison position, contact Marie-Chantal. If no candidates come forward within the next few weeks, Sherman volunteered to take on the task, since he is already the VRA liaison to MAC. This conditional offer was gratefully accepted.

Marie-Chantal announced she accepted, last January, to take on the role of Chair, replacing Laurie Chipps, who decided to leave the Committee. Marie-Chantal will keep her position until Seattle; then, she will decide if she wishes to stay for an extra year.

Since the CAC will work on several projects in 2015-2016, Marie-Chantal suggested that we recruit one or two new members. Members are invited to suggest possible candidates.

3. Word from the Board liaison—Eric Wolf

Eric Wolf delivered his Board liaison report. He relayed thanks from the Board, especially to Marie-Chantal for agreeing to take on the Chair position at such short notice. The Committee's reports are impressive. The Board is also aware that the CAC is involved in making policy for the industry as a whole, while the work of most ARLIS/NA committees, though important, affects only the Society itself or a segment of the library community. He introduced Jamie Lausch Vander Broek, the newly elected Secretary, who is the new liaison to CAC.

Sherman thanked Eric for all his hard work as liaison.

4. Reports from ARLIS/NA liaisons to:

- **Subject Analysis Committee ([SAC](#))—Sherman Clarke**

Sherman reported that SAC's agenda includes work on genre-form projects for the Library of Congress Genre/Form Terms for Library and Archives Materials (LCGFT). The general and literature lists are currently on the agenda to be approved. Libby Dechman confirmed she is involved in the review process. Since these two lists are particularly lengthy, their evaluation requires a great amount of time. The art genre/form terms project is expected to take off as soon as the review work is completed.

Sherman also explained that the purpose of LCGFT is to separate and facet all aspects of a genre term, e.g. audience, style, period, creator demographics, language, etc. Hybrid terms will be removed unless they represent a valid form (e.g. Country-rock music, which is considered a musical genre of its own).

Finally, Sherman talked about a presentation that Gordon Dunsire gave at the SAC meeting. The presentation was titled *What is an RDA subject?* In response to the work accomplished to consolidate the FR models, the JSC agreed to add the high-level relationship "Subject" to RDA. This relation will be defined in alignment with the FRBR and Linked Data models. Work is the only Group 1-entity considered to have a subject. According to the FRSAD conceptual model, "Work" has a subject—its "Thema"—which in turn has an

appellation—its “Nomen”. The “Subject” relationship will be defined in RDA chapter 23, and new relationship designators will be listed under Appendix M.

- **Committee on Cataloging: Description and Access (CC:DA)—M.-C. L’E.-Coelho for Allison Hausladen**

Marie-Chantal announced that PCC requirements for non-books and special collections are now integrated into the LC-PCC policy statements.

She explained the following proposals and discussion papers, submitted by the CC:DA in 2014, had implications for art cataloging:

- **6JSC/ALA/28**—This proposal created an order of priority for the sources of information of the element “Date of manufacture”. It was accepted as submitted by ALA and the sec final is available on the JSC website.
- **6JSC/ALA/29**—This proposal clarified core element status for “not identified” elements in the distribution and manufacture statements. It removed the conditional core element status, thereby disposing of the “cascading vortex of horror”.
- **6JSC/ALA/Discussion 4**, jointly submitted by ARLIS/NA and RBMS, which discussed transcription issues associated with recording production information (see *infra* for more details).

She spoke about proposals from other constituencies of interest to art librarians.

- First, the National Library of New Zealand submitted a paper, **6JSC/Chair/15**, which sought to clarify the situations when a conventional collective title (CCT) must be assigned to works by a single author. According to LC's and BL's interpretation of RDA 6.2.2.10 and 6.2.2.4, these titles must be assigned even when a compilation has a distinctive title. To deal with the issue, a working group has been formed. We should monitor their work, since art librarians have issues with the application of CCTs as main or added entries for art catalogues.
- Otherwise, **6JSC/CILIP/4** dealt with color content, proposing that the terms “monochrome” and “polychrome” be used as an alternative to “black and white” and “color” (see *infra* for more details).
- Lastly, **6JSC/LC/30** provided guidance on supplying or devising titles for works without titles.

To conclude, Marie-Chantal invited Liz to briefly talk about the work accomplished by the **Task Force on Machine-Actionable Data Elements in RDA Chapter 3**. The Task Force was charged with evaluating the structure of data elements in RDA Chapter 3 that contain quantitative data, with a view to enabling machine processing. It has also focused on separating extent of

content information from extent of carrier information in the area of physical description, and consolidating the various format-specific instructions as much as possible. The Task Force submitted a strawman proposal to CC:DA at ALA's Midwinter, and was invited to revise and resubmit the paper as a proposal at ALA's Annual Meeting.

- **MARC Advisory Committee (MAC)—Liz O'Keefe**

The report from the MARC Advisory Committee liaison was dispensed with, since it was delivered earlier at another meeting and contained little that affected art catalogers.

5. CAC's activity in 2014-15 and action items for 2015-16

- **Guide of best practices for cataloging art catalogs—M.-C. L'E.-Coelho**

Marie-Chantal reported that the British Library's guide of best practices for describing exhibition and art catalogs is now available online. The CAC considered the possibility of producing a formal guide of best practices, but the project never came to fruition. Marie-Chantal reminds participants that during the CAC Meeting last year in Washington, it was questioned whether we needed to produce a formal guide covering all areas. Instead, we could issue recommendations concerning specific points in RDA; these could be made available on the CAC wiki.

Maria Oldal suggested we create a document listing the main practices with which we disagree. We already made some comments regarding the BL guidelines that can be used as a starting point. Also, we can inspire ourselves from the Thomas J. Watson Library RDA [guidelines](#), available on the CAC wiki.

Attendees discussed the details of collaborating on guidelines. Sherman noted that Marie-Chantal, as Chair, is now administrator of the CAC wiki. Only administrators may start a new document. Other committee members can be made administrators if necessary or just send documents to administrators. Eric advised that we publish our recommendations via the ARLIS/NA website. The CAC webpage, however, is not the best location to post our documents (it is buried deep in the website). We should talk to Robert Kopchinski from TEI, since the Executive Board is planning to change the website's architecture.

- **RDA : CAC contribution to and discussion papers**

- **6JSC/ALA/Discussion/4 : Transcription issues associated with the Production Statement (RDA 2.7)—Liz O'Keefe**

Liz reported on the transcription of production information paper submitted to CC:DA by ARLIS and RBMS (see the proposal [here](#)). It was discussed at the CC:DA meeting at ALA Annual 2014, and the committee voted to forward the paper to the JSC for discussion. Some

JSC members felt that the decision to transcribe vs to record bibliographical information should not be based on whether the resource is published or not, but instead on whether it is self-identifying or not. They asked for the paper to be rewritten, taking into consideration the implications for the title and statement of responsibilities areas. The CAC and RBMS will collaborate on this new paper, which should be submitted at ALA's Annual Meeting this year.

- **6JSC/CILIP/4: Colour content in RDA—M.-C. L'E.-Coelho**

Marie-Chantal briefly discussed the CILIP paper on color content. The CAC might want to suggest best practices for recording the color content of resources. One possible option would be to use subfield 300\$b for details of color content and field 340 to record controlled terms such as polychrome or monochrome. Currently, there is no subfield for color content in field 340, but we could submit a proposal to MAC.

- **6JSC/LC/30: Works without titles—Elizabeth O'Keefe**

This item was dispensed with, since it was discussed earlier at the Cataloging Section Meeting.

- **Art Genre-Form Terms Project—Sherman Clarke**

Sherman reported that the Board approved CAC's moving forward on the Art Genre/Form Terms Project; LC has also approved our involvement.

Sherman accepted to chair the project; six to ten core members should also participate actively. To select terms to be included in the thesaurus, existing vocabularies, such as the Artists' Book Thesaurus (developed by the Book Art SIG), the TGM, the AAT, and the RMBS thesauri, will be examined. LCGFT is not limited to works and expressions, so copy-specific terms may also be included.

Issues to be dealt with include: choosing among multiple competing terms designating the same object, determining whether we can appropriate scope notes from existing thesauri (the AAT editor, Patricia Harpring, has indicated we can use AAT scope notes as long as we cite sources), and finding the best way to work together (an ARLIS listserv could be created).

Lastly, Maria raised the topic of photobooks, which are different from photography books. These are treated tangentially by the Artists' Book Thesaurus, since many artists' books include photographs, but they should not be considered as a simple subset of artists' books. Sherman and Libby confirmed the term "Photobooks" appears in the list for general terms, as a NT under "Illustrated works."