To: RBMS Bibliographic Standards Committee
From: LC Liaison (Manon Théroux, Policy, Training, and Cooperative Programs Division)
Re: Library of Congress Update
Date: June 6, 2023 (for June 20, 2023 meeting); updated July 20, 2023

This update contains highlights of Library of Congress (LC) cataloging-related news since my last report to the RBMS Bibliographic Standards Committee in January 2023. The full LC institutional report for the American Library Association (ALA) Annual Conference 2023 should be posted prior to the meeting at: https://www.loc.gov/ala

LC Staffing Changes

- Rare Book and Special Collections Division:
    - Mark Dimunation (Division Chief) has retired. Jennifer Meehan (Director, Special Collections Directorate) is serving as acting chief.
- Policy, Training, and Cooperative Programs Division:
    - Hien Nguyen (Section Head) has retired; Ivey Glendon (Senior Library Information Systems Specialist) has moved to another organization.

LC Rare Materials Section: Recon Project

- Ongoing; ~ 284,459 cards processed (Aug. 2018 through May 2023).
- Contract will end July 2023; will be unable to complete work on several collections that had been part of the original contract; for the final stretch, focusing on those collections determined to be most important and workable to complete.
- Rare book shelflist is fully processed; vendor continues to work on special files projects:
    - <u>Completed</u>: Printed ephemera, provenance special files, British pamphlets, Ralph Ellison's library, Woodrow Wilson's library, Big Little Books Collection, bindings special files, Armed Services Editions Collection (paperbacks published and distributed to WWII-era soldiers 1943-1947 by the Army Library Service), miniature books, First 14 Congresses Collection (historical government documents from the first 14 U.S. Congresses), Susan B. Anthony Collection, Gene Berry and Jeffrey Campbell Collection (LGBT material in part), NEA Small Press Collection (small press books published with grant assistance from the U.S. National Endowment for the Arts), Congressional Speeches, Aramont Library Collection (literary first editions, illustrated books, and "livres d'artiste"), YA Medical Pamphlet Collection.
    - <u>In-process</u>: Raymond Toinet Collection (might not be completed before contract ends).
    - <u>Starting soon</u>: Dime novels (likely not completed before contract ends).
- Handling most post-recon work internally, but vendor is providing some, including: Rosenwald Collection holdings (complete) and German/Germanic authority work and bibliographic updates.
- Most records have been distributed to OCLC (except for new serial records; was unable to hire a serials cataloger to do the post-recon work, so those records still only available in LC Voyager system as "initial bibliographic control" (IBC) records).
- In the LC Voyager online catalog, the recon records have a local MARC field 985 with code "rblacfederal"; can find them using an expert keyword search: **k985 "rblacfederal" AND [something else]**; must add something else or the search will fail. Examples:
    - k985 "rblacfederal" AND k710 "Printed Ephemera Collection"
    - k985 "rblacfederal" AND k100 "Poe, Edgar Allan"
    - k985 "rblacfederal" AND k510 "Evans"
    - k985 "rblacfederal" AND k651 "France History"
    - k985 "rblacfederal" AND k655 "Presentation copies"

Cataloger's Desktop

- LC has announced that Cataloger's Desktop will be discontinued on July 31st, 2023.
- A new service, called Classification Web Plus, will be available starting Aug. 1, 2023.
  - Will allow for cross-document searching, but will be limited to selected LC and Program for Cooperative Cataloging (PCC) documentation.
  - The *Descriptive Cataloging of Rare Materials* (DCRM) manuals and *Examples to Accompany Descriptive Cataloging of Rare Materials (Books)* (currently in Cataloger's Desktop) will not be included in ClassWeb+.
  - The links in *Examples to Accompany Descriptive Cataloging of Rare Materials (Serials)* (currently in the ALA Institutional Repository) that point to Cataloger's Desktop resources will no longer work.
- LC documentation currently available in Cataloger's Desktop will be made available in PDF format on the LC website, if it isn't already.

Resource Description and Access (RDA)

- Implementation date for adoption of Official RDA by LC/PCC still to be determined; an update to the current "**not before June 2023**" date will be announced this month. [update: On June 13, 2023, it was announced that PCC would have a rolling implementation from May 1, 2024, to April 30, 2027]
- LC-PCC Policy Statements (PC-PCC PSs) in Official RDA Toolkit
  - Updated March 2023; next update: July 2023
  - Continuing to add links to LC-PCC Metadata Guidance Documentation (MGDs) and make revisions to reflect changes in Official RDA
- LC-PCC Metadata Guidance Documentation (MGDs)
  - LC/PCC currently writing MGDs to address "string encoding scheme" instructions in Official RDA
- PCC Task Group to Test the Official RDA Toolkit
  - Test conducted Oct. 2022-Jan. 2023
  - Preliminary results presented May 2023 at PCC Operations Committee Meeting
  - Timeline for final results of test:
    - LC-PCC PSs and MGDs
      - Mar.-June 2023: Identify and recommend specific changes to LC-PCC PSs and MGDs
      - July 2023: Share recommendations with PCC and LC
      - July-Nov. 2023: LC updates LC-PCC PSs and MGDs
    - Final Report and Recommendations
      - July-Sept. 2023: Prepare report and recommendations
      - Sept. 2023: Share report and recommendations with PCC
- Reminder: Do not use the Official RDA LC/PCC PSs or the LC/PCC MGDs yet!

Non-Latin Scripts

- LC has implemented Thai and Armenian scripts in LC bibliographic records
- New ALA/LC Romanization Table for Fula language (Adlam script) approved
- Revised ALA/LC Romanization Table for Armenian issued (minor font corrections)

LC/NACO Name Authority Record Documentation

- Descriptive Cataloging Manual, Z1 section, Feb. 2023 update:
  - 377 field: added instructions to optionally record ISO 639-3 language codes

- o 670 field: updated instructions for citing U.S. Board on Geographic Names (BGN) databases

LC Subject Headings (LCSH)

- LC has announced a commitment to evaluating the existing subject headings for Indigenous peoples of North America. An Indigenous Headings Consultant Group has been formed to advise the work and a staff member will be hired to lead it.
- A project to capitalize the word "indigenous" in LCSH when the word refers to peoples and cultures has been completed; other usages of the word, e.g. plants and animals, continue to be lowercase. The project is being extended to update the captions in LC Classification schedules.
- A white paper proposing a change of practice to allow use of family name authorized access points from the LC/PCC name authority file as subject access points in bibliographic records was made available for comment. Feedback was favorable, so implementation will proceed, once:
  1. the associated documentation in the LC Subject Headings Manual has been updated, and
  2. the associated authority records have been globally updated to revise the 008 fields and delete the 667 field.
- A project to experiment with eliminating the LCSH form subdivision **$v Drama** in bibliographic records for AV materials was begun. In addition, LC has begun exploring the idea of moving away from the use of form subdivisions in LCSH entirely to a full implementation of LC Genre/Form Terms (LCGFT).
- Headings containing the word **"Mormon"** are being changed to prefer **"Latter Day Saint"**
- Headings containing the word **"Gays"** are being changed to **"Gay people"**
- Under preliminary discussion: Transitioning away from using BC/AD dates in favor of BCE/CE dates in both name and LCSH headings
- Experiment to issue "expedited lists" for certain categories of proposals that require limited review was discontinued, as it proved not to be time-efficient as a monthly process.

LC Genre/Form Headings (LCGFT)

- An internal LC group has been working to evaluate and write more instruction sheets for the LC Genre/Form Terms Manual.
- An external advisory group, similar to the one for LC Demographic Group Terms (LCDGT), has been formed to assist in making decisions about LCGFT headings and policies.

Program for Cooperative Cataloging (PCC)

- PCC policies/guidelines:
  - o Policy Recommendations on Non-Latin Script Cross-Reference Special Coding Practice in NACO (May 2023; to be implemented Aug. 15)
  - o Arabic NACO Manual (revised Apr. 2023)
  - o PCC Guiding Principles for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion for Metadata Creation (Jan. 2023)
- PCC meetings held:
  - o PCC Participants' Meeting (Feb. 23, 2023): Agenda
  - o PCC Joint Operations Committee Meeting (May 4-5, 2023): Agenda
- Upcoming PCC meetings:
  - o ALA Annual Conference, PCC Participants' Meeting (June 25, 2023): Agenda
- PCC groups charged:
  - o Documentation Survey Task Group (Feb. 2023): Charge
  - o Task Group on BIBFRAME-to-MARC Conversion (Mar. 2023): Charge
  - o Task Group for Metadata Related to Indigenous Peoples of the Americas (May 2023): Charge
- PCC election:
  - o Three new members-at-large will begin their terms on the PCC Policy Committee in Oct. 2023:
    - ▪ Christine DeZelar-Tiedman, University of Minnesota
    - ▪ Hermine Vermeij, University of California, Los Angeles

- Myung-Ja (MJ) K. Han, University of Illinois, Urbana/Champaign

BIBFRAME (BF)

- The LC BF Pilot has been pared down and redirected towards making iterative improvements to Marva, the BF editor.
- A new tool called Scriptshifter has been developed to facilitate romanization in the Marva editor.
- LC intends to implement BF in the Library Collections Access Platform (LCAP), using the Marva editor with modifications made by EBSCO. LCAP is the Folio-based system that will replace LC's current Voyager system.
- The modified Marva editor should be ready for testing in October 2023, with expected implementation in LCAP in October 2024.