

BCC2003/SDC/4**Descriptive Cataloging Subcommittee
2003 Annual Report**

Members: Nancy Lorimer (Chair), Joseph Bartl (LC Representative), Dennis Davies-Wilson, Kathryn Glennan, Michi Hoban, David J. Hoek, Morris Levy, Joan McGorman, J. Bradford Young

As MLA representative, Nancy Lorimer attended the Committee on Cataloging: Description & Access (CC:DA) meetings at ALA Midwinter in Philadelphia. A major topic of interest to music librarians at these meetings was the proposal by the Canadian Committee on Cataloging to introduce conventional terminology (now renamed “terms in common use”) to Chapter 6 (Sound Recordings) and Chapter 7 (Motion Pictures and Videorecordings) and MLA’s response and counterproposal to introduce these terms in parentheses after the current SMDs. At the meeting, we learned that JSC was not proposing the use of uncontrolled terms as ALA believed, but a controlled list, and so both proposals were rejected. SDC considered this move a success, since it rejected CCC’s unacceptable proposal and clarified to all JSC members what was intended by “terms in common use”. The full report of the midwinter meeting is available on the BCC website at <http://bcc.musiclibraryassoc.org/BCC-Historical/BCC2003/BCC2003SDC1.html>.

At the MLA annual meeting in Austin, SDC held a business meeting and an open meeting (together with the Authorities Subcommittee). At the business meeting, we primarily discussed our strategies for trying to influence what “terms in common use” might be introduced into Chapters 6 and 7, and how these terms would influence other rules in the chapter. We decided that we needed to submit our own proposal, emphasizing the need to change other rules to better integrate the new terms and that the new terms should be generic enough to include various types of encodings (i.e. the term “compact disc” would include CDs, CD-Rs, SACDs, etc.). We presented these suggestions at the open meeting. They were received favorably, although there was still great unease about the whole idea. The meeting also included an open question session. Discussion included the future of ISBD punctuation, how to best catalog preservation copies recorded on CD-Rs and what constitutes a reproduction for cataloging purposes. The full report of the MLA open meeting is available on the BCC website at <http://bcc.musiclibraryassoc.org/BCC-Historical/BCC2003/BCC2003SDC2.html>.

For personal reasons, Nancy Lorimer was unable to attend the annual conference in Toronto. Instead, MLA was represented by Bibliographic Control Committee chair Matthew Wise, who also wore a second hat as voting member of CC:DA. Due to concerns about SARS, many CC:DA members were absent and/or replaced by substitutes, but the meetings continued as usual. Again, the potential introduction of terms in common use to Chapters 6 & 7 was a major topic, with new proposals from both CCC and MLA. The MLA proposal was submitted earlier this spring after consultation with MLA members, with the primary intention of demonstrating to CC:DA the immensity of introducing such changes, the need to rewrite other rules to make the new terms work, and to prompt in depth discussion of the topic. For the first time, there were a fair number of objections to the introduction of these terms to Chapter 6 at all and no agreement was reached at the meeting. However, it was agreed that the MLA proposal was more thorough than that of CCC and should be used as a model for any potential revisions, and that further discussion on the topic would take place by email. In the ensuing email discussion, a response accepting some of the new terms was rejected. In the end, CC:DA rejected the CCC proposal outright. CC:DA also rejected Chapter 7 amendments, stating that the two chapters should be changed at the same time. Again, MLA regards this as a successful outcome. CC:DA has finally had serious discussions on this issue and recognize the immensity and complex ramifications of this suggested change. The SDC will continue to monitor ongoing discussions in this area.

Other topics of interest at the annual meeting included the report from the Task Force on the Reconceptualization of Chapter 9 (Electronic Resources). The report analyzes the effect of moving rules for the description of electronic resources out of Chapter 9 to the appropriate content chapters, with Chapter 9 describing only computer software and such. Also, the Task Force on Consistency across Part I of AACR2 has submitted changes in Areas 2 (Edition Statement), 3 (Material or Type of Publication Specific Details), 4 (Publication, Distribution Statement), and 6 (Series Statement), moving rules common to all chapters to Chapter 1 and introducing consistent wording when possible. The

final result will be an enlarged Chapter 1, with the remaining chapters only giving rules unique to its content area.

The full report of the annual meeting (submitted by Matthew Wise) is available on the BCC website at <http://bcc.musiclibraryassoc.org/BCC-Historical/BCC2003/BCC2003/SDC/3.html>.

In the coming year, SDC expects that it will be responding to further proposals on terms in common use (or possibly to an ALA task force) and will be watching with interest the reaction to proposals for incorporating electronic resources into the content chapters, something which the music cataloging community (as represented at SDC open meetings) strongly supports. Also of continuing interest will be the beginning of the rewriting of Chapters 21 (Choice of Access Points) and 25 (Uniform titles)

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