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ALCTS CCS Subject Analysis Committee Report
ALA Midwinter Conference, Denver, CO, Jan. 22-27, 2009
Submitted by Beth Flood, Chair, Subject Access Subcommittee

Genre/Form Headings

LC is considering whether now is a good time to review the structure of the music genre/form headings and possibly separate them into a hierarchical thesaurus of core vocabulary. In the LC report on the moving image project, the Policy office recommended that each project (music being one of them) contribute to a centralized genre/form thesaurus, and they also recommended that LC "explore new models for a community based thesaurus of genre/form terms in collaboration with professional organizations and other institutions" (http://www.loc.gov/catdir/cpso/movimgenre.pdf).

Because music headings include terms which are neither genres nor forms (medium of performance, language, geographical area, etc.), the discussion about a core vocabulary for music involves the idea of facets. There was discussion during the conference about whether OCLC's FAST project might come into play if the music community decides to move in a faceted direction with our genre/form project.

The ALA report from LC included the following updates on the genre/form project:

- Headings for motion pictures and radio programs are now being implemented in new cataloging at LC, and the Policy office is working on plans for revising existing bibliographic records.
- Beginning Feb. 1, 2009, all SACO members can contribute headings for new and revised motion picture and radio program genre/form headings, using a form dedicated to genre/form proposals on the SACO website.
- Five new projects have been authorized: music, law, cartography, literature, and religion. The cartography project is already underway.
- LC has developed a web site specifically for genre/form information, including an extensive FAQ: http://www.loc.gov/catdir/cpso/genreformgeneral.html.

News from LC

Other LC announcements include the following:

- The new editions of the Library of Congress Classification schedules have now been completed.
- LC is continuing the project to make a subset of LCSH available in SKOS format, and is developing a site within the loc.gov domain for this project.
- The *Subject Cataloging Manual* will now be called the *Subject Headings Manual*. A new edition will be published in 2009 which will consolidate all the previous loose-leaf updates.
- To date, about 35,000 subject validation records have been created and are available in Classification Web, though they are not printed in the Red Books.

 ALCTS-CCS-SAC Subcommittee on Genre-Form Implementation

Ideas discussed during the meeting included:

- Geographic subdivions are proving contentious, particularly in terms of their meaning regarding country of production for films versus setting of films. Perhaps the community should move on to other projects and then go back to the question of geographic subdivisions.
- How should we differentiate performances which are filmed versus actual films (movies, etc.)? Performances are events, whereas films are not. For example "Opera films" generally refers to operas which have been made into movies, but "Filmed operas" refers to staged operas that are filmed.
- Many genre thesauri include terms for formats. In RDA, carrier type should be compatible with genre/form terms. Perhaps as part of the project, a list of carrier types/format terms could be made and those terms

established as 155 genre/form headings.

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