

BCC2011/SAS/1

ALA ANNUAL CONFERENCE REPORT

San Diego, CA, Jan. 7-11, 2011

Report from the ALCTS-CCS Subject Analysis Committee (SAC)
and the SAC Genre/Form Implementation Subcommittee
(Selected for interest to MLA)

SAC Subcommittee on Genre-Form Implementation

Report from the Library of Congress

PSD will cancel and reissue all of the approximately 700 genre/form authority records no earlier than March 1, 2011. The new records will have an LCCN prefix of “gf,” and the old LCCN will be retained in a 010 \$z. After the distribution, all LCGFT terms used in bibliographic records should be coded 655 _7 [Term]. \$2 lcgft. These terms will be able to be controlled in OCLC.

Approximately 65 cartographic genre/form terms were approved in mid-May, and the LCSH form subdivisions used for maps were revised in August. The new headings and subdivisions were implemented on September 1, 2010, and an instruction sheet on the application of the terms is in the works.

In November, PSD approved approximately 80 genre/form terms for law materials; the terms should be implemented in early 2011. LC is still requesting help for terms for religious law.

The American Theological Association is partnering with PSD to develop genre/form terms for religion.

Report from the American Association of Law Libraries

The AALL Classification and Subject Cataloging Policy Advisory Working Group (CSCP) is preparing for the implementation phase of the law LCGFT terms. They plan to develop strategies for applying the new terms retrospectively by identifying the relevant bibliographic records for each genre/form term and working with Ed O’Neill at OCLC to enhance OCLC records with the law terms. The CSCP group plans to post its detailed search strategies for the individual terms. Their plans include using classification—the K schedules include tables for form, and it may be possible to figure out what something is by where it’s classified.

Report from OLAC

OLAC is continuing work on its moving image genre/form best practices document.

Recommendations of the 85/155 Working Group

The working group distributed a spreadsheet of their recommendations, which includes all the 185 form subdivisions from LCSH judged to be “general” (i.e., not covered by one of the current genre/form projects), the recommendation to create a 155 or not (including suggested revisions in terminology and scope), and additional recommendations on keeping, canceling, or modifying the scope of the current 185. The subcommittee didn’t have time to review every term in the extensive spreadsheet, so the discussion will continue online, with the approved recommendations ready to distribute to SAC by March 2011.

New business

The subcommittee ran out of time to discuss the last two items on the agenda (Facets related to genre/form and Future genre/form term projects for LC to consider), so the discussion will be continued over email, and we decided to attempt to have two meetings at ALA Annual, with the second meeting most likely on Tuesday.

Subject Analysis Committee

New business

John Attig (the ALA representative to the JSC) approached the committee with a proposal to recommend to the CCS Executive Committee that a SAC liaison to CC:DA be appointed. This liaison would lead a SAC subcommittee to work on the issues for the Group 3 entities (subject access) in RDA. The subcommittee would include people familiar with the JSC process for rule revision. SAC will be the deciding body, and the liaison would work with John Attig and report to CC:DA. This proposal was approved, so there will be a new SAC member appointed, and part of the CC:DA meeting at ALA Annual will be devoted to a joint CC:DA/SAC meeting on this topic.

Report from LC

New print editions of the M, N, PN, and T schedules are available, as well as the K and P-PZ tables. The 32nd edition of LCSH is also available.

A number of enhancements to Classification Web are being tested, including the addition of personal names from the LCNAF, expansion of the correlations feature to include NLM, and other improvements.

In late January PSD will implement a new system for creating online subject and genre/form proposals, similar to the classification proposal system.

Since the implementation of “Terminology Suggestions” in spring 2010 for the vocabularies at id.loc.gov, PSD has received 16 suggestions for new or updated subject headings. Several applications have been developed using the LCSH/SKOS data from the site.

PSD will be launching a pilot project in 2011 to add MARC field 072, Subject Category Code, to a subset of LCSH authority records. The field will contain the Subject Headings Manual instruction sheet number (e.g. H 1150), and it will be added to the subject authority records to which it pertains. (Example: 072 H 1180; 150 Orchids). The presence of this number will indicate that the heading falls into the category covered by the guidelines in that instruction sheet, and the idea is that computers could be used to recognize the appropriateness of a subdivision for an individual heading (a way to actually control the heading beyond OCLC’s current capabilities).

33,200 validation records were created in 2010, for a total of over 80,000 validation records in LCSH’s master file. The first A-Z sweep through the bibliographic database has now been completed.

PSD completed the change of “cookery” headings to “cooking” and introduced the LCGFT term “cookbooks.” 788 proposals for new, deleted, or changed subject headings were required, and approximately 100,000 associated bibliographic records require revision. Other recent changes include some shuffling associated with the dissolution of the Netherlands Antilles, the completion of the project to add 053 fields to subject authority records for U.S. Civil War battles, and new headings for iPad (Computer), Campaign promises, FAST subject headings, and FRAD (Conceptual model).

FAST reports

The initial development of FAST (Faceted Application of Subject Terminology) is complete, and the book has been published by Libraries Unlimited in July. The focus is now on maintenance, enhancement, and the support of new applications. The FAST database is available at <http://fast.oclc.org>, and the full authority file and be licensed for non-commercial use. An online service to add FAST headings to bibliographic records or convert a set of LCSH headings to FAST headings should be available in early 2011, and FAST will be available as linked data in the spring of 2011.

H 1095 Project update

The group working on the H 1095 project has reached a consensus on some terms (e.g., combining the subdivisions Quotations, maxims, etc. and Quotations; Terminology, Vocabulary, and Glossaries, vocabularies, etc.), and has no consensus on other issues (e.g., combining the subdivisions Ability testing and Testing; how to treat books of a general nature). Work is ongoing.

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