Subject Access Subcommittee/Genre/Form Task Force Joint Business Meeting Report
MLA 2014 Atlanta – Feb. 28, 2014, 7:30 a.m.
Submitted by Nancy Lorimer and Hermine Vermeij

Members of SAS present: Emma Dederick, Matt Ertz, Kenneth Kauffman, Margaret Kaus, Kevin Kishimoto, Peter Lisius, Casey Mullin, Sheila Torres-Blank, Hermine Vermeij (chair) Janelle West, Janis Young (interim LC representative).
Members of SAS not present: Marty Jenkins.
Members of G/F TF present: Ralph Hartsock, Nancy Lorimer (chair), Casey Mullin, Thomas Pease, Karen Peters, Sheila Torres-Blank, Hermine Vermeij
Members of G/F TF not present: Caitlin Hunter, Marty Jenkins, Mark McKnight.
Visitors present: 23

This year the Subject Access Subcommittee and the Genre/Form Task Force met jointly. Members of both groups contributed to the discussion.

ALA Report (Hermine Vermeij)

Hermine highlighted a few items from her written report, available on the BCC web site:
http://bcc.musiclibraryassoc.org/BCC-Historical/BCC2014/BCC2014SAS1.pdf

Report from the Library of Congress (Janis Young)

The Library of Congress will no longer be publishing documentation in print—by July 1 there will not be any more print publications available for purchase. Instead, free PDFs of documentation will be posted on their Web page.

LC continues to partner with MLA, the American Theological Library Association (ATLA), and ALCTS's Subject Analysis Committee (SAC) to develop genre/form and other vocabularies. The literature group within SAC has submitted a list of over 500 genre/form terms for consideration.

The Library of Congress Medium of Performance Thesaurus (LCMPT) is now available in ClassWeb and in a downloadable file of UTF-8 format MARC records at loc.gov/aba. A new snapshot file will be uploaded each month, as well as a file of revised records, new records, and deleted records. If you have feedback about the new downloadable records, please let LC know. LCMPT authority records are not yet available in LC's ILS or at authorities.loc.gov, since there is no index for them yet. But they will be available at id.loc.gov.

LC is developing the Library of Congress Demographic Group Terms (LCDGT) chiefly in house with some help from SAC. These terms will be used to describe the creators of and contributors to resources as well as the intended audience of resources.

LCMPT Provisional Best Practices Discussion (Hermine Vermeij, All)

The group discussed a set of provisional best practices for using LCMPT that was distributed shortly before the meeting. Some edits were noted, and discussion focused on the incongruity between the use of 382 subfield $n with ensembles in the DCM Z1 and in the best practices. BCC will vote on a revised version of the document and then it will be distributed to the cataloging community.

Genre/Form (Nancy Lorimer)

The deadline for having music LCGFT records ready is currently November 14, 2014. PSD (LC's Policy and Standards Division) plans to have a separate tentative list of the music terms so they are not intermixed with all the other LCGFT proposals. Given the deadline, the task force will need to do less agonizing over most individual terms and try to focus on the really difficult problems. We'll need to take a closer look at the terms we use and need but that aren't really genre or form. There should be at least one 670 on each heading, and Hermine will take the lead creating them.

Retrospective Implementation Plans (All)

The group discussed the option of charging a new task force with retrospective implementation of LCMPT and LCGFT. We'll need to define what needs to come out of the group, and it will likely be necessary to include individuals from outside MLA who are familiar with doing large-scale database maintenance. Everyone should talk to their systems people and try to push on our ILS vendors to support our future indexing needs.

Discussion about Genre/Form/Medium Preconference at MLA 2015 (All)

All agreed that 2015 was the time to present a preconference. We will plan to propose a full-day preconference for catalogers and a regular session for public services with mockups of what implementation will look like in an OPAC. We will need to coordinate with MOUG, and Bruce Evans (the new MOUG chair) was present and voiced his support. After the national preconference we will consider rolling out the content to chapter meetings and/or webinars.

Recognition of Service

Thank you to Marty Jenkins, Margaret Kaus, and Sheila Torres-Blank, whose terms on the Subject Access Subcommittee are now complete. A special thank you also to Geraldine Ostrove, long-term LC representative to the Subject Access Subcommittee, who retired from the Library of Congress in May 2013.