MARC Advisory Committee (MAC) report to Subject Analysis Committee, July 2024.

MAC Agenda: <https://www.loc.gov/marc/mac/an2024_age.html>

Meeting recordings: <https://www.loc.gov/marc/mac/recordings.html>

Most discussion papers and the proposal are relevant for descriptive cataloging.

Discussion Paper No. 2024-DP09 (see below): This paper has some relevance for subject access, but MAC is not asking for any input from SAC.

Proposals and Discussion papers, including some highlights and all actions:

* Proposal No. 2024-05: Adding Subfields $0 and $1 to Fields 506 and 540 in the MARC 21 Bibliographic Format. Action: accept paper as amended that, with alignment of the subfield F definitions between fields 506 and 504 and 540. the 540.

Action: Passed unanimously.

* Discussion Paper No. 2024-DP11: Tagging Transliteration Schemes and BCP 47 in Data Provenance Subfields in the MARC 21 Authority and Bibliographic Formats.

Action: Unclear path forward due to feedback; no support for deprecating existing codes. Perhaps will do a proposal for two category codes: dpebcp and dpets specific to transliteration scheme.

* Discussion Paper No. 2024-DP06: Adding Subfields $0 and $1 to Field 024 in the MARC 21 Bibliographic Format.

Action: feedback will be taken back to committee.

* Discussion Paper No. 2024-DP07: Adding Subfield $3 to Fields 508 and 511 in the MARC 21 Bibliographic Format.

Action: Approved for Fast Track proposal.

* Discussion Paper No. 2024-DP08: Adding Subfield $7 for Data Provenance to Additional Fields in the MARC 21 Bibliographic Format.

Action: This will be brought back as a proposal after incorporating some of the feedback.

* Discussion Paper No. 2024-DP09: Adding Subfields $i (Relationship information: controlled or uncontrolled phrase) and $4 (Relationship code or URI) to Fields 368 (Other Attributes of Person or Corporate Body) and 376 (Family information) in the authority format, and to 381 (Other Distinguishing Characteristics of Work or Expression) in the MARC 21 Authority and Bibliographic Formats. And, proposes update to the definition of $2 in 368 to specify the source of terms in $a, $b, $c, or $d when they are from a controlled list.
  + Mostly supported by constituents.
  + Highlighted discussion points:
    - $i Can use controlled terms from various places, it is up to communities. Can be a verb or a label e.g., a relationship such as “has religion”
    - Different from $c into which you cannot put any characteristics that is not covered by another field or subfield. $i would add additional context that would be helpful.
    - Examples are inconsistent on purpose; not much available as controlled terms right now for relationships. Shows example such as wikidata categories. PCC might create lists of controlled terms as they are doing for $i and $4 in 370 and 373 fields.
    - Did not think of 387 adding to paper. 381 will deal with works and expressions.
    - Some possible redundancy among fields, for example as there is between 380 and 655 for form of work.
    - Some questions about utility of the fields; communities could decide to use and develop.
    - These subfields fields already exist in other fields

Action: no motion for Fastrack approval. It will be brought back as a proposal. When the proposal is put forward (these are posted on the MARC discussion list), I will notify SAC membership.

* Discussion Paper No. 2024-DP10: Redefining Subfield $b in X00 Fields to allow other than roman numerals in the MARC 21 Authority and Bibliographic Formats. “To summarize, this paper suggests that the definition of X00 subfield $b should be revised to accommodate regnal numbers represented in numbering systems other than roman numerals. This could include another form of numeration, a spelled-out number, a combination of a numeral with a word, abbreviation, ordinal suffix or symbol, etc.”

Action: feedback: this quoted definition should be made as part of the definition for the proposal. Move to FastTrack incorporating proposed change to definition and a definition of “regnal”. Did not pass, so a proposal will be presented to MAC.

Note: FastTrack approval means a thorough review of final document; network leadership reviews and makes sure it is what we agreed on.

MAC Midwinter meeting 29 and 30 of January 2025, remotely via Zoom.

Respectfully submitted, Peter Fletcher (UCLA) *MAC liaison to SAC/SAC liaison to MAC*

July 12, 2024