To: Joint Steering Committee for Revision of AACR

From: Jennifer Bowen, ALA Representative

RE: Call for proposals to simplify AACR2 Ch. 21 special rules

The American Library Association offers the following response to the call for proposals to simplify the special rules in Chapter 21, based upon responses received from a number of ALA constituencies.

The ALA representative notes that the groups that responded to 5JSC/Chair/5 sometimes had different interpretations of what the consequences would be if special rules were “eliminated”: some assumed that the rules would simply be reorganized and the provisions of the special rules retained (with redundancies eliminated) and responded with that in mind, while others assumed that the provisions of the special rules would be generalized, with the special provisions themselves possibly eliminated. This document attempts to clearly differentiate between these two situations when they are proposed.

**Art Works** [21.16–21.17]

The Art Libraries Society of North America supports the deletion of special rules 21.16 and 21.17 provided that the general rule allows flexibility in creating access points for any person or corporate body responsible for the creation of the intellectual or artistic content of a resource.

**Musical Works** [21.18–21.22]

The Music Library Association (MLA) has reviewed rules in AACR2 Chapter 21 relating to musical works (specifically 21.18–21.22), and does not support the elimination of these special rules. They have served well in AACR2, giving guidance to catalogers about complex situations of shared responsibility. They reflect the common understanding within the music community (catalogers, reference librarians, library users, musicians and music publishers) of how musical works are identified and cited. In addition, they provide useful collocation within our catalogs and correlate with other information resources that users consult. Perhaps the most critical of these special rules for music is entry of a libretto under the composer of the opera instead of the author of the text.

If these rules and relevant examples were to be removed from RDA, the music community would need to create a special manual, along the lines of the current cartographic manual, for use with AACR2 to assist catalogers in making quick, informed decisions. Removal of guidance on providing primary access for music from the standard
cataloging code would be counter-productive to the JSC’s stated goal of making RDA usable for all types of materials, and would be a detriment to libraries that do not catalog a large amount of music by forcing them to use a specialized guide when they now don’t need to do so.

The current AACR2 arrangement of this section of rules relating to musical works arranges the instructions based on the overall musical content rather than by the function of the responsible body (bodies). Thus, rules relating to musical arrangements, transcriptions, etc. (21.18B) relates to revisions of texts in 21.12, and rules regarding adaptations of musical works (21.18C) correspond in part to rules about adaptations of texts in 21.10. Musical works including words (21.19A) and musical settings for ballets, etc. (21.20) are really works of shared responsibility, already covered by 21.6. Pasticcios, ballad operas (21.19B), and writer’s works set by several composers (21.19C) correspond to rules in 21.7, Collections of works by different persons or bodies. Rules about liturgical music (21.22) already direct catalogers to the rules for liturgical works in 21.39. Since AACR2 already requires music catalogers to consult earlier rules in Chapter 21 for musical works that do not have mixed responsibility, we support rearranging these rules to better reflect the function of the responsible body (bodies).

Here follow some proposals or recommendations for combining these special music rules with their related counterparts.

Current text, AACR2, 21.10 (without examples)

**21.10. ADAPTATIONS OF TEXTS**

*21.10A.* Enter a paraphrase, rewriting, adaptation for children, or version in a different literary form (e.g., novelization, dramatization) under the heading for the adapter. If the name of the adapter is unknown, enter under title. Make a name-title added entry for the original work. In case of doubt about whether a work is an adaptation, enter under the heading for the original work.

Current text, AACR2, 21.18C (without examples)

**21.18C. Adaptations**

*21.18C1.* Enter any of the following types of adaptations of music under the heading for the adapter:

a) a distinct alteration of another work (e.g., a free transcription)
b) a paraphrase of various works or of the general style of another composer
c) a work merely based on other music (e.g., variations on a theme).

If the name of the adapter is not known, enter under title. If the work is related to one other work or to a part of a work with its own title or designation (e.g., a movement, an aria), make a name-title added entry for that work or part of a work. If the work is otherwise related to the
music of another composer, make an added entry under the heading for that composer.
In case of doubt about whether a work is an arrangement, etc., or an adaptation, treat it as an arrangement, etc. (see 21.18B).

Note that AACR2 21.18A1 c) & d) also apply to musical adaptations:

- c) arrangements described as “freely transcribed,” “based on . . .,” etc., and other arrangements incorporating new material
- d) arrangements in which the harmony or musical style of the original has been changed.

Proposed revision:

**ADAPTATIONS**

Enter a paraphrase, rewriting, textual adaptation for children, version in a different literary form (e.g., novelization, dramatization), or version in a different graphic arts medium (e.g., painting, sculpture) under the heading for the adapter.

*For music*, apply this rule to arrangements described as “freely transcribed,” “based on . . .,” etc., arrangements incorporating new material, and arrangements in which the harmony or musical style of the original has been changed. For other musical arrangements, see #.

If the name of the adapter is not known, enter under title.
Make a name-title added entry for the original work.

*For music*, if the work is related to one other work or to a part of a work with its own title or designation (e.g., a movement, an aria), make a name-title added entry for that work or part of a work. If the work is otherwise related to the music of another composer, make an added entry under the heading for that composer.

In case of doubt about whether a work is an adaptation, enter under the heading for the original work.

*For music*, in case of doubt about whether a work is an arrangement, etc., or an adaptation, treat it as an arrangement, etc. (see #).

Current text, AACR2, 21.12 (without examples)

**21.12. REVISIONS OF TEXTS**

**21.12A. Original author considered responsible**

**21.12A1.** Enter an edition of a work that has been revised, enlarged, updated, etc., under the heading for the original author if:

- a) the original author is named in a statement of responsibility in the item being catalogued

  or

- b) the original author is named in the title proper and no other person is named in a statement of responsibility or other title information.

Make an added entry under the heading for the reviser, etc.
21.12B. Original author no longer considered responsible

21.12B1. Enter under the heading for the reviser, etc., or under title, as appropriate, if the wording of the chief source of information of the item being catalogued indicates that the person or body responsible for the original is no longer considered to be responsible for the work (e.g., when the original author is named only in the title proper and some other person or body is named as being primarily responsible in the statement of responsibility or in the statement of responsibility relating to the edition). Make a name-title added entry under the heading for the original author using, if it can be readily ascertained, the title of the last edition to have been entered under the heading for the person or body responsible for the original. Always make a title added entry if the title begins with the name of the original author and the main entry is under the name of the reviser, etc.

Current text, AACR2, 21.18B (without examples)

21.18B. Arrangements, transcriptions, etc.

21.18B1. Enter an arrangement, transcription, etc., of one or more works of one composer (or of parts of one composer’s works) under the heading for that composer (see also 25.35C). If the original composer is unknown, enter under title. Make an added entry under the heading for the arranger or transcriber. Optionally, add arr. to the added entry heading.

Note that AACR2 21.18A1 a) & b) also apply to musical arrangements:

a) arrangements, transcriptions, versions, settings, etc., in which music for one medium of performance has been rewritten for another

b) simplified versions

Current text, AACR2, 21.21 (without examples)

21.21. ADDED ACCOMPANIMENTS, ETC.

21.21A. Enter a musical work to which an instrumental accompaniment or additional parts have been added under the heading for the original work. Make an added entry under the heading for the composer of the accompaniment or the additional parts.

Proposed revision:

REVISIONS

Original author considered responsible
Textual works

Enter an edition of a work that has been revised, enlarged, updated, etc., under the heading for the original author if:

a) the original author is named in a statement of responsibility in the item being catalogued

or

b) the original author is named in the title proper and no other person is named in a statement of responsibility or other title information.

Make an added entry under the heading for the reviser, etc.
Musical works
Enter an arrangement, transcription, etc., of one or more works of one composer (or of parts of one composer’s works) under the heading for that composer (see also #). If the original composer is unknown, enter under title. Make an added entry under the heading for the arranger or transcriber.

Enter a musical work to which an instrumental accompaniment or additional parts have been added under the heading for the original work. Make an added entry under the heading for the composer of the accompaniment or the additional parts.

Original author no longer considered responsible
Textual works
Enter under the heading for the reviser, etc., or under title, as appropriate, if the wording of the chief source of information of the item being catalogued indicates that the person or body responsible for the original is no longer considered to be responsible for the work (e.g., when the original author is named only in the title proper and some other person or body is named as being primarily responsible in the statement of responsibility or in the statement of responsibility relating to the edition). Make a name-title added entry under the heading for the original author using, if it can be readily ascertained, the title of the last edition to have been entered under the heading for the person or body responsible for the original. Always make a title added entry if the title begins with the name of the original author and the main entry is under the name of the reviser, etc.

Musical works
See rules for adaptations (#).

Current text, AACR2, 21.19-21.20 (without examples)

21.19. MUSICAL WORKS THAT INCLUDE WORDS

21.19A. General rule

21.19A1. Enter a musical work that includes words (e.g., a song, opera, musical comedy) under the heading for the composer. For librettos, see 21.28. Make added entries under the headings for the writers of the words if their work is fully represented in the item being catalogued (e.g., a full score, a vocal score). If the words are based on another text, make a name-title added entry under the heading for the original.

21.19B. Pasticcios, ballad operas, etc.

21.19B1. If the music of a pasticcio, ballad opera, etc., consists of previously existing ballads, songs, arias, etc., by various composers, enter the work under title. Make an added entry under the heading for the person who adapted or arranged the music and under the heading for the dramatist.
Enter a collection of musical excerpts from such a work under the title of the larger work. Enter a single song under the heading for its own composer, or under its title if the composer is unknown, and make a title added entry for the larger work.

21.19B2. If the music of a pasticcio, ballad opera, etc., was especially composed for it, enter the work as instructed in 21.6.

21.19C. Writer’s works set by several composers

21.19C1. Enter a collection of musical settings of songs, etc., by one writer made by two or more composers as a collection (see 21.7). Make an added entry under the heading for the writer.

21.20. MUSICAL SETTINGS FOR BALLETS, ETC.

21.20A. Enter a musical setting for a ballet, pantomime, etc., under the heading for the composer. Make added entries under the headings for choreographers and writers of scenarios, librettos, etc., whose names appear in the chief source of information of the item being catalogued.

Recommendations

Move 21.19A to 21.6B1, with separate numbering, heading, or paragraph.
Move 21.19B to 21.7, with separate numbering.
Move 21.19C to 21.7, with separate numbering.
Move 21.20 to 21.6B1, with separate numbering, heading, or paragraph.

Current text, AACR2, 21.22 (without examples)

21.22. LITURGICAL MUSIC

21.22A. Enter an edition of music that is officially prescribed as part of a liturgy as instructed in 21.39.

Recommendation

Move this rule to the appropriate section for liturgical works and include musical examples.

Sound Recordings [21.23]

Because 5JSC/Chair/5 does not specifically mention rule 21.23 for entry for sound recordings, there was some confusion among the ALA constituencies concerning whether or not responses were being requested for this rule. Both the Music Library Association and the Association for Recorded Sound Collections have stated their intention to respond regarding Rule 21.23, but these responses could not be reconciled in time for them to be included in this document. ALA intends to submit a follow-up to this response that will include comments on the rules for main entry for sound recordings.
Academic Disputations [21.27]

The proposal to simplify or eliminate AACR2 21.27, the rule controlling entry of academic disputations, is of concern to the rare materials community as represented by the ALCTS/ACRL Task Force on Cataloging Rules for Early Printed Monographs and the membership of the DCRM-L list, a discussion group whose main focus is the forthcoming revision of Descriptive Cataloging of Rare Books.

AACR2 21.27 concerns entry of academic disputations, a not uncommon genre previous to the nineteenth century. Academic disputations were a sort of precursor to the modern thesis examination, in which a student is examined by faculty previous to being granted a degree. However, although the academic disputation involved questioning on a (usually book-length) written work, this work was not equivalent to the modern thesis because it was not usually written by the student. Rather it was normally written by someone else, often the examiner himself, and the student (or students) were expected to defend or contend with its positions during the examination.

The title pages of these works are often confusing. One feature common to almost all of these disputations provides a solution to this confusion, however: each name on the title page is normally accompanied by a term indicating the person’s role in the disputation. The person being examined may be called the respondent or the defendant, or sometimes even “auctor”, a Latin word usually translated as author, but in this case perhaps more accurately rendered “spokesman” or “agent.” Title pages of academic disputations also name the person who is presiding over the examination, the “praeses.” This person may or may not be the author of the text being used as the basis of the examination.

The cataloger needs help in interpreting these title pages. If—at least for purposes of work citations—RDA continues to maintain the authorship principle, a bedrock of AACR2, consistent guidance is needed to determine who will be considered the author in these cases. Since title pages of academic disputations do not explicitly say who the author is, the editors of AACR2 simply made a decision, based on experience with these books and the research reflected in the studies cited in footnote 6, that the praeses is to be designated the author in the absence of strong evidence to the contrary. The rare materials cataloging community as polled at this time is comfortable with maintaining this presumption.

We do not see how the rule could be simplified much further than it already is without making a confusing situation more confusing. A minimum of explanation (as found in the parenthetical phrases in the body of the rule) of what these works are is needed to help the cataloger understand what is going on. The rule clearly states who is given the primary access points and who is given other access points. And the rule gives guidance for what to do in the unusual case where no one is named praeses. It might be a good idea to bring the first sentence of the footnote up into the rule itself, since this is an obvious pitfall.
We note that although this rule would pertain almost exclusively to early printed materials cataloging, RDA cannot depend on the main specialist manual to give guidance on this matter since DCRM(B), the successor to DCRB, deliberately does not include rules on choice of access points or formation of headings. Rare materials catalogers understand and accept the need to integrate their records into catalogs (and authority files) containing records prepared under the general cataloging rules, and therefore do not wish to introduce specialist rules for access points.

We also note that although the rule covering academic disputations may seem to catalogers of 20th century and later materials to apply to a minor problem, there is a large body of these works in existence and catalogers will continue to encounter them under RDA.

The task force and others suggested that the works cited in the footnote are valuable and that, as they are in the public domain now, it might be useful and feasible to create PDF files of these articles/chapters and link them to RDA.

**Certain Legal Publications** [21.31–21.36]

ALA received comments on the special rules for entry for certain legal publications from the American Association of Law Librarians (AALL) and from the ALA Government Documents Round Table (GODORT). The majority of the comments below were received from AALL, with additional comments interspersed on particular rules from members of GODORT, who commented that they responded from a generalist perspective.

Law catalogers appreciate the opportunity to contribute to the development of part two of the new *Resource Description and Access* (RDA). We understand that this review is intended to increase consistency, eliminate redundancy, and generalize rules whenever possible. We have identified one area in particular where major changes would make the rules easier to apply. We are proposing a major change for *bilateral and multilateral treaties*. Other areas of the rules could benefit from simplified wording, a different layout, using tables, decision trees, or other structuring that would enable catalogers to better identify and implement the rules. While there was insufficient time to prepare formal proposals for restructuring in this manner, law catalogers would be glad to continue working on rule revision and to cooperate with others in further simplifying and clarifying the rules through ALA.

**Background**

Cataloging rules describe the literature of a discipline. The discipline will never change to conform to the rules a party or group outside the discipline wishes to impose upon it. In the case of law, the seeming complexities in the cataloging rules do not flow from the discipline of library science; rather they flow from the discipline of law. Legal literature
is as it is. Law catalogers have not created it; rather, we rise to the challenge of describing it.

Law catalogers would like to emphasize the importance of retaining specialized rules for access to legal materials. The resources are complex, are not commonly encountered, and create questions for legal and non legal catalogers alike. Providing specific guidelines promotes efficiency of cataloging by directly answering these questions. Concise, clear instructions allow the resources to be described and accessed using uniform guiding principles and result in records that allow the resources to be found and identified by users. The current rules provide consistency of access points in bibliographic records. Without rules addressing legal materials specifically, catalogers will be uncertain of what rules to use, and uniformity of access and predictability of retrieval will be lost.

**Single set of rules**

Accurate identification of legal materials is especially difficult for the generalist cataloger who occasionally needs to describe a law, court proceedings, or a treaty. Keeping the rules together simplifies the process of identifying the material and determining what its primary access point should be. If these rules are incorporated into the general rules, selection of the applicable rule will become much more difficult, leading to inconsistencies in access points and potentially leading to the creation of multiple records in our shared databases.

Advantages of collocation of these rules in one section include comprehensiveness, clarity, and ease and efficiency of use. The advantage to collocation outweighs the slight redundancy that is necessary for clear understanding and application of the rules in this section.

**Simplification**

In answering the 30 May 2005 call for proposals to simplify AACR2 Ch. 21 special rules, a group of experienced law catalogers considered each rule in turn, discussing the current rules, the functions they perform in identification and discovery, and ways that they could be simplified. In considering the rules for access, later instructions found in chapter 25 on uniform titles were also considered as they are closely related to the instructions in chapter 21. However, no recommendations as to the form of these uniform titles are included, and we expect to work further on this area.

At present the rules provide for primary access points as well as added entries for those persons or bodies sharing responsibility for the work. In the future, the authority record for the work might carry some of these added entries allowing the record for the work to have a primary access point, while still allowing search and retrieval of the record if only a secondary access point is known. We do not know if the JSC is considering this option, and certainly many online catalogues are unable to utilize this cross reference structure at this time. This strategy has been used by LC for treaties and could potentially be applied to other rules in this section.
The legal rules could also be simplified in some areas by presenting them in a chart or table format with links to a fuller instruction. Law catalogers in the U.S. would be happy to work with JSC on such a format; time constraints did not allow us to do so for this document.

Using the numbering of the current rules for convenience, we looked for places where simplification would lead to an improvement in the rule and for places where the rule could be eliminated or combined with other rules.

**Discussion of Individual Rules**

1. **Laws**

   **21.31. Laws, etc.**
   The primary access point for many legal resources is the jurisdiction plus the uniform title. Though capable of authorship, clearly a jurisdiction is somewhat different from a named corporate body, although it is treated as one in AACR. While laws are given as an example of a type of work to be entered under corporate body in 21.1B2, it would not be evident to the cataloger which corporate body it should be: legislature, head of state, statute revision committee, jurisdiction? Rule 21.31 is needed to provide this specification.

   **21.31B. Laws of modern jurisdictions**
   We recommend that these rules be retained. They provide for primary access by the jurisdiction governed by the law with a uniform title for the law, and added entries for other responsible bodies. Additionally, if the enacting jurisdiction is different from the jurisdiction being governed by the law, the rules provide for entry under that jurisdiction with a uniform title for the law. All these elements are required for identification and citation of the work, and access to them must be provided to enable the user to find, identify, and select the record. The user could be a cataloger trying to determine if the record matches the resource in hand for copy cataloging or a researcher wanting to obtain a specific resource. The rule fulfills both the role of collocation and that of distinguishing two similar yet variant items one from another.

   **21.31B1 (GODORT):** Because uniform titles are mentioned in the examples, it would be helpful to have direct links from the examples to the relevant rules for constructing uniform titles.

   **21.31B2. Laws governing more than one jurisdiction**
   Compilations of laws governing more than one jurisdiction are entered as a collection (21.7). We recommend that this rule remain with the legal rules to clarify the appropriate selection of access points. While this rule can be simplified, it addresses the complexity and potential ambiguity that could be encountered in a compilation of laws governing more than one jurisdiction.
21.31B3. Bills and drafts of legislation
Bills are entered under legislative body and drafts are entered under the responsible person or corporate body. We find that catalogers sometimes confuse bills and drafts with each other, as well as with the law itself, thus entering bills and drafts under jurisdiction or the incorrect responsible body. This confusion results in a misleading record for someone searching for a specific bill and has the potential for multiple records appearing in our shared databases for identical items. Currently we encounter this situation even though specific instructions exist. How much greater will be the frequency of duplication if such instructions are removed?

Although these rules do follow the 21.1-21.7 rules, we think 21.31B3 should be retained because it is clear, concise, and helpful in quickly determining what the primary and secondary access points should be. The examples are also very helpful in illustrating the concepts provided in the rules.

21.31C1. Ancient laws
We recommend that the rule be retained. These resources are rarely encountered and the rules provide much needed guidance.

2. Administrative regulations

21.32. Administrative regulations, etc.
This area is one of the most difficult areas to address. Administrative regulations pose complex problems that need to be explored further including consultation with international colleagues.

The rule divides administrative regulations into two types, those that are laws and those that are not laws. Once the type is determined, the rule is clear and easy to follow. We recommend that the rules be expanded to include guidance in determining whether administrative regulations are laws or not, and a default rule to treat them as laws when it is not clear. It might be useful to refer, perhaps in an appendix, to an expanded list of jurisdictions covered by 21.32A and 21.32B.

(GODORT): It would be useful to refer, perhaps in an appendix, to an expanded list of jurisdictions covered by 21.32A and 21.32B.

21.32A1. Administrative regulations, etc., that are not laws
This instruction provides helpful guidance in determining primary and added access points and should remain.

21.32A2. Both the administrative regulation and the law are published together
This rule provides the criteria for choosing whether the primary access point should be the law or the administrative regulation and provides a default when the evidence on the chief source of information is ambiguous or insufficient. The wording of this
rule could be simplified, but it provides clear direction for efficiently choosing primary and secondary access and should be retained.

21.32B1. Administrative regulations, etc. that are laws
This rule specifies the entries that should be made when the administrative regulation is a law, as in the United Kingdom and Canada. We request input from Canadian and British catalogers in deciding whether these should be removed from this area and put directly into the section dealing with laws (21.31). The additional instruction: “If the regulations, etc. derive from a particular law, make an added entry under the heading and uniform title for that law.” is still required to provide linkage back to the law. This linkage is necessary so that a user can find and identify all regulations deriving from a particular law.

21.32C. Collections of administrative regulations, etc.
This rule provides direction for the two types of regulations, referring each type to the appropriate rule. We think it is a necessary instruction, allowing efficient decisions in determining the primary access points for a collection of administrative regulations.

3. Constitutions, etc.

21.33. Constitutions, charters, and other fundamental laws
In our discussion on this section, some law catalogers thought that this section presented an opportunity for simplifying the rules by combining all fundamental law into one section, presumably what is now 21.31. The laws of modern jurisdictions would be expanded to include constitutions, charters and other fundamental laws that are entered under jurisdiction.

Unfortunately, the difficulty of treatment of the international intergovernmental bodies and other chartered institutions, currently included in this section, makes this change problematic. Rules for constitutions, charters, or other fundamental laws of these intergovernmental bodies must be included in some section of the rules so that catalogers can quickly determine what access points are needed to identify a resource.

4. Court rules

21.34A-C Court rules
These rules provide the information needed to provide access points for court rules. We think they are clear and easy to follow. They provide needed instructions for providing access points that will allow users to find and identify specific resources in the catalog.
5. Treaties

21.35 Treaties, intergovernmental agreements, etc.
We consider it important to continue to include rules for treaties. Catalogers rarely see treaties published separately, and guidance is important when needed. We have simplified the distinction between bilateral and multilateral treaties.

21.35A International treaties
The rules governing treaties (A1 and A2) need to address the distinctions between bilateral and multilateral treaties, simplifying their application.

For example:

21.35A1. Treaties, etc., between two governments (bilateral treaties)
Enter a treaty, or any other formal agreement, between two national governments under the heading for the government whose catalogue entry heading is first in English alphabetic order. Make added entries under the heading for the other government. Add uniform titles as instructed to the primary and additional access headings.

21.35A2. Treaties between three or more governments (multilateral treaties)Enter a treaty, or other formal agreement, between three or more national governments under the uniform title for the treaty.

21.35B. Agreements contracted by international intergovernmental bodies and 21.35C. Agreements contracted by the holy see
Both should be retained since they cover very specific circumstances not often encountered.

21.35D. Other agreements involving jurisdictions
Rules 21.35D1-D4 cover specific situations and should be left as they are.

21.35E. Protocols, amendments, etc.
Both provisions of this rule should be retained. Ancillary documents need to be identified with their original treaty; whereas revisions should be treated as independent works.

21.35F. Collections
This section can be rewritten to parallel 21.35A.

For example:

21.35F1. If a collection of treaties, etc. consists of those contracted between 2 parties, enter it under the first named party on the title page and follow the rule for a single agreement between 2 parties. If such a collection has become known by a collective name, enter it under the uniform title for the name.
21.35F2. If a collection of treaties, etc. consists of those between one country and 2 or more countries, enter under the heading for the first country. Refer from the headings for the other parties only if there are two of them. Add uniform titles as instructed to the main and added entry heading for the parties. If such a collection has become known by a collective name, enter it under the uniform title for the name.

21.35F3
We suggest that this rule be retained as it provides a specific instructional reference for general collections. It complements the previous provisions of the rule.

6. Court decisions

21.36. Court decisions, cases, etc.
21.36A. Law reports
21.36A1. Reports of one court
This section provides an opportunity for simplification. The current rules call for primary access points to be determined according to the accepted legal citation practice in the country where the court is located. If that practice cannot be determined readily, the heading is then determined based on whether the reports are issued by or under the authority of the court. In the U.S. the practice of citing court reports by reporter ceased in the early 20th century. The instructions about entering court reports under the name of the reporter should be removed from the rules.

We suggest that the primary access point for a single court should be the court, whether or not the reports are issued by authority of the court. Additional access points for reporter and publisher if its responsibility extends beyond that of publication should also be provided. Simplifying this rule would not lessen the user’s ability to find and identify an item, since all access points would continue to be provided.

21.36A2. Reports of more than one court
Similarly, this rule could be simplified. Primary access would be title, with additional entries for all courts if three or fewer, the first court if more than three, responsible reporter or reporters (if fewer than three, first named if more than three), editor or compiler, and corporate body unless it functions solely as the publisher.

21.36B. Citations, digests, etc.
This rule is helpful for deciding the appropriate access point for this type of legal resource and should be retained.
21.36C. Particular cases
21.36C1. Proceedings in the first instance. Criminal proceedings
21.36C2. Proceedings in the first instance. Civil and other noncriminal proceedings

This section prescribes the access points for the proceedings of the first trial and for appeal proceedings. Since the caption “Proceedings in the first instance” is not particularly clear outside the legal community, we suggest that it be changed to: Proceedings of the trial court. Criminal proceedings; and Proceedings of the trial court. Civil and other noncriminal proceedings.

The rules contained in this section apply to the proceedings and records of criminal trials (21.36C1) and civil and other noncriminal proceedings (21.36). The rules are complex, but reflect the complexity of trial proceedings and of the documents being described. Consistent choice of entry is crucial to be able to find and identify all documents generated in the course of a trial.

These three types of proceedings could be simplified into two sections by combining the trial and appellate levels:

For example:

21.36C1. Proceedings of the trial court. Criminal proceedings and appeals. Enter the official proceedings and records of criminal trials impeachments, courts-martial, etc. and appeals proceedings under the heading for the person or body prosecuted.

21.36C2. Proceedings of the trial court. Civil and other noncriminal proceedings and appeals. Enter the official proceedings and records of civil and other noncriminal proceedings and appeals under the heading for the person or body bringing the action.

21.36C4-C9

These rules specifically address unique resources that are rarely encountered and, consequently, cause the greatest difficulty when they are encountered. The rules, to their credit, are clear, concise, and provide important direction for provision of access points. We suggest that they be retained.


ALA received proposals regarding the rules for entry of Certain Religious Publications from three different organizations: the American Theological Library Association (ATLA), the Catholic Library Association (CLA), and the Association of Jewish Libraries (AJL). The groups expressed their appreciation at being invited by the JSC to participate in the development of the new code. In many cases, the three groups were able to come to consensus on their recommendations. In other cases, where the responses
conflicted, the relevant concerns have been paraphrased for inclusion in this response to provide background to the JSC discussion of these rules. They are identified below as “For discussion”.

Overall, the feeling is that the needs of the theological catalogers can be accommodated within the general rules, with some additional wording. The groups feel strongly that the points under the general rules should be illustrated by examples, including theological materials examples, which the groups would be willing to supply if needed. The groups discussed the desirability of having any exceptions to the general rules for access points rules for “certain religious publications” all in one place, although with an electronic text the actual organization is less important if they can all be retrieved together.

A few of the proposals received emphasized the need to tie revised rules in Part 2 of RDA with changes to rules regarding the construction of uniform titles (citations). ALA will propose the relevant changes to these rules in response to a call for proposals to revise the rules in AACR2 Chapter 25, which we understand will be issued by the JSC at a later time.

**Specific Rule Revisions**

21.37. Sacred Scriptures

21.37A. This rule can be eliminated. The general rule 21.1C (d) is sufficient, perhaps with the addition of an instruction to add a uniform title if appropriate.

21.1C (d) it is accepted as sacred scripture by a religious group (when appropriate, use a uniform title as instructed in 25.17–25.18).

✓ For discussion: Should the wording “sacred scripture” be changed to “sacred works and scripture” throughout the rules? Two groups favor this change, but one group is not in favor because it feels that this makes the phrase a great deal “fuzzier”. ATLA takes the word “scripture” to mean: “any writing that is regarded as sacred by a religious group” and strongly recommends including a definition for “sacred scripture” in the RDA glossary.

21.37B. For discussion: Should this rule can be eliminated, in favor of using rules 21.9–21.10. for harmonies? ATLA and CLA disagree on this point, with CLA objecting that the wording of 21.9 (“substantially changed the nature and content”…abridgement”, etc.) does not apply to harmonies, whose purpose is comparative analysis of the Bible. However, both groups feel strongly that the currently glossary definition of Harmony (Bible) and the index entry for Harmony of scripture be retained.

21.38A. The rule as written seems to be very problematic. Instead of cataloging the work as presented in the item in hand, the rule requires the cataloger to do research to determine if the work is accepted by more than one denomination. The rule also results in changing uniform titles and main entries as denominations change. A creed composed and accepted by one body is later also endorsed by another denomination, so should be recataloged with title main entry, or uniform title main entry, since entry for the second denomination is problematic. A confession of faith is accepted by several denominations, which later merge to form one denomination, requiring the entry to change to the new denomination. While ATLA would favor entering all creeds under title, AJL prefers a provision for personal authorship for some Jewish creeds. A possible reconciliation of these positions follows:

Suggested addition to 21.1B2 (c):

   c) those that record the collective thought of the body (e.g. reports of commissions, committees, etc.; official statements of position on external policies); however, always enter theological creeds, confessions of faith, etc. emanating from one or more corporate bodies under title.

Suggested addition to 21.1C1 (e):

   e) it is a theological creed, confession of faith, etc. and is not of personal authorship.

21.39. Liturgical works

21.39A. General rule

21.39A1. For discussion: Should this rule can be eliminated because it is sufficiently covered by 21.1B2 (b) some legal, governmental and religious works: … liturgical works? If the rule is eliminated, ATLA and CLA would like to see the footnote either moved to 21.1B2 or to the glossary as a definition for Liturgical Work, with some changes in wording. Proposed wording for the new definition (wherever it appears):

   Liturgical work includes officially sanctioned or traditionally accepted texts of religious observance, books of obligatory prayers to be offered at stated times [including the Liturgy of the hours, Divine office, etc.], calendars and manuals of performance of religious observances, readings from sacred scripture intended for use in a religious service, and prayer books known or formerly known as “books of hours.” Do not consider as liturgical works books intended for private devotions, hymnals for congregations and choirs, proposals for orders of worship not officially approved, unofficial manuals, programmes of religious services, worship aids, lectionaries without scriptural text, or Bible vigils.
If 21.39A1 is retained, the groups agree that the wording “church or denominational body” in this rule should be changed to “body”.

21.39A2. For discussion: Should this rule be eliminated and left up to cataloger's judgment? If the definition of Liturgical Work is revised as above, would this obviate the need for this rule?

21.39A3. For discussion: Could this rule also be eliminated if the list is incorporated into the definition of liturgical works as examples of what should not be considered liturgical?

21.39B1. This rule can be eliminated. It is covered by 21.1B2(b). Translations of liturgies would be handled by the general rules for entry of translations under the main entry/uniform title for the original work, with a language qualifier.

21.39C1. AJL recommends retain the practice of entering Jewish liturgical works under title, as instructed in this rule. In the name of simplification, the rule itself could be eliminated, with addition of a new category (f) to 21.1C1:

   f) it is a Jewish liturgical work. When appropriate, use a uniform title as instructed in 25.21–25.22.

Also, add the following to 21.1B2 (b):

   b) some legal, governmental, and religious works of the following types:

      Liturgical works (except Jewish liturgical works, see 21.1C1(f))