TO: Joint Steering Committee for Revision of AACR
FROM: Barbara B. Tillett, LC Representative
SUBJECT: GMD/SMD Working Group: Proposal for Content and Carrier Terms in RDA

The Library of Congress extends its greatest appreciation to the working group and expresses “hearty thanks” for a job very well done. The task seemed impossible but it was accomplished.

The Library of Congress has some general recommendations for incorporating the results of the group’s work into RDA and some specific recommendations from LC’s manuscript and archives staff.

LC does not want to rename the “type and form of content” element as proposed by the working group in the 6.1 section of its report.

General Recommendations

1. Give in RDA 3.2 the ten “broad carrier” terms from the report’s Appendix B.

2. Give in RDA 3.3 the “specific terms” (not the examples) listed for each of the broad carrier terms in the report’s Appendix B. LC recognizes that some of the lists are lengthy; however, we believe the length should not be a problem in the Web version.

   An alternative would be to give the specific terms in an RDA appendix with a reference to that appendix in RDA 3.3.

3. Give in RDA 4.2 the thirteen broad terms for content from the report’s Appendix A.

4. If information about combinations of the data elements isn’t incorporated into chapter 3, include such information in RDA appendix D or another appendix. Ensure that issues raised in the report regarding relationships and displays (section 6 of the report) are addressed.

5. Ensure that terms are included in the glossary.
Specific recommendations

In Appendix A table under “mixed” (p. 13):

1. LC recommends changing the wording to “Examples include archival resources containing a variety of materials …”

2. LC recommends adding an example for multi-format archival resources: Mixed – audio – graphic – manuscript