TO: Joint Steering Committee for Revision of AACR
FROM: Barbara B. Tillett, LC Representative
SUBJECT: Re: Abbreviations in AACR3 – Principles

LC thanks CILIP for the research and analysis related to the use of abbreviations and generally agrees with the eleven recommendations included in the document. Within the context of Part I, we tend to encourage the further consideration of always transcribing what you see on the resource, including accepting any abbreviations found. We note that AACR2 App. B.4 already provides for transcribing what you see for data in the title and statement of responsibility area; in statements of responsibility in the edition area; in titles and statements of responsibility in the series area; and in contents notes. We specifically recommend extending this concept to the edition statement in the edition area; the place of publication in the publication area; and the name of the publisher in the publication area.

We also prefer to spell out more, at least as an option (e.g., for col. to color or colour in the illustration statement so not confused with columns).

LC proposes that a group be formed to carry out those recommendations; an additional task of such a group would be the monitoring of abbreviations used or not used as part I is revised and parts II and III are developed, so all such changes can be reported to users of AACR3, especially during training.