To: Joint Steering Committee for Development of RDA

From: Kevin Marsh, ACOC representative

Subject: Compilers and editors of compilations – Amendments to RDA 20.2.1

BACKGROUND

The distinction between compilers and editors of compilations, and the decision as to whether or not they are a creator or contributor, regularly causes confusion in cataloguing. RDA Appendix I.2.1 (Relationship designators for creators) and Appendix I.3.1 contain very clear definitions of both of these types, and 6.27.1.4 (Compilations of works by different persons, families or corporate bodies) supports the definition for “editor of compilation”.

However, in most cataloguing, the instructions at 19.2.1 and 20.2.1 are the first point of call when recording “creator” and “contributor” relationships, and the instructions here are not as clear. The recently reworded 19.2.1.1 contains a much clearer definition that corresponds with the definitions in the Appendices, but there is no corresponding guidance at 20.2.1.1. Also, the first example list at 20.2.1.3 (Recording contributors), is headed Editor, compiler, etc., which does not correspond to the type of examples included in the list (editors and editors of compilations) and leads the cataloguer to think compilers belong here and not at the work level, in Chapter 19.

This proposal seeks to clarify the instructions at 20.2.1 so that they correspond with Chapter 19 and the definitions in Appendix I.

PROPOSED REVISION OF RDA 20.2.1

20.2 Contributor

20.2.1 Basic Instructions on Recording Contributors

20.2.1.1 Scope

A contributor is a person, family, or corporate body contributing to the realization of a work through an expression.

Contributors include editors, translators, arrangers of music, performers, etc. Contributors also include editors of compilations, unless the selection, arrangement, editing, etc., of content for a compilation effectively results in the creation of a new work. When this occurs, the person, family, or corporate body responsible for compiling the aggregate work may be considered to be the creator of the compilation, see 19.2.1.

In some cases, an expression consists of a primary work accompanied by commentary, etc., illustrations, additional musical parts, etc. When this occurs, the
writers of commentary, etc., illustrators, composers of additional parts, etc., are considered to be contributors.

20.2.1.2. Sources of information

Take information on contributors from the sources specified at 20.2.1

20.2.1.3 Recording Contributors

Record a contributor by applying the general guidelines on recording relationships to persons, families, and corporate bodies associated with a resource (see 18.4).

EXAMPLE

Editor, Compiler Editor of Compilation, Etc.

[Examples omitted; no change]

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