

To: Joint Steering Committee for Development of RDA
From: Barbara Tillett, LC Representative
Subject: Proposed Revision of RDA Instructions for Government and Non-Governmental Corporate Bodies

LC thanks ALA for undertaking the difficult task of combining instructions for recording the names of subordinate bodies for governmental and non-governmental corporate bodies. LC agrees to the proposal with some issues for further consideration and suggested minor changes that we hope will make for better accessibility of the instructions for various types of subordinate bodies. These are listed below.

Issues for Further Consideration:

LC wonders whether some of the proposed types may be further consolidated by broadening the description of the type. In particular:

- 1) Proposed Types 7 and 15 both represent titles of officials acting in an official capacity on behalf of the corporate body. Could there be one type called “Government and Religious Officials”?
- 2) The subordinate bodies listed in proposed Type 16 (a religious province, diocese, synod, etc.) might be considered “general in nature or that does no more than indicate a geographic, chronological, or numbered or lettered subdivision of a parent body,” because those words are “general” within religious corporate bodies. The term “synod” is used for a meeting of religious officials of a religious body, and the term “diocese” is used for the geographic area subject to the jurisdiction of a religious official. Could proposed Type 16 be merged with proposed Type 3?
- 3) Proposed Type 17 includes subordinate bodies that function in the same way as those in proposed Types 6, 8, and 10. Could the language used in proposed Types 6, 8, and 10 be expanded to include subordinate bodies in proposed Type 17?

LC also wonders if the phrase “have existed in post-medieval times” is necessary since it seems unlikely that there are many resources needing an authorized access point for a government official acting in an official capacity for a political jurisdiction that ceased to exist by the Middle Ages.

Suggested Changes:

- 1) Rather than provide instructions on recording subordinate and related bodies and listing 18 types with examples in one instruction in 11.2.2.14, LC suggests adding another level of instruction under 11.2.2.14 for each type to allow for hierarchical display in the RDA Toolkit Browse Tree and improve readability. Also, rather than referring to each type as “type X,” provide a descriptive phrase for each in the instruction heading. An example of how this might

be done for types 1-3 is given below in “Proposed Revisions.” LC can provide a marked-up version for all 18 types to the JCS Secretary if desired.

2) Incorporate existing language from LCPS 11.2.2.14 about “general in nature” into the description of TYPE 3, or the descriptive phrase replacing that label if the JSC agrees with 1) above. In the “Proposed Revisions” section below this has been done by adding the parenthetical phrase “(e.g., contains neither distinctive proper nouns or adjectives, nor subject words)” after “general in nature” in the proposed instruction 11.2.2.14.3.

Proposed Revisions

11.2.2.14 Subordinate and Related Bodies Recorded Subordinately

Apply the instructions below to all subordinate or related bodies listed in 11.2.2.14.1-11.2.2.14.18, ~~except subordinate government bodies (see 11.2.2.18)~~ and ~~subordinate religious bodies (see 11.2.2.30)~~.

Record the name of a subordinate or related body as a subdivision of the authorized access point representing the body to which it is subordinate or related if its name belongs to one or more of the types listed ~~below in 11.2.2.14.1-11.2.2.14.18~~. Make it a direct or indirect subdivision applying the instructions given under 11.2.2.15. Omit from the subdivision the name or abbreviation of the name of the higher or related body in noun form unless the omission would result in a name that does not make sense.

[Footnote 4 deleted]

EXAMPLES [omitted]

[Examples from old 11.2.2.14 merged with those from old 11.2.2.19; see 6JSC/ALA/18/Addendum]

~~TYPE 1. A name containing a term that by definition implies that the body is part of another (e.g., *Department, Division, Section, Branch*).~~

EXAMPLES [omitted]

11.2.2.14.1 Body Whose Name Implies It Is Part of Another

Apply the instructions given under 11.2.2.14 to a name containing a term that by definition implies that the body is part of another (e.g., *Department, Division, Section, Branch*).

EXAMPLES [omitted]

[Examples from old 11.2.2.14 type 1
merged with those from old 11.2.2.19 type 1;
see 6JSC/ALA/18/Addendum]

11.2.2.14.2 Body Whose Name Implies Administrative Subordination

Apply the instructions given under 11.2.2.14 to a name containing a term that normally implies administrative subordination (e.g., *Committee, Commission*), provided that the name of the higher body is required for the identification of the subordinate body.

EXAMPLES [omitted]

[Examples from old 11.2.2.14 type 2
merged with those from old 11.2.2.10 type 2;
see 6JSC/ALA/18/Addendum]

11.2.2.14.3 Body Whose Name Is General in Nature or Merely Indicates a Geographic, Chronological, or Numbered or Lettered Subdivision of a Parent Body

Apply the instructions given under 11.2.2.14 to a name that is general in nature (e.g., contains neither distinctive proper nouns or adjectives, nor subject words) or that does no more than indicate a geographic, chronological, or numbered or lettered subdivision of a parent body.

EXAMPLES [omitted]

[Examples from old 11.2.2.14 type 3, with omissions;
merged with old 11.2.2.19 type 3
see 6JSC/ALA/18/Addendum]

In case of doubt, record the name of the body directly.

EXAMPLE

Human Resources Center

Name: Human Resources Center

~~Research and Training Institute~~

Research & Advisory Services

Name: Research & Advisory Services

[Examples from old 11.2.2.14 type 3, revised as indicated;
merged with old 11.2.2.19 type 3; see 6JSC/ALA/18/Addendum]