

TO: Joint Steering Committee for Development of RDA

FROM: Alan Danskin, British Library representative to JSC

SUBJECT: Revision of A.29, Capitalization of Hyphenated Compounds; changes in Chicago Manual of Style, 16th edition (2010). British Library Response.

The British Library thanks ALA for reviewing the potential impact of changes in CMOS 16 on RDA. However, we recommend rejecting the proposal.

With regard to hyphenated compounds we find no compelling argument in favour of making this change to RDA. The cost, including the opportunity costs of implementing the change should be taken into consideration before such a change is approved.

A.10 states

“The guidelines for English-language capitalization basically follow those of the *Chicago Manual of Style*. When guidelines differ, they have been modified to conform to the requirements of bibliographic records and long-standing cataloguing practice.

We feel that this allows sufficient latitude to depart from CMoS. If the necessary, the *RDA Editor’s Guide* could be updated to reflect this difference.