TO: Joint Steering Committee for Development of RDA
FROM: Barbara B. Tillett, LC Representative

LC thanks CCC for this proposal, which looks closely at some of the more problematic aspects of identifying musical works and expressions, specifically preferred titles for compilations and the recording of numeric designations for works contained in the compilations.

LC recommends that this proposal be deferred. Because of its complexity, and its implications for several other important related issues, LC suggests that the topic be referred to the newly-formed CCC/LC/MLA RDA Music Group. Among the direct and related aspects of the proposal that we suggest could be taken up are the following:

1) LC’s discussion paper about “Selections” (6JSC/LC rep/2) in the light of this proposal;
2) The inability of a preferred collective title for a compilation of a composer’s consecutively numbered works with the same title to indicate whether the compilation contains all or only some of the composer’s works in the sequence;
3) The fact that the preferred title for such a compilation doesn’t provide for the identification of any of the individual works in the resource; and as an additional consideration, what such a sequence could be understood to mean when the individual works contained in the resource are different expressions unrelated to each other (as in a recording that contains performances by different artists);
4) In the light of the instructions for numeration in the preferred title for a compilation, as examined in the proposal, a review of the instructions for numeration of consecutively numbered parts of a single work;
5) Confirmation, or not, of the desirability of there being more than one type of numbering possible in the preferred title for some works, a consecutive number for their place in a series of similarly titled works as well as numeration of another kind;
6) A comparison of the instructions for numeration of consecutively numbered works with a distinct title with the instructions examined here, which are for works with non-distinctive titles.