To: Joint Steering Committee for Development of RDA

From: Alan Danskin, Chair, JSC

Subject: 6JSC/CILIP/3: Field of Activity (9.15) and Profession/Occupation (9.16)

The following comments have been received from the National Library of New Zealand.
To: Alan Danskin, Chair of the JSC
From: National Library of New Zealand
Subject: 6JSC/CILIP/3: Field of Activity (9.15) and Profession/Occupation (9.16)

National Library of New Zealand supports the LC recommendation in 6JSC/CILIP/3/LC response to retain these two elements and revise the examples under RDA 9.15 so that they represent fields of activity.

We suggest that the use of either element (or both) for a particular person will be determined by the information available to the cataloguer. We do not see field of activity as necessarily distinct from a person’s occupation. A person’s field of activity may be related to their occupation or it could be completely separate. A cataloguer may have information about a person’s field of activity and not know whether or not the person’s occupation is in that field.

We also suggest rearranging the order of these two elements so that Profession or occupation comes under 9.15 and Field of activity of the person is under 9.16. This supports the changes suggested under rules 9.19.1.16 – 9.19.1.17.

We endorse the ACOC suggestion in 6JSC/CILIP/3/ACOC response (draft) to use existing vocabularies for Profession or occupation and agree with the ACOC view that it is not desirable to construct a vocabulary for Field of activity.

The National Library of New Zealand supports the LC recommendation to remove the element Field of activity as a possible addition to access points representing persons in 9.19.1.7.