To: Joint Steering Committee for Development of RDA  
From: Dave Reser, LC Representative  
Subject: Colour content in RDA

Thanks to CILIP for providing follow-up to 6JSC/ALA/26, and for collapsing the Colour content instructions in RDA. We presume that the intent is to delete the instructions at 7.17.2, 7.17.3, 7.17.4, 7.17.5—we agree with this approach, but have specific comments on suggested changes.

7.17.1.1 (Scope): We do not believe the new third paragraph (“Colour content does not include matter outside the actual content of the resource (e.g., the border of a map)” needs to be retained in the scope nor in its earlier position in 7.17.1.3. We see this as an unnecessary limitation. In the clean copy provided, the current reference to 3.21 is not present: “For instructions on recording information on hand-coloured items, see 3.21.” We think this was an unintentional omission and recommend that it be restored before the last paragraph (reference to 3.18.3).

7.17.1.2 (Sources of Information): As noted in 6JSC/ALA/26/LC response, we do not think the addition of “If desired” is useful or consistent with similar source statements in RDA. We think that 7.17.1.2 is satisfactory “as is” and does not need to be changed.

7.17.1.3 (Recording Colour Content): As noted in 6JSC/ALA/26/LC response, and 6JSC/ALA/CCC response, the distinctions intended by the “a) or b)” paragraph proposed for 7.17.1.3 do not seem clear to us. We suggest that the paragraph be deleted, and the instruction should begin with “Record the colour content if considered important for identification or selection.” We also note that the final sentence uses the word “under,” which was replaced in the rewording of RDA. It should read, “Record details of colour content as instructed at 7.17.1.4”.

7.17.1.3, Alternative: While we appreciate the intent of the alternative (consistency with legacy records), we believe that the standard phrasing from RDA to supplement or substitute vocabulary lists is adequate. We note that there are already different styles in place, so propose two options for consideration:
   
   Option A: indicate that other terms can be used
   
   Option B: use “details of” to provide additional information

Option A Replacement for alternative, which is consistent with instructions at 3.4.2.2, 3.4.6.2, 3.6.1.3, and 3.7.1.3:
If none of the terms in the list is appropriate or sufficiently specific, use another concise term or terms to indicate the colour content.

**EXAMPLE**

- sepia
  Colour content for a photograph
- black
  white
  Colour content for a motion picture film
- colour
  Colour content for a map
- blue
- red
- white
  Colour content for a painting

Option B, Replacement for alternative, which is consistent with instructions at 7.13.2.3, 7.13.3.3, 7.13.4.3, 7.13.5.3, and 7.20.1.3:

If none of the terms in the list is appropriate or sufficiently specific, record details of the colour content (see 7.17.1.4).

7.17.1.4 (Details of Colour Content)

We note that the examples provided by CILIP show the use of the proposed Alternative at 7.17.1.3 in the example explanations. Because examples should not illustrate an Alternative except at the Alternative itself, the Examples Editor has provided some examples as an alternative to those provided in the CILIP proposal. We think that these would be appropriate whether CILIP’s Alternative at 7.17.1.3 or either of the options we proposed is accepted by the JSC:

**EXAMPLE**

- Colour maps; black and white photographs
- Some colour
- Chiefly colour
- Illustrations (some colour)
  A monograph containing monochrome and polychrome illustrations
Tinted blue
A photograph in black and white, tinted blue

Yellow tint
A motion picture film in black and white, tinted yellow

Film tinted yellow, image toned green
A motion picture film in black and white, tinted yellow and toned green

Colour with black and white sequences
A motion picture film. Colour content recorded as: polychrome, monochrome

Black and white with colour introductory sequence
A motion picture film. Colour content recorded as: monochrome, polychrome

Various shades of pink

Title and headings printed in red
An early printed resource

Apollo, Leto, Artemis, and Ares in red-figure; Dionysus with satyrs and maenads in black-figure
A clay vase

Displays in orange, black, and green
An online resource

Technicolor

Colourized

Greyscale

Blue text on yellow background
A resource designed for persons with visual impairments

We agree to the changes for the Glossary.