TO: Joint Steering Committee for Development of RDA

FROM: Alan Danskin, British Library representative to JSC

SUBJECT: Selections” as used in RDA Chapter 6. BL Response

I am grateful to Barbara for preparing this paper and for the review of how Selections is used in RDA.

Recommendation 1.
Revise RDA to treat a preferred title for a part as a work attribute, both for the recording of elements and the construction of authorized access points. The result would be consistent treatment of parts of a work, whether they are a single part, sequential parts, or non-sequential parts, thus eliminating any confusion between work attributes and expression attributes.

I agree with the proposal to treat a preferred title for a part as an attribute of the work.

Recommendation 2.
Replace the use of Selections with Extracts (Excerpts, or some other term) to allow for a clean break with past practice. Extracts will be used in the proposed revised wording below, but others may be able to suggest a better term.

While I acknowledge that Selections covers different things, I do not believe that the proposal to replace it with an alternative blanket term is helpful. The proposed terms, extracts and excerpts have more specific meanings than selections and would be misleading. Is the motivation for specifying a distinctive term to enable identification of legacy data for retrospective clean-up?