

2001 ANNUAL REPORT

This document contains the report of the Joint Steering Committee for Revision of AACR (JSC) to the Committee of Principals for AACR for the calendar year 2001. The report has been prepared by the Chair, Ann Huthwaite.

Membership

The membership of the committee was as follows:

American Library Association:	Brian Schottlaender (University of California at San Diego) until July Matthew Beacom (Yale University) from July
Australian Committee on Cataloguing:	Ann Huthwaite (Queensland University of Technology)
British Library:	Sally Strutt
Canadian Committee on Cataloguing:	Margaret Stewart (National Library of Canada)
Library Association:	Sue Brown (Library Association)
Library of Congress:	Barbara Tillett
Chair:	Ann Huthwaite
Secretary:	Jacqui Norfolk (State Library of Queensland) until June Nathalie Schulz (Griffith University) from July

Matthew Beacom replaced Brian Schottlaender as the ALA representative. Nathalie Schulz became the new JSC Secretary.

Meetings

Two meetings were held in 2001. The first, hosted by the Library of Congress, was held in Alexandria, Virginia, on 2-4 April 2001. The second, hosted by the National Library of Canada for the Canadian Committee on Cataloguing, was held in Ottawa on 15-17 October 2001. Mary Ghikas, Chair of the Committee of Principals, attended both meetings.

Ann Huthwaite attended a meeting of the Committee of Principals in Ottawa on 21-22 May 2001.

Strategic planning for AACR and JSC

JSC began its discussions on developing a strategic plan for AACR and JSC at the October meeting, but there was insufficient time to complete the process and to deal with a number of issues that are integral to the plan. It was agreed that a special planning meeting would be held in New Haven, Connecticut, in May 2002 to continue the discussions. The entire meeting will be in executive session, with no observers.

Rule revision process

The revision package containing changes agreed through 2000 and finalised at the beginning of 2001 was submitted to the publishers in April. This was subsequently published as Amendments 2001.

It was agreed at the May Committee of Principals meeting that there would be an annual cycle of revision, with the rule revision package to be submitted to the co-publishers by mid-February each year. This would require JSC to meet regularly in September, with a meeting in April/May if required.

Revisions agreed through 2001 were completed by electronic discussion following the October meeting, and submitted to the co-publishers by the end of February 2002.

New format for AACR

It was agreed at the Committee of Principals meeting that AACR would be published in loose-leaf format for updating, with the first loose-leaf revision to appear in 2002. Discussions between JSC and the co-publishers have been continuing on the lay-out and format of the new publication.

Rule revisions completed

Major revisions of chapters 3 (Cartographic Materials) and 12 (previously Serials, now Continuing Resources) were completed. The revision of Chapter 12 generally completed the work begun by Jean Hirons on accommodating seriality in the rules.

A summary of the most significant rule revisions since the 1998 revision is attached as an appendix to this report. This summary will be included in the preliminaries to the new 2002 revision.

Revision of the index

The co-publishers commissioned the preparation of the draft of a revised index to accompany the 2001 Amendments, but JSC was not satisfied with the quality, and there was insufficient time to complete the task. It was agreed that the revision would be deferred until 2002, with a new index prepared to accompany the 2002 revision.

JSC Format Variation Working Group

The JSC Format Variation Working Group began its work on exploring issues relating to format variation or "multiple versions." Representatives from each of the countries represented on JSC were nominated and appointed to the group, with Jennifer Bowen from the University of Rochester Libraries as the Chair.

Jennifer Bowen attended both meetings of JSC in 2001. An interim report was presented to JSC at the October meeting, where it was agreed that revised terms of reference would be prepared for the group to reflect its new direction. JSC agreed that

the format variation issue would be pursued in two strands. Firstly, the group would be asked to explore the question of whether the rules as they stand allow for the explicit display of relationships (assuming that systems could be programmed accordingly). The development of an experimental database would continue in conjunction with this work. The experimental database would test the feasibility of grouping records for manifestations into displays that illustrate expression-level relationships. Secondly, Pat Riva from McGill University would be asked to prepare rule revision proposals to incorporate FRBR terminology in AACR and to make explicit the relationship between the various entities – in particular, manifestations of the same expression. Pat Riva is a member of the group and had expressed an interest in undertaking this work while on sabbatical leave from her university. A report on this work, including proposed rule revisions, will be considered by JSC at its May 2002 planning meeting.

Very useful work is underway, but so far efforts to set up an experimental database have been unsuccessful. OCLC had expressed some interest in providing assistance but subsequently advised that they were unable to devote resources to the project. JSC and the group are still seeking a partner for this project.

Reorganisation of AACR

The “alpha” prototype of part I of AACR rearranged by ISBD areas was examined and reviewed by the JSC constituencies and a number of other nominated individuals. JSC agreed that although the prototype was a preliminary draft only, with no attempt made to do any editorial clean-up, it did highlight redundancy in the rules and could be a useful tool for revising and updating the code. CC:DA is now working on proposals to correct discrepancies in the rules that have been highlighted by the rearrangement.

JSC will continue its discussion on the rearrangement and the class of materials concept at the May 2002 planning meeting.

Other issues deferred to the May 2002 meeting

A number of items were deferred from the October 2001 meeting to the May 2002 meeting, for inclusion in the strategic planning discussion. These are:

- The principles of AACR;
- Revision of the general introduction and the introductions to parts I and II;
- Chapter 21 and the future of the “rule of three”;
- Authority records in AACR;
- The role and future of general material designations.

The draft appendix of major changes will also be considered. JSC constituencies had been asked to respond to the value of the prototype developed by CC:DA as a concept before CC:DA undertakes further work.

There will also be discussion about the proposals from the CC:DA Task Force on Specific Characteristics of Electronic Resources submitted at the October 2001 meeting. Consensus was reached that area 3 (file characteristics) should no longer be used for electronic resources, but some major issues remain to be resolved. These issues include: identifying to which parts of the description this information should be relocated; determining if area 5 should be used for remote access electronic resources as well as direct access electronic resources; and, deciding whether conventional terminology should be used in area 5 for direct access electronic resources.

JSC Secretary

At the Committee of Principals meeting it was agreed that a half-time JSC Secretary position would be created, to move with the Chair. A duty statement and selection criteria were developed, and subsequently Nathalie Schulz from Griffith University in Brisbane was appointed to the position, which will extend until the end of February 2003 in the first instance. A Memorandum of Understanding was established between the Committee of Principals/AACR Fund and Griffith University.

JSC Web site

Further development took place of the JSC Web site. A document management system was established on a private part of the site, to which only JSC members and members of constituent bodies have access. The new system has substantially reduced the amount of administrative work for JSC members, as faxing and mailing of documents is no longer required. John Attig must be congratulated for his excellent work on developing the site and setting up the new system.

The JSC Secretary is progressively taking over the work of administering the site.

Coordination with the ISBD groups

John Byrum, Chair of the ISBD Review Group, asked for comments from JSC on major changes in the draft revision of the ISBD(M). Comments were prepared by Marg Stewart, and these were forwarded to John Byrum in June 2001.

An annotated copy of the rule revisions made through 2001, again prepared by Marg Stewart, was sent to John Byrum in April 2002, noting any changes that might have an impact on the ISBDs.

Acknowledgements

I would like to thank the JSC members, the JSC Secretary, and members of the constituent bodies for their hard work and dedication throughout the year. In particular, I would like to acknowledge the contribution made by Brian Schottlaender to the development of AACR during his term on JSC.

I would also like to thank the following people for their special contributions:

- John Attig, Penn State University, for his work on developing the AACR Web site and the document management system;
- Jennifer Bowen, University of Rochester Libraries, for leading the work of the Format Variation Working Group;
- Bob Ewald, Library of Congress, for his ongoing wise advice on all matters concerning AACR;
- Jean Hirons, Library of Congress, for her ongoing work on accommodating seriality in the rules;
- Judy Kuhagen, Library of Congress, for her work on the revision of chapter 12 and related rules, and for taking the minutes of the Alexandria meeting.

Ann Huthwaite

Chair, Joint Steering Committee for Revision of AACR

**Appendix: Summary of Rule Revisions since AACR Second Edition 1998
Revision**

[Note: The Appendix will be made available when the 2002 revision is published.]