Art Libraries Society of North America, 33rd Annual Conference, Hilton Americas, Houston, Texas, April 1-6, 2005

Cataloging Advisory Committee Meeting
Saturday, April 2, 2005, 5:30-7:30 PM

Outgoing Chair: Elizabeth O’Keefe, Pierpont Morgan Library
Incoming Chair: Kay Teel, Stanford University
Recorder: Mark Bresnan, Frick Art Reference Library

Minutes:

The meeting began with progress reports from the outgoing chair on CAC projects. The 2004 revision of the NH Photography Classification Schedule is now available for use. A final draft of the list of Qualifiers for Anonymous Artists compiled by the CAC in collaboration with the Data Standards Committee of the Visual Resources Association is about to be posted on ARLIS-L and VRA-L for comment. The Task Force on Named Buildings and Other Structures formed by the Subject Analysis Committee (SAC) of the American Library Association has submitted its final report. The Task Force, chaired by a member of the CAC and containing several ARLIS/NA members, declined to make a recommendation on whether to move buildings to the Name Authority File, noting that more data gathering (especially for non-Western structures) and analysis is needed. The report recommended the formation of an Art SACO funnel to help collect relevant examples, and to guide catalogers in selection of the appropriate file and correct formulation of headings. The recent decision by the CPSO to create a NAF record for a national park qua agency and a SAF record for a national park qua geographic entity may indicate that it would look favorably on a similar approach towards distinguishing between corporate bodies and the buildings they inhabit. Sherman Clarke, coordinator of ART NACO, offered to monitor developments concerning Art SACO. He reassured Eric Wolf that Art SACO would be open to all who wish to submit subject terms. ARLIS is considering the appointment of a formal liaison to SAC.

The MARBI representative, Elizabeth O’Keefe, reported on MARBI papers of interest to art cataloging. Proposal 2005-04, Hierarchical Geographic Names in the MARC 21 Bibliographic Format, proposed a new field, 662, for subject access to hierarchical place information. The MARC Advisory Committee favored parallel 752 and 662 fields, but requested the proposers to submit a new paper dealing with subfield repeatability and a subfield link to thesauri.

Discussion Paper 05-01, Subject Access to Images, submitted by O’Keefe and Sherman Clarke, was on the agenda at the midwinter meeting of MARBI. The paper discusses the need for MARC coding to distinguish images of something from works about something. MARBI indicated that there was not much support for the creation of a new field block, and that relator codes would be preferable. If relator codes are used, subfield $e$ is needed in fields 630 and 651 and subfield $4$ is needed in fields 630, 650, and 651. The committee recommended that the proposers study the matter further, and survey the communities most interested in this type of access to determine the functional requirements for the data.

The CC:DA liaison was unavoidably absent, so no report was delivered.
The committee also heard brief updates on other initiatives or projects relevant to art cataloging, such as Cataloguing Cultural Objects: A Guide to Describing Cultural Works and Their Images; two committee members were presenting on the project at a session later in the conference. Maria Oldal, a member of the CC:DA Task Force on Rules for Early Printed Monographs (AACR2.12-18), reported that the Task Force has recommended retaining these rules, with appropriate revisions, in AACR3. She also reported that the Bibliographic Standards Committee of RBMS is doing a revision of DCRB. The new standard will be called Descriptive Cataloging of Rare Materials (Books). Their website contains progress reports.

The committee then turned its attention to projects for the coming year. The headings for named buildings project is now in the hands of SAC; Task Force members will continue to monitor progress and report to the committee. The Chair announced that she is reviewing the draft of exhibition documentation guidelines prepared by committee members two years ago, with the goal of having a version finished and available for comment this year. The suggestion that cataloging manuals developed for internal use by various art libraries be posted on the ARLIS website was revisited. Mark Bresnan agreed to act as the collection point for this material. Finally, members felt that the CAC should have its own Web presence within the ARLIS/NA site, rather than being a link from the Cataloging Section website.