

**Progress Report on the Steering Committee's Discussions, Assignments and
Accomplishments
In Regard to Overseeing the Implementation of the Non-English Task Forces'
Recommendation
October 7, 2007
By Magda El-Sherbini**

The Steering Committee members (Magda El-Sherbini, chair; Glenn Patton; Martin Heijdra; John Espley; Michelle Roberston (absent), and Beth Picknally-Camden (Board Liaison)) met by conference call on August 27 and discussed the action plan for each recommendation. The following is the action plan and accomplishments for each recommendation:

Recommendation 1:

Assignments:

- Magda will contact Charles Wilt about a discussion list for the Steering Committee.
- Beth will send the URLs for subscribing to the list and the final report to the Steering Committee.

Accomplishments:

Beth sent the Steering Committee all the needed links:

Web page for subscribing to the nonenglishaccess discussion list (i.e. the open list):

<http://lists.ala.org/www/info/nonenglishaccess>

Final report of the ALCTS Non-English Task Force

<http://www.ala.org/ala/alcts/newslinks/currentissues/nonenglishaccess/Non-EnglishReport07.pdf>

Task Force Report: Comments Received and Their Disposition

<http://www.ala.org/ala/alcts/newslinks/currentissues/nonenglishaccess/Non-EnglishComments.pdf>

ALCTS page where all these are currently linked:

<http://www.ala.org/ala/alcts/newslinks/NewsLinks.htm#issues>

Things that I have tagged related to non-English access

<http://tags.library.upenn.edu/bethpc/non-English>

Recommendation 2 and 5:

Assignments:

- The group decided to combine recommendations 2 and 5. Martin will draft the charge for a new TF and send the draft to the group for revision and comments.
- Beth will discuss with the ALCTS Board how to proceed with the charges and who will select the new TF to implement these recommendations.

Accomplishments:

Martin wrote the charge for a new TF to handle recommendation 2 and 5. The charge is still under revision by the Steering Committee. The charge should be completed and sent to the identified group before ALA Mid-winter (see draft charge at <http://mail.google.com/mail/?attid=0.1&disp=vah&view=att&th=11500a5bfd94518b>)

Beth contacted Pamela Bluh and Charles Wilt about how to proceed with the charges and the appointment of TFs. The response was that "we should use existing groups within ALCTS (including ALCTS Sections Executive Committees) for addressing the recommendations. However, the Steering Comm. does have the authority to appoint task forces if we feel there is not an appropriate existing group in ALCTS. These new groups do not need approval by the ALCTS Board."

Recommendation 3:

Assignment:

- Magda will contact the Chairs of CC:DA and CC:AAM and ask them for a status report.

Accomplishments:

Magda Contacted both Cheri Folkner, chair of CC:DA, and William Kopycki, chair of CC:AAM. Cheri was aware of the TF report because Beth Picknally-Camden did present the TF report to CC:DA at the ALA Annual in DC. However, Cheri and William did not have a plan and were waiting for the Steering Committee to contact them. There were some questions about recommendation 3 that were clarified.

Cheri has been in touch with Joan Schuitema, the new chair of the PCC Standing Committee on Standards. Since recommendation 3 concerns reviewing and updating a PCC standard (the core level supplement on "Guidelines for Multiple Character Sets"), the PCC Standing Committee on Standards has agreed to review the document in the context of the Report by the ALCTS Task Force on Non-English Access.

After her committee has a chance to have a discussion, Joan will

get back to Cheri to let her know what kind of help is needed. Once that is known, Cheri and William will be able to identify CC:DA members, CC:AAM members, and other individuals to work with PCC as needed. A PCC representative will report to CC:DA at the ALA Midwinter on the status of the review.

Recommendation 4:

Assignment:

Glenn will contact the identified group and submit a status report.

Accomplishments:

Glenn reported: "I have been discussing Recommendation 4 with Cheri Folkner, the current chair of CC:DA, and William Kopycki, chair of CC:AAM. Both groups certainly consider the review that is suggested in Recommendation 4 to be part of their committees' activities. Since CC:AAM's review feeds into the overall CC:DA process (through their liaison), I have suggested (and they have agreed) that we can use the minutes of CC:DA meetings plus the activity on the wiki that CC:DA uses to share comments on their review of RDA as a way of tracking that they indeed reviewing from a "non-English access" perspective. My reason for suggesting this method is that both CC:DA and the CC:AAM RDA task force are under very tight time frames to prepare review comments and I thought this would allow them to focus on that work rather than on preparing progress reports. I am OCLC's liaison to CC:DA so I have access to the wiki and to review copies of RDA texts. Their minutes are publicly available and I will call attention to them when they are released.

William passed along one concern on the part of his committee which he expressed as follows:

"CC:AAM represents the various area studies' cataloging communities specific to the regions of Africa and Asia, including Africa, Middle East, South Asia, Southeast Asia and East Asia. CC:AAM's Task Force on RDA includes members with expertise in cataloging of various language resources within the purview of CC:AAM, understandably, not all affected languages may be represented. This should be taken into consideration as reasonable expectations of what CC:AAM can, and can not, do regarding the implementation of Non-English TF Recommendation 4."

CC:DA, in its discussion, noted that they need to do more to involve non-English cataloging communities in the US beyond those who already have liaison relationships to CC:DA (that is, communities other than CC:AAM and the Association of Jewish Libraries). They will investigate further how they might publicize the availability of RDA drafts to other organizations such as CEAL, MELA, and CORMOSEA as well as ALA-related organizations like the ACRL Slavic and Eastern European Section. They intend to have this in place before the RDA Part B draft becomes available in a month or so.

Recommendation 6 and 7:

Assignment:

Magda will follow up with the CCS, PLA, and other identified groups and submits a status report.

Accomplishments:

Recommendation 6:

Magda contacted Sally Smith, Chair Cataloging Needs of Public Libraries Committee; Kenley Neufeld, Chair of ALA Committee on Education; and Mary-Charles Lasater, Chair CCA.

Sally reported that "As a result of the non-English Access Report recommendations, David Miller and I submitted a proposal last spring for ALA Annual 2008 titled "Serving the Whole Community: Multilingual Access in Public Libraries." Because we missed the deadlines for a PLA programs, the program will be co-sponsored by the PLA Cataloging Needs of Public Libraries Committee and ALCTS/CCS. We are considering repeating the program depending on how well it is received and on how much data we gather.

As part of the proposal, attached, we expect to develop a needs survey to be administered to public libraries to "focus on changes in the populations of public library users and the cataloging/catalog services developed in consequence, as well as those needed for improved services." The focus will be on language collections and access to them. David had contacted Maria Chavez-Hernandez of Florida State who being unable to help with the survey development recommended a colleague, Kathleen de la Peña McCook who was not available to assist.

She asked if I could recommend someone whom she can contact with experience in the methodology of developing and administering surveys of this kind.

She also reported that the CNPL committee will be discussion this topic at mid-winter and it seems that it might be useful to explore other options for advancing the goals of the Report and recommendations

Kenley responded with uncertainty on the role of her committee regarding this recommendation. However, she reported that her committee has a representative from ALISE and she will put this topic on the ALA Mid-winter agenda. Perhaps some committee members will have insight for a greater response.

No report from Mary-Charles Lasater

Recommendation 7:

Magda contacted the chairs of CC:AAM, SEEA and AAMES regarding the implementation of recommendation 7. William Kopycki, the Chair of CC:AAM reported that:

" there have been no new tangible discussions generated within CC:AAM as of this writing about this particular recommendation, though I am now talking with Andy Spencer of SEES about ideas for collaboration. I bring you two things from the MELA perspective: our cataloging committee most recently discussed drafting a letter to OCLC to request that they allow for the use of the special Cyrillic letters used in languages of Central Asia in WorldCat. This might be provide a joint "letter-writing activity" between MELA and SEES that could be recognized by CC:AAM.

It is also worth mentioning that at the MELA conference next month we will be having a session on "Best practices" for Arabic-script fields in OCLC. If this goes well, perhaps it can serve as a model for other area studies groups and presented at a more general ALA-setting? If there are any new developments I will be sure to pass them along."

Recommendation 8:

On hold

Recommendation 9:

Assignment:

John will contact CCS (Cataloging of Children's Materials Committee) and PLA and submit a status report.

Accomplishments:

No report

Recommendation 10:

Assignments:

Martin will share his thoughts/ideas about what might be included in the charge of the new TF to implement this recommendation.

John will contact MARBI if it is needed.

Accomplishments:

Martin drafted the charge for the new TF to implement this recommendation. The charge was revised by the Steering Committee members and John sent it to Stephanie Schmidt, Chair, MARBI with a copy to Sally McCallum and The ALCTS Reps. To MARBI: Renette Davis, Jacqueline Samples, and Ellen Kovacic (see the final charge at: [Recommendation 10.doc](#))

Recommendation 11:

Assignment:

Michelle was assigned the task of contacting SAC and submitting a status report.

Accomplishments:

Michelle Robertson contacted the Chair of SAC and reported that the Chair will put this recommendation on the Midwinter agenda for discussion.