

To: Joint Steering Committee for Development of RDA

From: Bill Leonard, CCC representative

Subject: Revision to instructions for devised titles in 2.3.2.11

CCC thanks the Library of Congress for following up on an issue raised in an earlier discussion of choreographic works.

In consideration of the preference shown for the alternative instruction in the current array of published policy statements, CCC questions whether it LC would consider reversing the main instruction and the alternative. The current main instruction does not appear to be meeting the needs of the libraries responsible for those policy statements.

If not, CCC would suggest that the replacement of the word “indicates” by “includes” invites the rewriting of a) and b) by adding the words “a description of”.

We are interested in the phrase “If this criterion does not apply” in the new sentence in the second paragraph of 2.3.2.11. The preceding If and Then statement includes two criteria that must be met. Two situations we can think of that fall outside of those criteria are: the resource has no linguistic content; or the agency creating the description lacks the language skills to understand the linguistic content. CCC suggests the addition of another explicit If and Then construction.

2.3.2.11 Recording Devised Titles

If:

the resource itself has no title (see 2.3.2.10)

and

a title cannot be found in any of the other sources of information specified at 2.2.4

then:

devise a brief descriptive title that: includes one or more of the following:

- a) a description of the nature of the resource (e.g., map, literary manuscript, diary, advertisement)
- b) a description of its subject (e.g., names of persons, corporate bodies, objects, activities, events, geographical area and dates)
- c) the opening words of a text, etc.
- d) a brief descriptive phrase that characterizes the resource.

Use the language and script appropriate to the content of the resource being described, except where instructed to use specific terminology.

If:

the resource itself has no language content

or

the agency creating the description does not have the necessary language skills

then:

record the title in the language and script preferred by the agency preparing the description.

[Examples as proposed]