

To: Joint Steering Committee for Development of RDA
From: Barbara Tillett, LC Representative
Subject: Change to Definition of 9.16.1.1 Profession or Occupation

LC agrees with the spirit of the BL proposal. Although the British Library used the current RDA wording as the basis for its revised definition, we feel the circular nature of the definition is a problem and would like to suggest the following wording. Our goal is to keep the definition simple and remove the need to declare whether this is a current or past activity.

9.16.1.1 Scope

Profession or occupation is a person's vocation or avocation.

Likewise, at

9.16.1.3 Recording Professions or Occupations

Record the profession or occupation.

And for the **Glossary**:

Profession or Occupation A person's vocation or avocation.

Language and script for Profession or Occupation

We additionally would like to point out that while RDA currently gives a language preference for most attributes in chapters 9-11, it does not specify for Profession or Occupation.

We acknowledge that RDA's introductory chapter has guidance at 8.4 about Language and script: "Record other identifying attributes of a person, family, or corporate body in the language and script in the applicable instructions in Chapters 9-11." However, the lack of a specific statement in chapter 9 regarding language and script for Profession or Occupation had led to several questions from catalogers coming in to our LChelp4rda@loc.gov account.

If there is agreement that this was just an oversight that we can quickly correct, LC will submit the Fast Track proposal.