

**To:** Joint Steering Committee for Revision of AACR  
**From:** Deirdre Kiorgaard, ACOC representative to JSC  
**Subject:** **Family names**

ACOC thanks the Library of Congress for this proposal to include family names as name headings, and we support the inclusion of family names within RDA.

**General comments**

ACOC would prefer not to constrain the treatment of family names in RDA by how they are tagged in MARC 21. ACOC notes that LC does not recommend combining family names with corporate names, but that the reasons for this recommendation have not been given. We consider that functionally, family names have greater similarity to corporate names as both involve groups of people acting as an entity. Treatment as a separate category from both personal and corporate names might be preferable unless a way can be found to incorporate them into the rules for corporate bodies.

ACOC notes that LC is not proposing that family names be made unique, although we would like to explore this further in future. ACOC agrees that the decision about what constitutes a family will be made in the context of the resource being described, but believe that 'family' could nevertheless be usefully defined within RDA.

ACOC considers that it is important that RDA reflects how these headings are to be used, and would like the definition and treatment of family names to be consistent with models such as FRAR.

**Revisions to rules at 21.1A and 21.4**

As noted in our general comments, ACOC questions the treatment of families as personal names.

**Revisions to rules at 21.5, 21.6, 21.7, 21.8, 21.29, 21.30,**

ACOC agrees with these revisions.

**Revisions to Chapter 22 and 26 rules**

As noted in our general comments, ACOC questions the treatment of families as personal names.