

TO: Joint Steering Committee for Development of RDA
FROM: John Attig, ALA representative
RE: Bible Uniform Titles

ALA confirms its agreement to the JSC decisions relating to Bible uniform titles.

ALA feels that these changes, although limited, do constitute a significant step towards removing the Christian bias from access points for the Bible. Given the complexity of the Biblical canons, this step may indeed be the only change that we can make, and we would not like to see this important improvement delayed while we explore what may well be insoluble problems.

ALA feels that the changes are well worth making in spite of the number of existing access points that would need to be changed.

In general, ALA is inclined to be willing to accept changes to existing instructions for access points when there is a principled reason for change and a positive benefit to be gained. We feel that libraries today are in a reasonably good position to cope with changes to controlled access points because of cooperative maintenance and centralized distribution of authority records. ALA welcomes the suggestion from the British Library (seconded by the Library of Congress) for a coordinated implementation that will maximize the impact of these factors.

ALA looks forward to further consideration of Bible uniform titles after the initial release of RDA.