

To: Joint Steering Committee for Development of RDA

From: Bill Leonard, CCC representative

Subject: **Colour Content (RDA 7.17)**

CCC thanks ALA for taking on the challenge of examining the differences in instructions for recording colour content. We cannot support either option as they do not present improvements over the existing text in RDA 7.17. The challenge is to find appropriate accommodation for an attribute that in common language is used as a modifier of a noun. There may be a third option to the two suggested, that is, to narrow the scope of 7.17, and add sub-elements to 3.6 Base Material and 3.7 Applied Material, if not to other places as well.

It appears that there may be a misapprehension that 7.17.1.3 is limited to illustrations. As 7.17.1.3 appears today, it applies to all content of the resource, not just the illustrative matter. This includes colour of the text in textual resources so, ALA's proposal would have us recording black and white for every book with black text on white pages.

ALA has not explained the rationale behind introducing a choice at 7.17.1.3 Recording Colour Content of to describe either the resource, or the content of the resource. The implications of this choice could be significant and deserve more consideration.

CCC has given consideration to the questions raised by ALA throughout the proposal.

Definition of colour, i.e. the exclusion of black and white cannot be justified by their not being primary colours or colours derived from primary colours. There are only three, or four, primary colours. In real life, primary colours are mixed with each other, and with shades of white and black to form colours of different shades, hues and intensities.

Spelling of colour: There is no need to add "(or color)" at every occurrence of the word "colour." The LC-PCC Policy Statement 7.17.1.3 expresses the preference for the American spelling.

Grey scale: Agree with retaining the exception to limit this to digital images.

Tinted and toned: ALA suggests that tinting and toning are attributes of the method of production of the colour content. Instruction 3.7 Applied Material already includes several materials that would change the colour content. CCC suggests that the processes of tinting and toning are not simply ones of changing the colour. These are processes of applying material to the resource. In some cases, this is done by a chemical process, and in others, by hand using pigments. Instruction 3.7 is the appropriate placement to record the application of tinting or toning material. If that tinting and toning material changed the colour of the resource, that could be noted in 3.7.1.4 Details of Applied Materials. Indeed, some of the examples already name the colours of the material applied to the resource.

Hand colouring: CCC suggests ALA consider 3.6 and 3.7 for manifestation-level hand colouring, restricting 3.21 to item-specific hand colouring.