

To: Joint Steering Committee for Development of RDA

From: Ebe Kartus, ACOC Representative

Subject: Using the mark of omission when recording titles (RDA 6.2)

ACOC thanks ALA for this proposal to address recording the title for a multipart monograph or serial work when the title includes words that may vary from part to part or issue to issue.

ACOC agrees that consistency between recording titles of manifestations in RDA chapter 2 and titles of works in chapter 6 is laudable, but also recognizes that these titles fulfil different user tasks. ACOC therefore believes that the guidelines for titles of manifestations and titles of works do not need to be aligned and does not support the proposed revisions.

ACOC has general concerns with how users interpret the mark of omission. ACOC would also like to see further exploration of possible technical issues in indexing arising from the use of the mark of omission for varying words when they occur at the beginning of a title. Although the proposed exception to exclude the varying words and to not use the mark of omission when varying words occur at the beginning of a title could allay indexing issues, it is also possible that the exclusion of both varying words and mark of omission could lead to preventable ambiguity.