To: Joint Steering Committee for Development of RDA

From: John Attig, ALA Representative

Subject: Revision of RDA 6.28.1.9, Additions to access points representing musical works with titles that are not distinctive

Background and Rationale

The following revision was submitted to ALA jointly on behalf of the NACO Music Project Advisory Committee and the Music Library Association (MLA).

The NACO Music Project Advisory Committee identified the following issue in the application of RDA 6.28.19. As written, the instruction does not require the addition of all of the elements listed in a–c ("add one or more"). Given the general principles in constructing access points, the implication is that catalogers would only add enough of these elements to break conflicts. The Committee believes that this would result in rarely recording key in an authorized access point.

This would be a significant break with AACR2 practice, where key was recorded when applicable, and this change would not serve users well since many works with non-distinctive titles are most familiar to users by key, (e.g., Schubert's Great C major symphony). Regular inclusion of this element in an authorized access point for non-distinctive titles will help to identify the work, even if it is not needed to distinguish between works.

Note that in the early 2009 version of this instruction, c) was preceded by "and/or." This was dropped by the time RDA was finalized, although the reasons behind this change do not appear to be documented.

Proposed revision:

6.28.1.9   **Additions to Access Points Representing Musical Works with Titles That Are Not Distinctive**

If the preferred title for the work (see 6.14.2) consists solely of the name of a type, or of two or more types, of composition, add ~~one or more of~~ the following to the access point representing the work (in this order), <u>as applicable</u>:

a) term indicating medium of performance (see 6.15)

b) a numeric designation (see 6.16)

c) key (see 6.17)

[the rest of the instruction omitted; no change]

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