

To: Joint Steering Committee for Development of RDA

From: Ebe Kartus, ACOC Representative

Subject: Post-nominal letters as Other Designation (Additional examples for RDA 9.6.1.9 and 9.19.1.7, and addition to Appendix E)

ACOC thanks the British Library for this proposal to revise the presentation of the post-nominal letters when used as Other Designation. However, ACOC does not support this proposal.

ACOC feels that when used to distinguish between different people with the same name, post-nominal letters should not be treated differently from other designations used for the same purpose.

Like ALA, ACOC is not sure whether it can be asserted that it is “not appropriate” to record post-nominal letters in parentheses. However, if JSC feels that there is a justification for this assertion, ACOC suggests that rather than making post-nominal letters an exception, it may be beneficial to reconsider the use of parentheses generally, when recording additions to access points. In an online environment, and with the capacity for more granularity of data, it may be timely to question whether parentheses continue to be necessary for separating data elements. ACOC also notes that the furthering of the ideas raised in DNB/Discussion/3 may have some impact here as it may reduce the amount of data needing to be recorded as “other designation”.

ACOC would welcome discussion on whether Saint should be considered a Title of the Person, rather than “Other designation”.