

To: Joint Steering Committee for Development of RDA
From: John Attig, ALA Representative
Subject: Field of activity (9.15) and Profession/Occupation (9.16)

This document incorporates decisions made by the Joint Steering Committee on November 1, 2011, and requires a JSC response on points #3 and #4 below by **December 19, 2011**.

General

The report of the U.S. RDA Test Coordinating Committee, 1.g.i. recommends:

Clarify distinctions between Field of activity of the person (RDA 9.15) and Profession or occupation (RDA 9.16) or merge the two elements; identify controlled vocabularies for these elements or the merged single element (MARC 372 and 374 fields).

With regard to the distinction between the two elements, the JSC believes that both elements should be retained, but that the distinction should be clarified. Specific revisions are given below.

With regard to vocabulary for the elements, the JSC believes that appropriate vocabularies exist and is not interested in developing RDA vocabularies specifically for these elements.

Specific revisions

The JSC approved the following revisions:

1. Revise the examples at RDA 9.15 so that they fields, rather than classes of persons [LC response]
2. Remove Field of activity of the person from the list of possible additions to an access point representing a person (RDA 9.19.1.1, 9.19.1.7, and 9.19.2.1) [LC response]
3. Add language to the instructions clarifying that Field of activity of the person contains the name of the field and that Profession or occupation contains the name of the class of persons engaged in the profession or occupation [ALA response; changes highlighted in yellow in the revision below]
4. Question: Should any of the examples from 9.19.1.7 [being deleted] be moved to 9.19.1.6? What should be the authorized access points for these persons?

9.15.1.3: Proposed revision

9.15.1.3 Recording the Fields of Activity of the Person

Record the field or fields of endeavour, area or areas of expertise, etc., in which the person is engaged or was engaged **by recording the name of the field.**

EXAMPLE

Anglo-Norman poetry

Preferred name recorded as: Thomas

~~Crow Indian chief~~

Preferred name recorded as: Spotted Horse

~~Biblical prophet~~

Preferred name recorded as: Isaiah

~~Owner of Dance news~~ Journalism

Preferred name recorded as: Gillespie, Helen

~~Stamp collector~~ collecting

Preferred name recorded as: Lang, Peter

~~Fire-eater~~

Preferred name recorded as: Powell, Robert

~~Lesbian rights activist~~

Preferred name recorded as: Martin, Del

~~Charity quiltmaker~~ Quiltmaking

Preferred name recorded as: Bilyeu, Michele

~~Paper airplane~~ airplanes hobbyist

Preferred name recorded as: Dewar, Andrew

~~Star trek fan site webmaster~~

Preferred name recorded as: Belgarath Silverthorn

~~Fiction writer~~ writing

~~Music critic~~ criticism

~~Consultant on science~~ Science vs. superstition

Preferred name recorded as: Haldeman, Philip

Indicate the source from which the information on field of activity was derived applying the instructions given under [8.12.](#)

9.15.1.3: Clean copy

9.15.1.3 Recording the Fields of Activity of the Person

Record the field or fields of endeavour, area or areas of expertise, etc., in which the person is engaged or was engaged by recording the name of the field.

EXAMPLE

Anglo-Norman poetry

Preferred name recorded as: Thomas

Journalism

Preferred name recorded as: Gillespie, Helen

Stamp collecting

Preferred name recorded as: Lang, Peter

Quiltmaking

Preferred name recorded as: Bilyeu, Michele

Paper airplanes

Preferred name recorded as: Dewar, Andrew

Fiction writing

Music criticism

Science vs. superstition

Preferred name recorded as: Haldeman, Philip

Indicate the source from which the information on field of activity was derived applying the instructions given under [8.12](#).

9.16.1.3: Proposed revision

9.16.1.3 Recording Professions or Occupations

Record the profession or occupation in which the person works or has worked, by recording the name of the class of persons engaged in the profession or occupation.

EXAMPLE

Notary

Preferred name recorded as: Johannes

Writer

Preferred name recorded as: River

Poet

Preferred name recorded as: Blue

Rapper

Preferred name recorded as: PSK-13

Disc jockey

Preferred name recorded as: D:Fuse

Musician

Preferred name recorded as: Big Hand

Composer

Preferred name recorded as: Butler, Jean

Tax collector

Preferred name recorded as: Hall, Daniel

Veterinarian

Preferred name recorded as: Orr, Marjorie

Architect

Preferred name recorded as: Hadid, Zaha

Author

Folklorist

Anthropologist

Preferred name recorded as: Hurston, Zora Neale

not Poetry

Music

Veterinary medicine

Architecture

Folklore

Anthropology

Indicate the source from which the information on profession or occupation was derived applying the instructions given under [8.12](#).

9.16.1.3: Clean copy

9.16.1.3

Recording Professions or Occupations

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Indicate the source from which the information on profession or occupation was derived applying the instructions given under [8.12](#).

9.19.1.1: Proposed revision

9.19.1.1 General Guidelines on Constructing Authorized Access Points to Represent Persons

When constructing an authorized access point to represent a person, use the preferred name for the person (see [9.2.2](#)) as the basis for the access point.

[EXAMPLE: unchanged]

Make additions to the name as instructed under [9.19.1.2](#)–[9.19.1.76](#), in that order, as applicable.

[EXAMPLE: unchanged]

Make the additions specified under [9.19.1.2](#) regardless of whether they are needed to distinguish the person from another person with the same name.

Make the additions specified under [9.19.1.3](#)–~~[9.19.1.7](#)~~ if they are needed to distinguish the person from another person with the same name.

[remainder of instruction unchanged]

9.19.1.1: Clean copy

9.19.1.1 **General Guidelines on Constructing Authorized Access Points to Represent Persons**

When constructing an authorized access point to represent a person, use the preferred name for the person (see [9.2.2](#)) as the basis for the access point.

[EXAMPLE: unchanged]

Make additions to the name as instructed under [9.19.1.2](#)–[9.19.1.6](#), in that order, as applicable.

[EXAMPLE: unchanged]

Make the additions specified under [9.19.1.2](#) regardless of whether they are needed to distinguish the person from another person with the same name.

Make the additions specified under [9.19.1.3](#)–[9.19.1.6](#) if they are needed to distinguish the person from another person with the same name.

[remainder of instruction unchanged]

9.19.1.7: Proposed deletion

~~9.19.1.7 **Field of Activity of the Person**~~

~~If none of the elements specified under [9.19.1.3](#) (date of birth and/or death), [9.19.1.4](#) (fuller form of name), [9.19.1.5](#) (period of activity of the person), or [9.19.1.6](#) (profession or occupation) are available to distinguish one access point from another, add a term indicating the field of activity of the person (see [9.15](#)).~~

~~EXAMPLE~~

~~Thomas (Anglo-Norman poet)~~

~~Spotted Horse (Crow Indian chief)~~

~~Isaiah (Biblical prophet)~~

~~Gillespie, Helen (Owner of Dance news)~~

~~Lang, Peter (Stamp collector)~~

~~Powell, Robert (Fire-eater)~~

9.19.2.1: Proposed revision

9.19.2.1 General Guidelines on Constructing Variant Access Points to Represent Persons

When constructing a variant access point to represent a person, use a variant name for the person (see [9.2.3](#)) as the basis for the access point.

[EXAMPLE: unchanged]

Make additions to the name, if they are considered to be important for identification, applying the instructions given under [9.19.1.2–9.19.1.76](#), as applicable.

[EXAMPLE: unchanged]

9.19.2.1: Clean copy

9.19.2.1 General Guidelines on Constructing Variant Access Points to Represent Persons

When constructing a variant access point to represent a person, use a variant name for the person (see [9.2.3](#)) as the basis for the access point.

[EXAMPLE: unchanged]

Make additions to the name, if they are considered to be important for identification, applying the instructions given under [9.19.1.2–9.19.1.6](#), as applicable.

[EXAMPLE: unchanged]