

To: RDA Steering Committee
From: NARDAC
Subject: Revision of two sets of condition and condition options for Corporate Body:
variant access point for corporate body

Abstract

NARDAC proposes moving one set of condition and condition options for Corporate Body: [variant access point for corporate body](#) that are currently under [Additional elements and designations in variant access points for corporate body](#) to [Format of base variant access points for corporate body](#). NARDAC believes that the new location is more appropriate since the instruction is about recording variant names and not about adding elements and designations in variant access points. The new location would be consistent with the organization in Person: [variant access point for person](#) where the comparable instructions are located under [Format of base variant access points for person](#). NARDAC also proposes revising the wording to adapt it to the new location.

Background

The instructions for Corporate Body: [variant access point for corporate body](#) include the two following sets of condition options under [Additional elements and designations in variant access points for corporate body](#):

CONDITION

A value of Corporate Body: [authorized access point for corporate body](#) includes:

1. a value of Corporate Body: [authorized access point for corporate body](#) for a higher or related body
2. a value that is based on Corporate Body: [preferred name of corporate body](#) of a subordinate body.

CONDITION OPTION

Include a value that is based on Corporate Body: [preferred name of corporate body](#) that is recorded directly.

Record only if the name might reasonably be searched in that variant form.

CONDITION

A value of Corporate Body: [authorized access point for corporate body](#) includes:

1. a value of Corporate Body: [authorized access point for corporate body](#) for a higher or related body
2. a value that is based on Corporate Body: [preferred name of corporate body](#) for a subordinate body that does not suggest subordination.

CONDITION OPTION

Include a value of Corporate Body: [preferred name of corporate body](#) for a subordinate body whose name does not suggest subordination directly.

The first condition option set comes from instruction [11.2.3.3](#) in original RDA (General Guidelines on Recording Variant Names for Corporate Bodies), which is about recording variant names: “Record as a variant name a direct form of the name if the preferred name is recorded as a subdivision of a higher or related body. Record only if the name might reasonably be searched in that variant form.”

Original RDA does not have an equivalent instruction for the second condition/option, only a set of [examples at 11.2.3.7](#) that illustrate the situation:

Name of a Subordinate Body Whose Name Does Not Suggest Subordination Recorded Directly

Burdette Tomlin Memorial Hospital Auxiliary

Form recorded as preferred name: Burdette Tomlin Memorial Hospital. Auxiliary

Friends of the Ellen Clarke Bertrand Library

Form recorded as preferred name: Ellen Clarke Bertrand Library. Friends

But like the first condition/option, it is an instruction on recording names. Neither instruction is about adding elements and designations to variant access points.

The instructions are very similar. The first one states a general principle while the second is a particular application of the principle. In the Anglo-American tradition, the second one represents the only case where such a variant access point would be made, i.e. when the name of the subordinate body does not suggest subordination. NARDAC does not believe that both are needed. We suggest keeping the first one only so as to leave agencies free to develop their own policy for its application. We find the second condition option too restrictive and recommend its deletion; the application of the instruction should be left to agencies or to cataloger's judgement. We also suggest revising the wording of the condition and options for clarity. We suggest wording that avoids "includes" in the condition and that states that the preferred name that is the base of the authorized access point is not in direct order. NARDAC recommends adapting the boilerplate phrase that was used in Person: [variant access point for person](#), i.e. Record a name in direct order with no amendments.

NARDAC also believes that the instruction should be moved under [Format of base variant access points for corporate body](#). NARDAC believes that this location is more appropriate since the instruction is about recording variant names and not about adding elements and designations in variant access points. We note that comparable instructions for Person: [variant access point for person](#) are located under [Format of base variant access points for person](#).

Impact statements

Impact of proposed changes on users

None for most users. Policy makers will need to consider policies in relation to the new options. This should not impact translators significantly, since the added wording is similar to existing wording.

Impact of proposed changes on policy statement writers

Policy statement writers will have to reevaluate and change the location of existing policy statements for the options.

Impact of proposed changes on catalogers

Relocating the instructions will reduce confusion to catalogers who might waste time trying to understand how the instructions relate to additional elements and designations in variant access points for corporate body. Revising the wording will convey the meaning of the instruction more clearly. It will also make the instructions available in the location where they are more likely to be sought by catalogers.

Impact of proposed changes on legacy data

None.

Impact of proposed changes on RDA

Confusion about the instructions will be eliminated and clarity will be improved.

Proposal

Recommendation 1. Delete the two sets of conditions and condition options under [RDA 36.18.34.57 Additional elements and designations in variant access points for corporate body](#)

Marked-up copy only:

CONDITION

A value of Corporate Body: [authorized access point for corporate body](#) includes:

1. a value of Corporate Body: [authorized access point for corporate body](#) for a higher or related body

~~2. a value that is based on Corporate Body: [preferred name of corporate body](#) of a subordinate body.~~

CONDITION OPTION

~~Include a value that is based on Corporate Body: [preferred name of corporate body](#) that is recorded directly.~~

~~Record only if the name might reasonably be searched in that variant form.~~

CONDITION

A value of Corporate Body: [authorized access point for corporate body](#) includes:

1. a value of Corporate Body: [authorized access point for corporate body](#) for a higher or related body

~~2. a value that is based on Corporate Body: [preferred name of corporate body](#) for a subordinate body that does not suggest subordination.~~

CONDITION OPTION

~~Include a value of Corporate Body: [preferred name of corporate body](#) for a subordinate body whose name does not suggest subordination directly.~~

Recommendation 2. Add a condition and condition option under [RDA 27.35.52.19](#) [Format of base variant access points for corporate body](#).

Clean copy only:

CONDITION

A value of Corporate Body: [authorized access point for corporate body](#) is for a corporate body that is subordinate or related to a higher or related corporate body.

A value of Corporate Body: [authorized access point for corporate body](#) begins with a value of Corporate Body: [authorized access point for corporate body](#) for a higher or related corporate body.

CONDITION OPTION

Record a name of a subordinate or related corporate body in direct order with no amendments.