Experimenting with Controlled Vocabulary: Using the Cataloging Lab to Shape LCSH

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#CatalogingLab

Carterette Series Webinar
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About Violet
Why?

How?

What?
What would you do if someone in your library came to you and said, “Hey, why isn’t [such-and-such] an LC subject heading yet? Can you make that happen?”
**SACO**: Subject Authority Cooperative program (is a part of PCC)

**PCC**: Program for Cooperative Cataloging

**PSD**: Policy and Standards Division of the Library of Congress
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Why?

1. LC can’t do it alone
2. All of us are responsible for the vocabulary we use
3. The more people involved, the more diversity of thought is introduced to headings
4. Because it’s fun!
5. [secret ulterior motive]
How?

The submission process

The review process
The submission process

Identify need → Research topic → Formulate record → Submit proposal
The review process

1. Receive proposal
2. Make decision
3. Published approved list

6-10 weeks
What do you need to know to research and formulate an LCSH proposal?

How?

- SACO Participants’ Manual (300 pages)
- SHM = Subject Heading Manual
- MARC (for authority records)
- subject expertise
DON'T PANIC
What?

cataloginglab.org
The submission process:

1. Identify need
2. Research topic
3. Formulate record
4. Submit proposal
Cultural appropriation

University of Washington iSchool students Chris Lu and Katharine Roche-Sudar have been collaborating on a proposal to add a new LCSH for Cultural appropriation. Below is the result of their hard work!

Submitted as below March 7 2018

150 _ $a Cultural appropriation

550 _ $a Cultural property


670 _ $a The ethics of cultural appropriation, 2012: $b back cover (Because cultural appropriation is “usually seen as being inextricably bound with the oppression of minority cultures, the topic itself is often controversial and inspires passionate debates.”)

670 _ $a World Heritage Encyclopedia, c2016, viewed online March 2 2018: $b definition of Cultural appropriation (“Cultural appropriation is a sociological concept which views the adoption or use of elements of

Meta

Register
Log in
Entries RSS
Almost all of the information you need to propose a heading is available on the LC site!

Process for Adding and Revising LCSH:
https://www.loc.gov/aba/cataloging/subject/lcsh-process.html

LCSH home: https://www.loc.gov/aba/cataloging/subject/
Find the pdf form to propose or revise a heading!
Check out the summary of decisions!
See the lists of the most recently approved headings!
Find the most relevant Subject Heading Manuals!

SACO home: https://www.loc.gov/aba/pcc/saco/index.html
Thrill to all 300 pages of the SACO Participants’ Manual!
Be inspired by all the SACO funnel groups & consider joining one!
Your action plan:

- Explore resources on the LC website
- Be on the lookout for your users’ unmet needs
- Create an account on the Cataloging Lab and start researching
- Comment on someone else’s heading
- Delve into the Cataloging Lab’s suggested headings at cataloginglab.org/suggested-headings
Secret ulterior motive:

AUTONOMY!
Questions? Comments?

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