

To: Peter Fletcher, PCC representative to CC:DA
CC: Les Hawkins, CONSER coordinator
CC:DA

FROM: John Attig, ALA representative to the JSC

SUBJECT: JSC response relating to the CONSER Standard Record

In December 2006 the Joint Steering Committee was asked (via the LC representative) to advise whether differences to AACR2 in the CONSER standard record were in line with what was proposed for RDA. In that month the RDA Editor prepared an analysis of the CONSER standard record vis-à-vis RDA <<http://www.collectionscanada.ca/jsc/working2.html#ed-1>>

At the April 2007 meeting, the JSC decided on a policy not to respond to requests to rule on the compatibility of any existing rules or practices while RDA is still under development. Although the JSC still entertains proposals to revise provisions of AACR2 for inclusion in RDA, decisions on those proposals are tentative until the text has been finalized. Some decisions relating to the issues raised by CONSER were made at the meeting in Ottawa, but the JSC cannot be certain that these decisions will not be modified before RDA is published.

The practices announced for the CONSER standard record were framed within the context of the existing standard (AACR2), and it is premature to define any cataloging practices with regard to the draft text of RDA. The JSC has not yet discussed or made final decisions about a number of relevant matters. For example, the JSC has yet to consider all of the implications of the transition from uniform titles to names of works and expressions. RDA is an evolving standard, and the JSC is not willing to pre-empt later decisions.

There will be further opportunities to assess RDA drafts as they are made available, and the PCC is welcome to submit comments on RDA in relation to issues of concern to CONSER.

The JSC does consider that the CONSER standard record raises issues that it would be useful to discuss in terms of the development of RDA, and plans to do this at the October 2007 meeting, based on the Editor's analysis cited above.