

## US RDA Test and SACO

The US RDA Test begins on October 1, 2010. What might users of the LC/NACO Authority File and the LC/SACO Authority File begin to see after this date? What impact might the RDA Test have on existing SACO workflows?

The US RDA Test begins on October 1, 2010. From October 1 to December 31, 2010, RDA test partners will be creating RDA authority records in the LC/NACO Authority File. LC/NACO Authority File users may encounter RDA authority records (008/10 value "z" and 040 \$e rda) after October 1.

Although the US RDA Test will have no direct impact on existing SACO workflows, SACO members should be aware in particular of two types of RDA name authority records that may be encountered after October 1, and the relationship between these two types of authority records and subject cataloging.

1) Under RDA 9.0 and LC's expansion of the scope stated there, non-human and fictitious entities may be considered creators, contributors, etc. if they are presented on the resources as being intellectually responsible for works, expressions, manifestations, and items. Therefore, RDA name authority records may be established using the instructions for authorized access points for persons during the US RDA Test period for these entities. Currently, headings for non-human and fictitious entities are created in the LC/SACO Authority File and may not be used for non-subject access points in bibliographic records.

SACO members not officially participating in the US RDA Test should continue to submit LCSH proposals for non-human and fictitious entities. There is no effect on existing SACO workflows in this case.

If a SACO member encounters an RDA name authority record created during the test period for a non-human or fictitious entity, the preferred name in that authority record may be used as a subject added entry in a bibliographic record, or the SACO member may choose to submit a SACO proposal following current LCSH practice for non-human or fictitious entities. If LC implements RDA next year, the LCSH headings that duplicate name authority records for such entities will be removed (testers will be asked to identify duplicates between names and subjects).

2) Under RDA 8.1.2, family names may also be considered creators, contributors, etc., if the family is presented on the resource as being responsible. RDA name authority records (008/10 value "z" and 040 \$e rda) for families may appear in the LC/NACO Authority File after October 1, 2010. These RDA authority records are not valid for subject usage in bibliographic records. An RDA authorized access point for a family is for a distinct family, compared to the general subject heading

applying to many families. Because of the difference in approach between RDA and LCSH, the RDA family name headings will be coded “b” (not appropriate) in 008/15 (Heading use-subject added entry), and they will have a 667 field that indicates the heading is not valid for use as a subject entry.

SACO members not officially participating in the US RDA Test should continue to submit LCSH proposals for family names. There is no effect on existing SACO workflows in this case. SACO members participating in the US RDA Test should still submit LCSH proposals for the general subject heading. An RDA record would have a distinctive family name in the 100 field and a general LCSH heading in the 600 field.

If a SACO member encounters an RDA name authority record created during the test period for a family name, the preferred name in that authority record may not be used as a subject added entry in a bibliographic record. If there is no corresponding LCSH heading for the family name, a SACO proposal should be submitted. If LC implements RDA, the use of distinctive family names in RDA will not have any impact on general subject headings for families in LCSH.

Questions about the RDA Test?

There is general information on the US RDA Test itself at <http://www.loc.gov/bibliographic-future/rda/>

There is Library of Congress US RDA Test documentation posted on the Library of Congress Documentation for the RDA (*Resource Description and Access*) Test website <http://www.loc.gov/catdir/cpsd/RDAtest/rdatest.html>

Questions about RDA and about this documentation should be directed to [LChelp4rda@loc.gov](mailto:LChelp4rda@loc.gov).