

2025-10-18 Quarterly Office Hour

Amber Jones: Proposals for non-SACO members

- Entering proposals on ClassWeb when you are not part of SACO or a funnel.

Discussion Outcome:

- Non-SACO members can download the [LCSH proposal form](#), fill out the form, and email it to policy@loc.gov.
- Melanie Polutta advises that the subject line in your email should be “classification proposal” or “subject proposal” or “classification and subject proposal.”

Staci Ross: SACO membership

- As subscribers to ClassWeb and NACO authorization, we are able to enter proposals in classweb.org/Proposal and theoretically could submit by emailing sacco@loc.gov. However, we are not a SACO institution and terms we are considering submitting have no affiliation with existing funnels.
- Even if we can technically submit proposals, should we? Would LC prefer a different process be followed for non-SACO/non-funnel proposals? And if so, how would or should statistics be counted?

Discussion Outcome:

- If your library is already a PCC Library, you can send a request to join SACO so that you can submit proposals through ClassWeb Plus. See <https://www.loc.gov/aba/pcc/saco/join.html> Keep in mind that SACO expectations are that a SACO member produce 12 proposals per year.

Michelle Cronquist: Proposal to change Problem children to At-risk children and related headings

- I've thought for a long time about trying to replace the subject heading Problem children. The "problem children" terminology is imprecise and out of date. In 2022, Problem youth was changed to At-risk youth.
- I wonder if Problem children should be changed to At-risk children to mirror that change, or to Children with behavior disorders (as the scope note suggests), or something else.
- This would affect 19 LCSH records, and I'm happy to do the work to enter these proposals if we can find a solution that people can agree on.” This would follow the change made to Problem youth to At-risk youth.
- How many proposals needed? Is this a full-size project?

Discussion outcome:

- Michelle Cronquist, Amy Phillips, Oksana Osborne, and will identify headings, create a work-flow for the reviewing and submission of proposals.

Oksana Osborne: Proposals for post office buildings

- In December 2022, my coworker told me that GPO stopped proposing individual post office buildings years before, at LC's request. We currently have at least 4 post offices that do not

have headings, and we're wondering if we should submit proposals for them. Would you like for us to resume proposing all named post offices or continue our current practice of proposing none? We could also split the difference by proposing only those that need UFs to represent name changes (e.g., sh 96010150) or connect 'unique' variant names (e.g., sh 00009337) but not simplified/abbreviated names (e.g., sh2001004727)."

- GPO has a regular need for LCSH headings for post offices for their resources. They were requested to cease making these proposals at a certain point. However, post offices belong in LCSH and it is unknown what the argument was for requesting that they cease.
- One problem is that large number of repetitive proposals that might end up in a backlog. Potential solutions: move post offices to NAF?

Discussion Outcome:

- Buildings should stay in the subject file because they can't act as corporate body.

Oksana Osborne: Aircraft as a heading

- There is no LCSH for Aircraft, despite it being used as a component in many headings. See NTs under Airplanes. Some of the NTs that use the word "aircraft" encompass helicopters and such, though Airplanes is their only BT (e.g., sh2009008725).
- Would it be a good idea to change sh 85049596 to Aircraft and adjust NTs accordingly in a project? It would most likely involve moving some of the NTs out from under Airplanes to be directly under Aircraft instead."
- Is Aircraft as a concept covered by Flying machines?

Discussion outcome:

- More research needs to be done to determine the difference.

Allison Bailund: Perpetrator as a heading

- I have a work about perpetrators in comics, citation: Manea, D. Reframing the perpetrator in contemporary comics : on the importance of the strange, 2022: \$b p. 5 (this book explores our ethical engagement with the figure of the perpetrator... and the ethical space such an engagement calls into being...) summary ("This book foregrounds the figure of the perpetrator in a selection of British, American, and Canadian comics and explores questions related to remembrance, justice, and historical debt") \$w (OCoLC)1338670283
- I have found other evidence such as: Journal of perpetrator research, v. 4, n. 2, 2022: \$b Introd. ("This introduction to the special issue on 'Perpetrators in Comics' notes a growing corpus of comics that deal with genocide and mass violence, many of which include increasingly nuanced and complex depictions of the figure of the perpetrator. The introduction explores scholarship on the representation of perpetrators in comics") I have also found some supporting evidence for the term in literature as well, McGlothlin, E. H. The mind of the Holocaust perpetrator in fiction and nonfiction, 2021 \$b (summary: "examines texts that portray the inner experience of Holocaust perpetrators and thus transform them from archetypes of evil into complex psychological and moral subjects... The first focuses on portraits of real-life perpetrators in nonfictional interviews and analyses from the 1960s and 1970s. In part two, McGlothlin investigates more recent fictional texts that imagine the perspective of their invented perpetrator-narrators") but I'm not sure it's enough to truly

establish the term perpetrator (which would have to be established for the hierarchy) since there doesn't seem to be a full consensus on what constitutes a perpetrator.

- Here are some definitions: Encyclopedia of human rights in the United States, 2011 \$b p. 179 (Perpetrator: A person or state who commits a human rights violation. The term is sometimes used to describe one who causes such a violation to occur through others... A perpetrator can be an individual, group or state, but the term usually refers to individuals)
- SAGE glossary of the social and behavioral sciences, 2009 p. 377 (Perpetrator An individual who has committed an offense. While this term generally refers to engagement in criminal offenses, it can also allude to other forms of offending)
- Dictionary of law, 2007 \$b (Perpetrator: A person who does something harmful or dishonest, especially a person who commits a crime)
- I feel like the definitions make it clear that it's not quite the same as criminals, but I wonder if it's something that LC might not want to establish since perpetrator studies are relatively new.
- Also, most of the books discussing perpetrators in literature appear to be about the Holocaust. I've been sitting on this one for a few months since I keep debating if I should propose it or assign another term instead so I thought I'd submit and see if LC wants to weigh in. More research here:
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1UMVkuP20J9i95FZPSpBbDB5UNno41R0FuiA8Xr6omo/edit> (should allow people with the link to comment)

Discussion Outcome:

- One option is to add Perpetrator with a qualifier to indicate the type of perpetrator as a UF to the headings **Criminals** and/or **War criminals** or simply assign **Criminals** or **War criminals** to the work being cataloged.