Subject Editorial meetings change announcement

June 3, 2024

As the Policy, Training, and Cooperative Programs Division (PTCP) continues to confront the many major projects it must manage, it also strives to evaluate its current practices to see if they are truly productive in achieving its goals. The rapidly approaching workload of the LCAP (Library of Congress Access Platform) implementation and the hiring of the program specialist for working on the Indigenous subject headings are just two of the major projects that contribute to this re-evaluation. As a result, PTCP wishes to change the frequency and focus of the monthly Subject Editorial meetings.

Currently, the Editorial meetings focus primarily on the headings for each monthly list. Instead, we plan to move from monthly meetings to quarterly meetings (March/June/September/December) that can be used to discuss broader topics for change within Library of Congress Subject Headings (LCSH) and Library of Congress Classification (LCC). For example, we would like to pursue wider discussions of how LCSH can change as we move toward linked data, discuss potential projects to improve terms within the vocabulary, or propose updates to the documentation. It is of primary importance to PTCP to maintain an open channel for communication with the community, and we intend these meetings to facilitate that. We hope that members of the community will propose topics that could be discussed at these meetings, in addition to our own topics. Also, if anyone wishes to discuss a particular proposal on a list that is still in process, they can request that the topic be added to the agenda.

The tentative lists for LCSH and LCC will continue to function on a monthly schedule, with announcements sent out when they are available for comment, and a deadline for comments to be received. The email list comments@loc.gov will be the best way to express opinions on a timely basis for a specific list, as the policy specialists monitor this email account for comments. Approved lists will continue to be issued as monthly lists.

This change will be implemented following the June 2024 Editorial meeting, which will take place as previously scheduled. The first quarterly Editorial meeting will be scheduled for September 20, 2024. A rolling list of potential agenda topics will be maintained; however, just because a topic has been proposed does not mean it will automatically be placed on the next agenda.