

SCS Task Group on Evaluation Guidelines for Non-Latin Script References in Name Authority Records

Background:

Following the Standing Committee on Applications' [Report on Non-Latin Script Cross-Reference Coding Practice in NACO Name Authority File](#) (2022) and the Standing Committee on Standards' [Policy Recommendations on Non-Latin Script Cross-Reference Special Coding Practice in the LC/NACO Name Authority File](#) (2023), the PCC has agreed to end the practice of requiring NARs containing non-Latin script references to be coded as "unevaluated" and to form a task group to develop evaluation guidelines. Though SCS originally proposed that this new practice begin on August 15, 2023, SCS subsequently decided to defer implementation of the new practice until the new task group can complete its work and recommend a new "Day One."

The SCS and SCA reports, along with the earlier [PCC White Paper on Issues Related to Non-Latin Characters in Name Authority Records](#) (2007) raised a number of issues related to evaluation of non-Latin script references, and suggest there may be a need for additional guidelines, best practices, and strategies to support catalogers in evaluating non-Latin references when creating or revising records. Questions that have been raised include:

- What does "evaluation" mean, and does it mean something different for non-Latin script references than it does for Latin-script references?
- Should there be separate guidelines for non-Latin script references and Latin script references, or do they need to be aligned?
- Are the varying practices in formulation of qualifiers and dates in non-Latin access points in bibliographic records, including those formulated according to the [PCC Guidelines for Creating Bibliographic Records in Multiple Character Sets](#), acceptable or unacceptable as references in evaluated NARs?
- Is there any need to indicate a particular reference in an original script as "preferred," and if so, how?
- Are non-established forms of elements in variants for hierarchical corporate names and name/title NARs acceptable or unacceptable as non-Latin references in evaluated NARs?

Charge:

The SCS Task Group on Evaluation Guidelines for Non-Latin Script References in Name Authority Records is charged to:

- Consider and respond to the above questions and other issues and recommendations as raised in the [PCC White Paper](#) and [SCA](#) and [SCS](#) reports
- Survey and communicate with stakeholders in the non-Latin script NACO funnels and cataloging communities, to identify existing guidelines and best practices; to determine gaps, needs, and desired outcomes; and to understand the extent to which consensus and alignment of practice across script-based cataloging communities is possible or desirable
- Develop and propose guidelines needed to support evaluation, formulation, and revision of non-Latin script references in Name Authority Records, including supporting documentation (such as FAQ, examples, or training materials, consulting with the Standing Committee on Training (SCT) as needed)
- Make recommendations regarding timeline and strategies for evaluation and updating of existing records where appropriate (for example: establish a “Day One” for implementation; suggest coordinated projects; identify categories of records amenable to machine processing)

PCC Strategic Directions (2023-):

SD 2.3: Enable the ongoing effective use of Resource Description and Access (RDA) by a broad community of metadata practitioners with varying levels of experience and training

SD 6.3.2: Investigate and implement strategies to recruit more diverse membership, including utilizing PCC funnels as talent pools

SD 2.5.1: Ensure that the PCC considers the intended benefits to the end user when developing new policies

Time Frame:

Date charged: August 9, 2023

Date preliminary report due: October 16, 2023

Date final report due: March 1, 2024

Reports to:

SCS

Roster:

Co-chairs:

Iman Dagher (University of California, Los Angeles), Representative for Standing Committee on Standards, Arabic NACO Funnel, and ALA/Core Committee on Cataloging: Asian and African Materials

Shi Deng (University of California, San Diego), Representative for CJK NACO Funnel

Members:

Erica Chang (University of Hawai'i at Mānoa), Representative for CJK NACO Funnel Reference Project

Bob Maxwell (Brigham Young University), Representative for Greek script, NACO trainers, and NARDAC

Adam Schiff (University of Washington), Representative for NACO trainers and NARDAC

Jasmin Shinohara (University of Pennsylvania), Representative for Hebraica NACO Funnel

Naomi Shiraishi (University of California, Berkeley), Representative for CEAL Committee on Technical Processing

Larisa Walsh (University of Chicago), Representative for ACRL/ESS Slavic Cataloging and Metadata Committee

Jessalyn Zoom (Library of Congress, Acquisitions and Bibliographic Access Directorate, Asian and Middle Eastern Division), Representative for Library of Congress and ALA-LC Romanization Review Board

Final Report Transmittal & Tracking Sheet:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1yq6B41Z0N59YCMXRfPiOCBI8q-Wx63Rt/edit>