AASLIG Report - June 2023

Officers

- Erica Bruchko (Emory University) continues to serve as Subject Chair.
- Michelle Cronquist (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill) continues to serve as Cataloging Chair.
- Staci Ross (University of Pittsburgh) stepped down as Cataloging Co-Chair in March 2023; she will continue to serve as a member.
- Catrina Davis (Emory University) stepped down as Coordinator in March 2023; she will continue to serve as a member.
- Kaylin Blount (University of Pennsylvania) began serving as Coordinator in April 2023.

New headings added

Treshani Perera (University of Kentucky) reached out to the Funnel in February 2022 about changing “African American universities and colleges” to “Historically Black colleges and universities.” As discussed in our 2022 report, we decided instead to propose new subject headings, and the following were approved:

- Historically Black colleges and universities
- Historically Black colleges and universities (children’s)
- Art in Historically Black colleges and universities
- Music in historically Black colleges and universities
- Historically Black theological seminaries

“African American universities and colleges” was also updated to remove HBCU references and add references for “Predominantly Black institutions” and “PBIs.”

There were also some new headings added as part of the Slaves → Enslaved persons project (see below).

Changed headings

Slaves → Enslaved persons (and associated changes)

In early 2022, the Funnel partnered with Rowena Griem (Yale University) to work on this change. In March 2023, the Library of Congress said that the base change of Slaves →
Enslaved persons would be made. A project team was formed in spring 2022, led by Rowena and Lauren Reno (Duke University), to research the many other terms containing the word “slave(s)” and made recommendations to the Library of Congress.

The base change of Slaves → Enslaved persons was made along with many other related changes. The more complicated situations were as follows:

- Fugitive slaves: We could not determine a better term, so we left this as is for now.
- Galley slaves: We proposed canceling this term and adding the term “Galley rowers” to replace it. The Library of Congress decided to keep “Galley slaves” but also to add “Galley rowers” as a new term.
- White slave traffic/White slavery: These are see references for “Human trafficking.” We proposed adding the qualifier (Human trafficking) to clarify these terms, which the Library of Congress accepted.
- Slave trade/Slave traders: We could not find an agreed-upon replacement term for these, so we left them as is.
- Slaveholders: We could not find an agreed-upon replacement term, but we proposed a new term for “Enslavers” as a broader term to this, which was accepted.
- Slavery: We considered proposing a change to “Enslavement” but decided that “Slavery” remains the preferred term.

The changes were made to LCSH in March 2023. Full list: 
https://classweb.org/approved-subjects/2212a.html

Proposals in progress

New proposals
Atlanta Race Massacre, Atlanta, Ga., 1906 (submitted to the Library of Congress, scheduled for the July 2023 list)
Black towns
Racial violence, Race massacres

Change proposals
Racially mixed people → Multiracial people
- These were submitted to the Library of Congress on March 29, but we are still waiting for them to be scheduled on a monthly list.
- We also proposed a change from Miscegenation → Miscegenation (Racism).
- We met and coordinated with the Latin American and Indigenous Peoples of the Americas Funnel Project (LAIPA) and members of the Library of Congress on updates to “Miscegenation,” “Mestizaje,” and others.
Outreach and presentations

- Work continues on our LibGuide and Library of Congress page to get them up to date with our current work.
- “There’s no Library of Congress Subject Heading for the Middle Passage or the Great Migration? : African American Subject Headings and the Remediation of LCSH,” panel at ACRL Conference, March 17, 2023 (Erica, Michelle, Glenda Alvin (Tennessee State University), Jean Cooper (University of Virginia), Deidre Thompson (Maryland Institute College of Art))
  - This was a very successful outreach effort to a group of people who aren’t as familiar with our work and LCSH improvement work in general. We had 100+ attendees who asked a lot of great questions. We asked attendees to fill out an assessment form, and several expressed interest in getting involved with our work.