

MORE Bibliographic Records and Standards Committee September 13, 2021 meeting information

6. Genre headings for consideration

Resume discussion of commonly used genre headings that could be applied to both fiction and non-fiction; possibly review list of Local Genre Headings for updates.

7. BiblioCore groupings: best practices

Review what happens when a record or records are flagged under debug groupings and question if this is something we should be using/is there a better way to report this?

8. Award note responsibilities

Award search function is only available in BiblioCore and cannot be accessed in the Classic Catalog or Sierra. Do we need these in the records/do we need to reassign these responsibilities?

9. Series numbering: sources and clean-up

Series information is both valuable and inconsistent in the MORE catalog. How should catalogers determine series numbering when sources disagree? How can the group best work together to improve series information?

10. Changing subject headings

Discuss change of Illegal Alien / Illegal Aliens / Illegal Alien Children / Illegal Alien Women to the more tolerant, less divisive heading of noncitizen or undocumented immigrant/immigrants.

- Alien is a term that often focuses on something/someone that does not belong to or in the environment or place in which they or it is found. See below for supportive materials of this perspective:

Illegal Aliens vs noncitizen or undocumented immigrant:

Harvard Library isn't the first to drop the phrase, but it does have the largest collection of affected items of any single library.

More than 8,000 items previously tagged with "alien" or "illegal alien" now have a subject heading of "noncitizen" or "undocumented immigrant."

The task force used some of the same reasoning as other libraries and the Associated Press, which made similar decisions in recent years:

Only actions, not people, can be illegal, and the term "alien" in this context is confusing, othering, and outdated.

<https://news.harvard.edu/gazette/story/newsplus/harvard-library-ends-use-of-subject-heading-illegal-alien/> (Article from which the above was copied)

<https://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/2020/09/01/conscientious-cataloging/>

<https://www.librarianshipstudies.com/2020/04/controversies-in-library-of-congress.html>