Good morning. I’m here to give you an update on Music Discovery Requirements work. I’ll begin with brief background and history, then focus on our current and planned work and opportunities for input.
The 2012 MDR followed in a tradition of music-specific ILS recommendations. The MDR is freely available online via the MLA website and consists of recommendations for those creating or guiding implementation of discovery interfaces that will include music – that is, musical works (scores and recordings) rather than writings about music, which present fewer music-specific concerns. Indexing and display recommendations for MARC and other metadata formats are concrete tools, especially system developers and administrators.
Many major changes have occurred since the MDR was published in April 2012. Today, RDA is implemented and solidly here, and work now is underway on incorporating IFLA-LRM into RDA. The LCMPT and LCGFT vocabularies are both in use. BIBFRAME is at version 2.0 and linked data is increasingly a “real thing” used in actual production implementations. In addition, less dramatic developments have occurred with MARC and other metadata schema. Discovery interfaces have continued to evolve, and the features which were brand-new in 2012 are now commonplace. To make the MDR useful, we needed to reflect these changes in our recommendations, as well as make other improvements based on four years of use.
To this end, MLA’s CMC and ETSC convened the MDR Update Task Force, charged to update the MDR, consider technology issues, and set a plan in place for ongoing maintenance.
I’m thankful to chair a hard-working task force of thoughtful, knowledgeable librarians. Some are in the room today.

MUSIC DISCOVERY REQUIREMENTS UPDATE TASK FORCE MEMBERS

- Nara Newcomer, University of Missouri-Kansas City, Chair
- Anna Alfed LoPrete, Indiana University
- Rebecca Belford, University at Buffalo
- Jessica Harvey, University of South Carolina
- Christopher Holden, Library of Congress
- Keith Knop, Florida State University
- Nancy Lorimer, Stanford University
- Karen Peters, Bates College
- Patricia Sasser, Furman University, webmaster
This timeline shows our work to date and projected. In a little over a semester, we have nearly completed our first draft revision and will be sharing it for feedback this spring and early summer, with a target completion in August 2017.

So, whenever someone tells me about a revision or update project, I always want to know...
What’s changing? And, what does it mean to me?
The overall philosophy and organization of the MDR is not changing dramatically, because our user needs haven’t. However, our systems and standards have, so this is where the changes happen.
The Music Discovery Requirements addresses various attributes and relationships of musical works, organizing them according to FRBR. This slide shows the organization, with new sections in red.

In the MDR, each section includes a prose discussion, followed by indexing and display recommendations. In general, the philosophy of the prose discussion (ex. user needs regarding finding works by title) has stayed the same. Nonetheless, we’ve extensively re-written many of the prose sections have been extensively re-written to reflect and explore new possibilities.

We have extensively reworked several sections that had no name changes, including:
Highlight areas that received extensive work –
Medium of Performance
Genre/Form
Topical Subjects
Geographic Area (and Ethnic/National Group)
Format of Notated Music
Authority records (to reflect implementation and expanded understanding of linked data)
Searching: Alphabetical and Keyword (to reflect implementation and expanded understanding of linked data)

As in 2012, we kept in mind large existing bodies of data that employ past practices.

In particular, we have shifted the focus to RDA as primary, with significant considerations for AACR2 legacy data.

Indexing and display recommendations make up the second half of each section. We have thoroughly updated indexing and display recommendations to reflect current standards.

(Also some rearranging of subsections from MDR 1, not indicated here)

Finally, we added a new section to discuss the metadata schema included in the MDR. Each schema received a concise 1-2 paragraph overall description and its particular music-related challenges. We anticipate this section will be an additional help to developers for understanding the high-level implications of creating a discovery system for music materials encoded in each schema.
To talk a little more about the schema, we did make several changes to the schema included in the MDR. Experience and investigation showed that CDWA Lite, VRA Core, and EAD were less appropriate for music materials, and we added PBCORE, EBUCore, and, to the extend feasible, BIBFRAME. For all schema that remain, we updated the indexing and display recommendations to the current version.
We dropped Appendix A, which was basically just a differently – and less usefully - organized version of Appendix B and renamed the remaining appendixes.
How can you keep up on our work going forward? Watch MLA-L and other listservs for calls for public comment on drafts. You can also share feedback and suggestions at any time. We are especially interested in hearing your ideas for changes and additions to the MDR and to hear about how you’ve used it.

We’ll also post drafts and the final version to the Music Discovery Resources pages on the MLA web site, where you can already find the 2012 version.