

DCRM-MSS report, SAA Description Section, August 2012, submitted by Diane Ducharme:

DCRM-MSS is an editorial team formed by the Bibliographic Standards Committee of the Rare Book and Manuscript Section of ACRL/ALA, charged with developing a descriptive standard for individual modern (post1600) manuscripts as one of the DCRM suite of manuals. The hope is that will also be acceptable as one of the "companion standards" envisaged by DACS.

The editorial committee is chaired by Margaret Nichols, Rare Materials Cataloging Coordinator, Cornell University Library; other members are: Kate Moriarty, Rare Book Catalog Librarian, Saint Louis University; Jennifer K. Nelson, Reference Librarian, The Robbins Collection, UC Berkeley School of Law; Elizabeth O'Keefe, Director of Collection Information Systems, The Morgan Library and Museum; Heather Wolfe, Curator of Manuscripts, Folger Shakespeare Library; Alison Bridger, Cataloging Archivist, Wisconsin Historical Society; and myself, Diane Ducharme, Archivist, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University.

The DCRM-MSS editorial committee has had 4 working meetings since the last SAA annual, at both ALA Midwinter and Annual and two "midseason" meetings hosted by the Folger Shakespeare Library. We have completed draft text for Areas 1-7 and are working on the text for the introduction and appendices. We hope to have a hearing on a draft of DCRM(MSS) at ALA Annual in June 2013.

Obviously, the implementation of RDA in 2013 and beyond will have an impact on the entire DCRM suite. RBMS Bibliographic Standards Committees in the process of working out, together with the DCRM editorial teams, how all of the various DCRM modules will deal--or not--with RDA.

The draft text, which is wiki-based, is available for viewing along with minutes, notes, and other information at: <http://mssworkinggroup.pbworks.com/> Our next "midseason meeting" will be October 28-30, once again at the Folger. Comments and suggestions are most welcome.

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