The Alpha-Numeric System for Classification of Sound Recordings (ANSCR) was created by Caroline Sahahi-Ettaba and Roger B. McFarland in 1969. Consisting of 24 broad genres and a few subgenres, ANSCR was designed solely for sound recordings (unlike LCC or DDC) in any physical format. ANSCR could be used for any size collection, but works especially well for the needs of a small (under 15,000) academic sound recording collection.

While several articles have promoted the benefits of serendipity in browsing, the SLC Library conducted our own study of patrons after observing difficulty in using the accession system. A genre-based system was strongly preferred. Previous surveys had seen complaints from patrons on the accession system. A migration to a new OPAC poorly-suited to music retrieval added to the need for a browsable system.

Most of the problems encountered during the switch to ANSCR were workable - none were unsurmountable.

- We changed the use of GYPSY to ROMA as a term, and ESKI to INUIT
- We copied a few other libraries in the use of category MP for rap, hip-hop, and R&B, and MB for blues music
- Multiple genres on one recording were a problem for LCC as well, not unique to ANSCR. We'd go with whichever genre encompassed more of the CD as a whole
- Miscellaneous, "non-genres" would be shunted into "Chamber music" if mostly instrumental (not an ideal solution)