RDA RDA: Resource Description and Access

A New Cataloging Standard for a Digital Future

Compiled for IAML/IAMIC/IMS from two presentations by Jennifer Bowen

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My topics today

- Why a new standard?
- RDA Goals
- RDA Content
- Issues in developing RDA
- Preparing for RDA



Why a new standard?

- Simplify rules
 - Encourage use as a content standard for metadata schema
 - Encourage international applicability
- Provide more consistency
- Address current problems
- Principle-based
 - Build on cataloger's judgment
 - Encourage application of FRBR/FRAR



Beginning with "AACR3"...

- Draft of Part 1 of "AACR3" reviewed by JSC constituencies (Dec. 2004-March 2005)
- Feedback prompted a change in direction!
- Draft of Part 1 of RDA (Resource Description and Access)



What did we hear from reviewers?

- Need more radical change
 - More metadata-friendly
 - More connection with FRBR
- Be cost-effective
 - AACR2 and RDA records compatible
- Keep the best of AACR2
 - Maintain, but modify, relationship with ISBDs



Re-examining the big picture

- Economic considerations for institutions that use the rules
- Digital developments and emerging technologies
- Need to engage with other communities outside the library world
- Relationship between cataloging and metadata



International developments



STATEMENT OF INTERNATIONAL CATALOGUING PRINCIPLES

The Statement of Principles – commonly known as the "Paris Principless" – was approved by the international Confirmmer on Chalogosing Principles in 1961. It goal of serving as a basis for international standardization in catalogosing has certainly been achieved; most of the catalogosing codes that were developed worldwise since that done followed the Principles strictly or at least to a high degree.

Over forty years later, having a common set of international catalogating principles has become even destrable as catalogum and fortri clearia use CPACs (Online Publis Access Catalogum) amount of the work, Now, at the beginning of the 217 oranty, as either has been made by ITA. at adapt the Parlian Principles to objective that are applicable to ealize library catalogues and beyond. The first of these objectives that are the convenience of the unternal the catalogue.

These new principles replace and broaden the Paris Principles from just textual works to all types of materials and from just the choice and form of certy to all aspects of the bibliographic and authority records used in library catalogues.

The following draft principles cover

- Functions of the Catalogue
- Purceion of the Cassingse
 Bibliographic Description
 Access Points
 Access Points
 Authority Records
 Foundations for Search Capabilities

These new principles build on the greet cataloguing traditions of the world,¹ and also on the concepts models of the IFLA documents Functional Regardements for Ribbingraphs: Recents (FRRR) and Functional Regardements and Numbering for Authority Recents (FRRNAR), which estend the Paris Principles to the realin of abject cataloguing.

It is hoped these principles will increase the international sharing of bibliographic and author data and guide cataloguing rule makers in their efforts to develop an international outaloguing

²Cutter, Charles A.; Robes für a dictionary catalog e⁶ ed., reverbran. Washington, D.C.: Orvertment Printing office. 1994.
Ranguantina, S.R.; Houding and concess. Madras [India]: S. Vinwanzibur, 1995, and Lubetals, September. Principles of Challegiag. Fluid Report. Phase I: Descriptive Challegiag. Les Angeles, Cell University of CARSenia, Institute of Charley Research, 1995.

- IFLA's Functional Requirements for **Bibliographic** Records (FRBR)
- Updating the Paris Principles (IME ICC)
 - IFLA Meeting of Experts on an International Cataloguing Code



Standards and more standards...

- Communication
 Standards
 - MARC
 - UNIMARC
 - MARC 21
 - MODS/MADS
 - MARCXML
 - XML dtd's
 - Next generation?

- MetadataStandards
 - Dublin Core
 - MPEG 7
 - VRA
 - EAD
 - ISBD (also a content/display standard)



RDA will be...

- A new standard for resource description and access
- Designed for the digital environment
 - Web-based product (also loose-leaf)
 - Description and access of all digital resources (and analog)
 - Resulting records usable in the digital environment (Internet, Web OPACs, etc.)



RDA Goals...



RDA will be...

- Multinational content standard providing bibliographic description and access for a variety of media and formats collected by libraries today
- Developed for use in English language environment; it can also be used in other language communities
- Independent of the format (e.g., MARC 21) used to communicate information

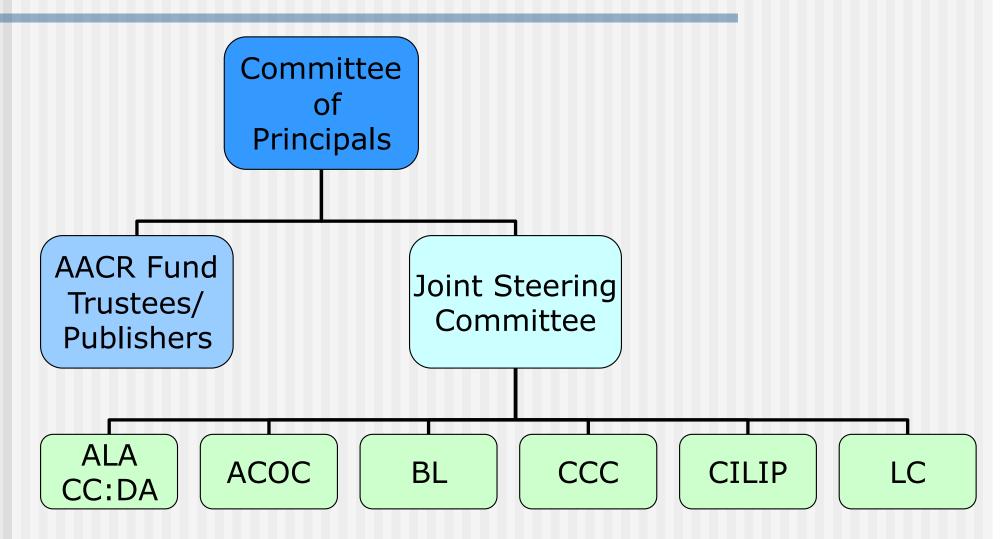


RDA will...

- Support FRBR user tasks
 - Find, identify, select, obtain
- Enable users of library catalogues, etc. to find and use resources appropriate to their information needs



Who develops and supports RDA?





RDA Content...



RDA structure: A work in progress!

AACR2

RDA – New Arrangement!

Part A

Part I: Description

Part I: Description

Part II: Access

Part II: Relationships

Part B

Part III: Access Point

Control



"New" Part A (formerly part I)

- 0. Introduction
- 1. General guidelines for resource description
- 2. Identification of the resource
- 3. Technical description FRBR "Select"
- 4. Content description FRBR "Select"
- 5. Terms of availability FRBR "Obtain"
- 6. Item-specific information



"New" Part A cont. (formerly part II)

Chapters 6-9(?) - FRBR "Find"

- Relationships
 between FRBR
 Group 1 entities
 Works
 Expressions
 Manifestations
 Items
- Relationships
 between FRBR
 Group 1 and
 Group 2 entities
 Persons
 Corporate bodies
 Families

Simplify choice of primary access point



Relationships – new terminology

AACR2 terms

Heading
Main Entry
Added Entry
Uniform title

RDA terms

Access point

Primary Access point

Secondary Access point

Citation: Access point...

For a work

For an expression

For a manifestation



"New" Part B" (formerly part III)

- General guidelines for Access point control
 - Guidance from FRAR ("FRAD")
- Authorized forms
 - Persons, Families, Corporate bodies, Places
 - Citations ("uniform titles") for works, expressions
- Variant forms



Issues in Developing RDA



Continuity vs. change

- "Why didn't you just throw out AACR2 and start over?"
- Keep the best of what we have
- Compatibility with existing records is essential!



Content vs. display

- RDA will be a content standard not a display standard
- RDA will contain new data elements, redefined elements
 - New elements to replace the GMD
 - Clarify definition of "notes"
- Retain relationships between elements
- RDA records can still be displayed in an ISBD display if desired



Transcription

- How important is data transcription to resource identification?
 - Rare books, etc. very important!
 - Metadata communities not!
- "Take what you see"
 - Correction of inaccuracies
 - Facilitating automated data capture



Content issues

- Terms for Content and Carrier
 - RDA/ONIX framework for resource categorization
 - JSC GMD/SMD Working Group
- Mandatory ("Required") Elements
- Mapping Data Elements
 - RDA/MARC 21
 - Dublin Core



Identifying the RDA major stakeholders

- Catalogers
- as well as
- Library administrators
- Cataloging educators
- Public Service librarians
- System developers
- Metadata communities
- MARC format developers
- National and international programs (PCC, ISSN, IFLA, etc.)



Ongoing work

- Mode of Issuance
- Internationalization
- Persistent Identifiers and URLs
- Appendices
- Access Points for Families
- Examples
- Glossary



Preparing for RDA



- Most RDA data elements can be incorporated into MARC 21
- A few changes:
 - New data elements to replace GMDs and SMDs
 - Possibly some other modifications necessary to MARC 21



Considering ISBD punctuation

- RDA will establish a clear line of separation between the recording of data and the presentation of data
- ISBD punctuation not required in RDA, but instead is an option.
- Presentation information (e.g. ISBD punctuation) will appear in an appendix of RDA



Retrospective catalog maintenance?

- No Significant changes to existing records will not be required
- Need for retrospective adjustments when integrating RDA and AACR2 records will be minimal



RDA timeline

- May-Sept. 2006: Completion of draft of remainder of Part A (old part II), and constituency review
- Oct. 2006-Apr. 2007: Completion of draft of Part B (old part III), and constituency review
- May-Sept. 2007: Completion of General Introduction, Appendices, and Glossary
- Mid-2008: First Release



Commenting on RDA drafts

RDA drafts available at:

www.collectionscanada.ca/jsc/rda.html

 Informal discussion: subscribe to RDA-L (link on page above)