

RDA

Resource Description & Access

Status Report

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Outline

- ◆ nature of RDA
- ◆ concepts & terminology
- ◆ overview of structure and content
- ◆ dealing with RDA

Nature of RDA: basics

- ◆ “provides a set of guidelines and instructions on formulating descriptive data and access point control data to support resource discovery”
- ◆ AACR2
 - built on foundations established by it
 - RDA descriptions compatible with AACR2 ones
- ◆ based on conceptual models in FRBR and FRAD
- ◆ content standard
 - not a display standard
 - not an encoding standard

Nature of RDA: use

- ◆ creates descriptions that are responsiveness to user needs and cost-efficient to produce
- ◆ clearly written, rational, easy and efficient to use
- ◆ linear document, rather than data dictionary
 - MARC documentation is an example of a data dictionary structure

Nature of RDA: philosophy

- ◆ principles that guide, not rules that constrict
- ◆ supports the cataloger in making decisions for a situation not explicitly covered in RDA based on principles
- ◆ modern standard for the digital world
 - easily covers electronic resources
 - optimized for use as an online tool
 - will be registered as a metadata element set

Nature of RDA: broader

- ◆ plays well with others
 - informed by ISBD, IFLA's draft *Statement of International Cataloguing Principles*, etc.
 - aligned with standards in allied communities
 - incorporates by reference other standards
 - working on joint projects with ONIX & Dublin Core
- ◆ improved structure promotes
 - easy ongoing development
 - extensibility
 - wider functionality in systems using RDA descriptions
 - sharing data with non-RDA-based systems
 - improved federated searching

RDA foundational documents

- ◆ Scope and Structure
- ◆ Objectives and Principles
- ◆ Prospectus
- ◆ Strategic Plan
- ◆ Element Analysis
- ◆ Encoding RDA Data
- ◆ RDA to FRBR Mapping

- ◆ some of these need to be updated based on reorganization

Concepts & terminology: entity/relationship models

- ◆ entity, attribute, relationship
- ◆ FRBR/FRAD group 1 entities
 - work, expression, manifestation, item
- ◆ FRBR/FRAD group 2 entities
 - person, family, corporate body
- ◆ FRBR/FRAD group 3 entities
 - concept, object, event, place
- ◆ FRBR/FRAD user tasks
 - find, identify, select, obtain, contextualize, justify

Concepts & terminology: RDA model

- ◆ **resource**: an identifiable information object
- ◆ **element**: generally corresponds to an attribute or relationship as defined in FRBR or FRAD (such as title)
- ◆ **element sub-type**: a specific type of an element (such as title proper, parallel title, variant title, etc.)
- ◆ **sub-element**: a discrete component of an element or sub-type (such as for the publication statement element: publisher, place of publication, date of publication)
- ◆ for more, see Scope and Structure

Concepts & terminology: description

- ◆ mode of issuance
 - resource issued as a single unit
 - resource issued in two or more parts simultaneously
 - resource issued in successive parts
 - integrating resource
- ◆ intended termination
 - multipart monograph
 - serial
- ◆ ?annotation
 - replaces concept of “note”
 - information that falls outside the defined scope of an element, but is related to that element (e.g., “Title devised by cataloguer”, “Title varies slightly”)

Concepts & terminology: access

- ◆ access point
 - controlled access point (AACR2: heading)
 - preferred access point (AACR2: authorized heading)
 - access point for a work/expression/manifestation/item (AACR2: main entry, added entry for another work)
- ◆ preferred title (AACR2: uniform title)

Overall structure

- ◆ drastically changed a month ago, announced this week

- ◆ General Introduction
- ◆ Recording Attributes
- ◆ Recording Relationships
- ◆ Appendices
- ◆ Glossary

General structural issues

- ◆ each section contains chapters
 - one on general guidelines
 - one for each entity covered in the section
- ◆ each chapter is associated with a FRBR user task and one or more FRBR entities
 - chapter 2 covers elements primarily used to identify a manifestation or item
 - chapter 19 covers elements primarily used to find a work
- ◆ subsections on **purpose & scope**, terminology, sources of information, **changes**, etc., at multiple levels
- ◆ all aspects of a particular type of data are treated together
 - including annotations
 - but whole/part relationships are still split up
 - ◆ analytical description, series, common title/section title, contents, and aggregate/component relationships are each in separate places

Implications of new structure

- ◆ intended to not change scope, content, or timeframe
- ◆ helps with multi-type resources: map serials, digital video, etc.
- ◆ more adaptable and extensible
- ◆ better aligned with FRBR/FRAD entities and user tasks
 - more conceptually sound
 - “makes it easier for cataloguers to learn and understand RDA concepts”
- ◆ not tied to any specific record structure
 - gets rid of concepts of bibliographic and authority records
 - supports relational/object-oriented database structures
 - more easily understood by allied communities
 - “makes it easier ... for system designers to create powerful applications to support resource discovery”

General Introduction

- ◆ beefed up significantly from AACR2
- ◆ unlike in AACR2, here it is foundational
- ◆ will incorporate content from some of the foundational documents
- ◆ especially helpful for
 - making cataloging decisions on new situations
 - teaching in library schools
 - training existing staff
 - communicating with allied communities

Content of General Introduction

- ◆ Purpose and scope
- ◆ Intended audience
- ◆ Relationship to other standards for resource description and access
 - much more emphasis on external vocabularies
- ◆ Principles governing resource description and access
- ◆ Conceptual models underlying RDA
 - FRBR, FRAD, etc.
- ◆ Organization
- ◆ Adaptation of RDA guidelines and instructions on language, script, transcription, etc.

Internationalization

- ◆ language and script
 - default: record data as it appears (i.e., in the language and script of the resource)
 - options, such as: add or substitute transliterated data, substitute arabic for roman numerals
- ◆ Bible access points
 - trying to get rid of Christian and Protestant bias
 - ◆ “Bible” means different sets of content to different groups
 - spell out testament names
 - enter book names directly under “Bible”
- ◆ more work in old Part B, including removing references to English
- ◆ other improvements

?Introduction to Recording Attributes

- ◆ purpose & scope
- ◆ relationship to other standards
 - does not rigidly follow ISBD structure or order
- ◆ objectives & principles
- ◆ presentation (display)
- ◆ requirements and options
- ◆ etc.

?General guidelines on resource description

- ◆ types of description: comprehensive, analytical, multilevel
- ◆ changes requiring a new description: current plus
 - all resources: change in mode of issuance; change in media type
 - integrating resources: issuing of a new base set
- ◆ required elements
 - significantly fewer than now
- ◆ numbers: numerals vs. words
- ◆ annotations
- ◆ elements used as access points

?General guidelines for resource description

- ◆ transcription
 - very important to rare book folks
 - very unimportant to most non-library metadata communities
 - errors will be transcribed as is and corrected
- ◆ etc.

?pre-description

- ◆ basis for identification of the resource, such as
 - which issue of a serial or part of a multipart
 - no source identifying the whole
- ◆ sources of information
 - “preferred source of information”
 - but no “chief source”
 - simplified rules

Title element

- ◆ general info
- ◆ element sub-types
 - title proper
 - parallel title
 - other title information
 - **variant title**
 - **earlier/later title**
 - **key title**
 - **devised title**

Title element

- ◆ element sub-types
 - alternative title
 - ◆ no longer part of the title proper
 - ◆ it will be an element sub-type of the Title element
 - ◆ the connective (e.g., “or”) is part of neither the Title proper nor the Alternative title; it will have to be displayed as a result of the encoding

Other manifestation & item elements

- ◆ general
 - statement of responsibility
 - edition statement
 - production, publication, and distribution statements
 - series statement
 - resource identifier
 - **mode of issuance**

Other manifestation & item elements

- ◆ terms of availability
- ◆ contact information
- ◆ restrictions on
 - access
 - use
- ◆ appraisal and accrual
- ◆ elements for specific types of resources
 - numbering of serials; frequency
 - preferred citation; custodial history
 - immediate source of acquisition
 - etc.

?General guidelines on describing carriers

- ◆ manifestations available in different formats
 - allows only 1 manif. per record
 - so no single-record approach
- ◆ facsimiles and reproductions
 - follows current AACR2, not LCRI
- ◆ resources consisting of more than one carrier
- ◆ online resources

Form and format

- ◆ GMD is gone
- ◆ being superseded by
 - media type
 - carrier type
 - content type
- ◆ RDA/ONIX Framework for Resource Categorization
 - joint effort with publisher's group

Media type

- ◆ the general type of intermediation device required to view, play, run, etc., the content of a resource
- ◆ examples = audio, video, **computer**, microform, **unmediated**, **other**, **unspecified**
- ◆ keep or not?

Carrier type

- ◆ the format of the storage medium and housing of a carrier in combination with the type of intermediation device required to view, play, run, etc., the content of a resource
- ◆ examples = audiocassette, computer disc, **online resource**, microfiche, film reel, **volume**, **other computer carrier**, **unspecified**

Content type

- ◆ the fundamental form of communication in which the content is expressed and the human sense through which it is intended to be perceived
- ◆ for images, content type also reflects the number of spatial dimensions in which the content is intended to be perceived and the perceived presence or absence of movement
- ◆ examples = cartographic image, computer dataset, moving image, notated music, performed music, still image, sounds, spoken word, text, three-dimensional form

?Other elements related to carrier

- ◆ general elements
 - extent; dimensions
 - colour
 - base material; applied material
 - equipment and system requirements
 - item-specific carrier characteristics

?Other elements related to carrier

- ◆ many elements & sub-types for specific types of carriers, such as
 - layout
 - foliation; font size
 - polarity; reduction ratio
 - playing speed
 - video format
 - digital file type

Work & expression elements

- ◆ general elements
 - content type
 - nature; coverage
 - intended audience
 - summarization
 - language
 - duration
 - awards
 - etc.

Work & expression elements

- ◆ elements for specific types of content
 - notated music: format
 - musical: medium of performance
 - cartographic: scale; projection; equinox
 - dissertations
 - etc.

Recording Relationships

- ◆ instructions generalized and simplified
- ◆ most of the instructions are in the General guidelines subsection
- ◆ but still some subsections on specific types of resources
 - legal works
 - religious works
 - official communications
 - but not music or art

Recording Relationships

- ◆ more substantial subsection on Designation of role/relationship
 - examples of possible roles: author, dancer, composer, cartographer, publisher, editor, sponsor
 - examples of possible relationship designations: has supplement, reproduction of, choreography for

Structure of Recording Attributes

- ◆ Section 1. Recording attributes of **manifestation and item**
- ◆ Section 2. Recording attributes of **work and expression**
- ◆ Section 3. Recording attributes of **person, family, and corporate body**
- ◆ Section 4. Recording attributes of **concept, object, event, and place**

Structure of Recording Relationships

- ◆ Section 5. Recording **primary relationships** between work, expression, manifestation, and item
 - the resource's work, expression, manifestation, and item
- ◆ Section 6. Recording **relationships to persons, families, and corporate bodies** associated with a resource
- ◆ Section 7. Recording **relationships to concepts, objects, events, and places** associated with a work
- ◆ Section 8. Recording relationships between **works, expressions, manifestations and items**
- ◆ Section 9. Recording relationships between **persons, families, and corporate bodies**
- ◆ Section 10. Recording relationships between **concepts, objects, events, and places**

Section 6. Recording relationships to persons, families, and corporate bodies associated with a resource

- ◆ between a
 - work
 - expression
 - manifestation
 - item
- ◆ and one or more
 - persons
 - families
 - corporate bodies
- ◆ example of more than one: co-authors

Section 8. Recording relationships between works, expressions, manifestations and item

- ◆ between a
 - work
 - expression
 - manifestation
 - item
- ◆ and one or more other
 - works
 - expressions
 - manifestations
 - items
- ◆ example of more than one: a Japanese translation of a Latin original based on 2 English translations

Sections on concept, object, event, and place

- ◆ Section 4. Recording attributes of concept, object, event, and place
- ◆ Section 7. Recording relationships to concepts, objects, events, and places associated with a work
- ◆ Section 10. Recording relationships between concepts, objects, events, and places
- ◆ all **placeholders**: "provided to allow a complete mapping to FRBR and FRAD and as a template for possible future development of RDA to cover these entities"
- ◆ places will initially just include those from AACR2 chapter 23

Conventions used to record persons, families, and corporate bodies associated with a resource

- ◆ elements transcribed from the resource
 - such as a statement of responsibility
- ◆ information taken from other sources
 - such as information on custodial history
- ◆ access point

Conventions used to record relationships between resources

- ◆ resource identifier for the related resource
 - such as an ISBN or a URN
- ◆ controlled access point for the related resource
- ◆ description of the related resource
 - structured description
 - ◆ such as: 2nd ed., rev. – London : Routledge, 1877
 - unstructured description = informal
- ◆ may or may not be recorded reciprocally

?Types of relationships in section 8

- ◆ equivalence, such as original & reproduction
- ◆ derivative, such as source & translation
- ◆ descriptive, such as source & concordance
- ◆ whole-part
- ◆ accompanying
- ◆ sequential, such prequel & original & sequel, or earlier & later titles of a serial

Required relationships

- ◆ creator
 - only the first one
- ◆ originating body (of the content, so generally not the publisher)
 - only the first
- ◆ the primary relationship between a manifestation and its work or expression
 - only the predominant or first-named one
- ◆ that's it!

Rest of old Part B

- ◆ ?sections 3, 5, 9; parts of sections 1-2, 6, 8
- ◆ release of draft scheduled for Dec. 2007
- ◆ will be guided by the new FRAD model
- ◆ much more than we had in AACR2
- ◆ current AACR2 practice will continue except where there is strong justification to change

?General guidelines on access point control

- ◆ preferred access points
- ◆ references
- ◆ required elements (in an access control record)
- ◆ language and script
- ◆ transcription
- ◆ citing sources consulted
- ◆ annotations

?Structure of old Part B chapters

- ◆ purpose, scope, etc.
- ◆ constructing access points
 - access point for a person may contain a name, a title, and a date
 - access point for a work may contain an author and a title
- ◆ choosing the preferred name or title
- ◆ choosing the entry element for the name (for person and families)

?Structure of old Part B chapters

- ◆ specialized instructions, such as for
 - names of persons or families entered under title of nobility
 - subordinate and related corporate bodies
 - manuscripts and manuscript groups
- ◆ references
- ◆ identifiers
- ◆ other elements used to identify, such as ?

Access points for works, expressions, manifestations, and items

- ◆ don't base decisions on presentation of information on the resource
- ◆ first creator is used in the access point for the work, even if more than 3
- ◆ option to include the names of more than one collaborator in the access point for collaborative works
 - all of the joint authors, as is the convention in many style manuals
- ◆ a compiler is the primary creator of an aggregate work

Access points for works, expressions, manifestations, and items

- ◆ no special rules for performances
 - a footnote will specify when a performance is to be treated as an adaptation and thus a new work
- ◆ keeping specific criteria for corporate responsibility
- ◆ draft IFLA *Statement of International Cataloguing Principles* proposes language of the catalog for uniform titles
 - should RDA follow suit?

Other access point control issues

- ◆ "Department" will not be abbreviated
- ◆ many potential changes have been deferred for consideration after the initial release of RDA, such as
 - retention of initial articles in the names of corporate bodies, phrases used as the names of persons, and in the titles of works, etc., with an option to omit them

Appendices

- ◆ A: Capitalization
 - CC:DA recommended against this
- ◆ B: Abbreviations
- ◆ C: Initial articles
- ◆ D & E: Record syntaxes for descriptive data & for access point control data
 - encoding and presentation
 - MARC, ISBD, labelled displays, XML, DC, etc.
- ◆ F?: a controlled vocabulary of terms designating role

?New/old Part C

- ◆ for "data about data"
 - meta-metadata
- ◆ examples
 - source of a variant title
 - issue or part used as the basis for the description of a serial or multipart monograph
 - source used for a term from an external vocabulary

Ongoing work

- ◆ sources of information
- ◆ appendices
- ◆ access points for families
- ◆ designations of roles and relationships
- ◆ recording relationships between works and expressions
- ◆ examples
- ◆ glossary
- ◆ MARC issues
- ◆ authoring software
- ◆ online functionality
- ◆ standard Internet protocols for application profile, element vocabulary, values vocabularies, etc.

related CC:DA activity

- ◆ reviewed the Statement of International Cataloguing Principles
- ◆ commented on proposed change to definition of "expression" in FRBR

Dealing with RDA

- ◆ learning more
- ◆ participating in RDA development
- ◆ implementing RDA
- ◆ using RDA the product

Learning more

- ◆ CC:DA website
 - www.libraries.psu.edu/tas/jca/ccda
- ◆ JSC website
 - www.collectionscanada.ca/jsc
- ◆ very good recent article
 - Changing to RDA / Chris Oliver
 - www.collectionscanada.ca/jsc/docs/felicitervol53no7p250-253.pdf

Participating in RDA development

- ◆ RDA drafts & formal comments available at
 - www.collectionscanada.ca/jsc/rda.html
 - public comment periods
- ◆ RDA-L electronic list
 - informal discussion
 - subscribe via link on page above
- ◆ ALA
 - Representative to JSC = John Attig
 - CC:DA

Implementing RDA

- ◆ coordination
 - national libraries
 - utilities
 - system vendors
 - consortia
- ◆ option decisions
- ◆ training
 - FRBR/FRAD now
 - RDA later

Using RDA the product

- ◆ prototype to be developed in spring 2008
- ◆ primary product = online
- ◆ secondary product = paper

It's your future!

comments or questions?