IFLA-Library Reference Model and its Impact on RDA

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RDA & the IFLA Functional Requirements Models

• From the beginning, RDA has aligned with the IFLA conceptual models

• Reflected in
  • RDA 0.0: User tasks derived from FRBR and from FRAD
  • RDA 0.2: Conceptual Models Underlying RDA
  • Organization of chapters
    ◦ FRBR Group 1 (WEMI) – Chapters 1-7
    ◦ FRBR Group 2 (PFC) – Chapters 8-11
    ◦ FRBR Group 3 (Concepts, Objects, Events, and Places) – Placeholder Chapters 12-16

• When the underlying models change ...
  So does RDA
Why create a new conceptual model?

• IFLA needed to consolidate and update the three models
  • Developed independently over many years by different working groups
  • Each took different points of view and differing solutions for common issues

• The Library Reference Model (LRM) authors
  • Consolidated:
  • While also considering:
    ◦ Recommendations from the IFLA Working Group on Aggregates (2011)
    ◦ CIDOC Conceptual Reference Model (2006; accepted as ISO standard)
What’s New in LRM?

• Addition of entities and attributes
• Removal of some FRAD user tasks
  • Contextualize and Justify
• Consolidation of attributes relating to manifestations
• Clear separation of “real” vs. “fictional” entities
  • *Person* = real person who lives or is assumed to have lived [change from current RDA]
  • *Place* = extent of space that is contemporary or historical, on Earth or extra-terrestrial
  • *Time-span* = period of time with a duration, which can be short and precise, or lengthy and vague
  • Fictional persons, places, and time-spans are valid concepts, but they aren’t occurrences of these entities
New LRM entities

• **Agent**
  • One or more real human beings: able to create, publish, own, etc.

• **Collective agent**
  • A superclass of the RDA entities Corporate body and Family
  • Must have a name and be capable of acting like a unit

• **Nomen**
  • A label or name for an entity (which is associated with entity itself)

• **Place**

• **Time-span**
LRM attributes – New & Moved

• New
  • Representative expression attribute (*Work*)
  • Manifestation statement (*Manifestation*)
  • All attributes associated with the new entities

• Moved
  • Key (from *Work* to *Expression*)
  • Medium of performance (from *Work* to *Expression*)
  • Intended audience (from *Work* to *Expression*)
RDA as an instantiation of LRM

• Implementing all new entities except Res
  • Top term instead will be the new “RDA entity”

• Will refine some entities
  • Keeping Corporate body and Family while also introducing Collective Agent

• RDA will define and add additional attributes as needed
  • Following LRM practices: an attribute defined for a superclass is automatically applied to the subclass

• Equal treatment of each entity
  • No longer an explicit preference for WEMI
3R Project
(RDA Toolkit Restructure and Redesign)

• Add new LRM entities

• Update the Toolkit as a whole
  • Improve the interface and address long-standing problems
  • Restructure the underlying data
  • Generalize the instructions where possible
  • Develop a new approach to relationship designators
  • Offer more flexibility in choosing how to record a piece of information
  • Incorporate solutions to deferred issues as time permits

• Identify topics for post 3R
New RDA Toolkit Organization

• Entity chapters
  • Presented in LRM order
  • Common structure: definition, recording instructions and examples, and navigation to related elements and entities

• General guidance chapters
  • Some new, some repurposed

• Policies
  • LC PCC-PSs, MLA BPs, etc.

• Related resources
  • AACR2, Books of the Bible, etc.
Searching, Etc.

• Most of old functionality will be available
  • Boolean searching, selecting resource to search, etc.
    ◦ But not some of the little-used metadata on the advanced search screen
  • Setting bookmarks and adding notes
  • Saved searches

• Search by old RDA instruction numbers (at the highest levels)
  • As long as they map to a single new location

• Will not offer mapping from AACR2 to new RDA Toolkit instructions

• No index
Rollout Plans

• New Toolkit – June 2018
  • English language base text
  • At least one translation
  • At least some supporting policy statements

• Subsequent release – Aug. or Sept. 2018
  • More translations
  • More policy statements/best practices updates

• Old Toolkit (still frozen) available until at least fall 2019

• Implementation date? Still to be determined...
Recording methods (aka 4-fold path)

- Entity chapters will present up to four methods for capturing data
  - Affects instructions & examples
  - Can use more than one path
Can think of attributes as relationships

- Relationship between *Manifestation & Nomen*
  - Unstructured description
    Statement of Responsibility: А. Бородин
    [Romanized Statement of Responsibility: A. Borodin]

- Relationship between *Manifestation & Agent*
  - Structured description
    AAP: Borodin, Aleksandr Porfir’evich, 1833-1887
  - Identifier
    LCCN: n 80128710
  - IRI
    https://viaf.org/viaf/32192773
Fictitious performers

- A subclass of LRM’s Agent
- Significant change from FRAD in the model for non-human personages
  - New scope excludes personas, spirits, fictitious characters, etc.
- But still important to associate the name (or Nomen) with the Manifestation
  - Presenting “Kermit the Frog” as a performer doesn’t make him an Agent (which is required for Person)
  - Instead, it’s a type of pseudonym
    - Sometimes the real human being behind the Nomen can be identified, sometimes not
- **Note:** this is not about subjects
What does this mean for Authorities?

- RDA will not require a change to the current NACO practice of creating authority records for personas, spirits, etc.
  - Creating records for names, not for individuals

- Instead, indicate that
  - A non-fictitious agent created a work
  - At least one manifestation of that work presents a nomen that refers to a non-human personage

- Specific guidance yet to be developed

- Future of authority control should be more like VIAF
  - And less reliant on unique strings
Aggregating work vs. Whole-part work

- A plan for bringing together distinct expressions into one or more manifestations – not the contents
  - Relationships hold true only for a single aggregating work
  - The creator of the aggregating work comes up with the plan
  - For static works, generally ignore the plan – just catalog the results
  - For a yet-to-be-complete work, the plan takes on more importance
    - Includes serials and monographic sets

- Relationship between at least two Works, where the part is integral to the whole
  - True for all Expressions and Manifestations of those works (whole and/or part)
More Information

• RDA Toolkit/3R Project website
  • [http://www.rdataoolkit.org/3Rproject](http://www.rdataoolkit.org/3Rproject)

• RDA Steering Committee – Presentations
  • [http://www.rda-rsc.org/rscpresentations](http://www.rda-rsc.org/rscpresentations)
    Includes recent presentations by various RSC members

• IFLA Library Reference Model

• Ask me:
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