To: Joint Steering Committee for Revision of AACR

From: Deirdre Kiorgaard, ACOC representative to JSC

Subject: List of Specialist cataloguing manuals for RDA

General comments
ACOC thanks ALA for preparing this list of specialist cataloguing manuals for RDA.

ACOC notes that ALA has encountered problems in determining the most appropriate place for the list in RDA and also deciding whether or not standards such as the ISBDs should be included in the list of specialist manuals or listed elsewhere.

ACOC suggests that RDA may not be the most appropriate place for the list of either related standards or specialist cataloguing manuals. ACOC recommends that 0.1.1 should only retain the current reference to compatibility with ISBD(G) and that reference to specific archival standards be removed, leaving only the general statement of compatibility with archival standards used for description.

ACOC feels that it is not feasible to maintain an up-to-date listing of applicable specialist manuals or relevant standards in RDA, particularly as a number of new or revised manuals are likely to be produced subsequent to the publication of RDA. Also as ALA has noted, it is difficult to decide the criteria for including particular manuals, and any listing would certainly omit tools which some user communities may find useful.

ACOC therefore recommends that a list of relevant standards and specialist cataloguing manuals and possibly more general guides to the use of RDA, should be maintained as a wiki on the JSC website rather than as part of RDA. A link to this could be included in 0.1.1. Using a wiki format would allow the information to be kept current by inviting contributions from cataloguers, instead of requiring the JSC to keep it up to date. It would also provide the facility for annotation of entries with additional details of the resources.

Proposed revision of 0.1.1

0.1.1 RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER STANDARDS FOR RESOURCE DESCRIPTION

The guidelines and instructions in part I have been derived in large part from the second edition of the Anglo-American Cataloguing Rules (AACR2).

The guidelines and instructions are compatible with the specifications set out in ISBD(G): General International Standard Bibliographic Description. Unlike part I of AACR2, however, part I of RDA is not structured around the order of areas and elements specified in ISBD(G). Nevertheless, the elements defined in part I of RDA are consistent with those defined in ISBD(G). Appendix D provides a
mapping of RDA elements to the areas and elements of description specified in ISBD(G). That mapping, together with the instructions in appendix D on ISBD prescribed punctuation, can be used to produce a presentation of RDA descriptive elements that conforms to ISBD specifications.

Part I of RDA also incorporates certain conventions for the description of archival resources that reflect archival practice. The instructions in part I that apply specifically to archival resources are derived from, and are compatible with Standard for Archival Description, and other standards for archival description used widely in North America and elsewhere, such as Describing Archives: a Content Standard (DACS) and Rules for Archival Description (RAD). When preparing a description of an archival resource using RDA, it may be necessary to consult those standards for archival description for additional guidance and detail.

New paragraph:

For additional guidance it may be necessary to consult other standards and manuals for the cataloguing of specialist materials. Links to relevant standards and manuals are available at http://.................................