

# Background and Implementation Issues

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I have based today's presentation on several of my earlier presentations, so if you who have heard me cover this before, hearing it again from a different perspective may allow you to see different connections.

## Outline

- Universe of information (library subset)
- How libraries describe resources to fulfill user tasks
  - FRBR user tasks
  - FRBR entities/relationships
- RDA application of FRBR
  - RDA Online
- Implementation of RDA
  - Training, documentation
  - RDA test plan/timetable

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Here is the outline of what I intend to talk about – first to review of the bibliographic universe and how libraries describe the things in this universe in order to help our users perform some basic tasks and how that connects to the IFLA conceptual model and how RDA, the new cataloguing code applies the FRBR model as a cataloging code, and finally to talk about how to get ready for RDA – some implementation issues and the plans underway in the United States.

## Bibliographic Universe



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Spiral Galaxy NGC 3370, Home to Supernova Seen in 1994  
from NASA HubbleSite.org/gallery/album/gallery\_collection

This slide shows a picture of our universe which we can compare to our bibliographic universe. We continue to have an expanding universe of information resources to organize and make available to our users. This bibliographic universe is not just books, but rather many galaxies and worlds of content packaged in various information carriers. For example, the content of a visual image can be captured on an information carrier like film, or a YouTube moving image viewable online; another type of content is sound, that can be recorded as notation in printed scores or captured as MP3 files that carry that content to play on an iPod; or we have an ever changing mix of content that we can find on Web pages. The cataloging rules and systems of the past are very outdated for today's information seeking behaviors. So we are now developing guidelines for describing all of the things in our bibliographic universe in a way that makes our descriptions more usable in the digital environment.

## How libraries describe resources

### ■ Cataloging rules

- Data to identify resources
  - Title proper, statement of responsibility, etc.
- Related entities
  - Author, subjects, related works (derivative, whole/part, sequential, etc.)

Libraries have traditionally collected resources for their users and organized them so users could find what they wanted, identify the particular language or version they wanted, select the format of the resource that they preferred, and then obtain the item that met their needs. We also offered catalogs that provided pathways for them to explore related resources – such as through the controlled names of persons associated with the resource they found, or through subject terms to additional resources on the topic they found of interest.

Over the years, we created shared cataloging rules to identify resources, including such essential data as the title proper, the statement of responsibility, and so on that are based on information found on the item we have in hand to catalog. We provide the names of the creators of the works in order to show all the works of a person together; and we assign subject terms to identify all the works on a particular topic.

Our rules also had provisions for identifying and associating related works, like different translations or versions of a work or a whole work and its parts, like the individual monographs in a series – the series is the whole, and the individual volumes are the parts.



The Anglo-American Cataloguing code evolved over two centuries, starting at least as far back as 1841 with Panizzi's famous "91 rules" for the British Museum. In the United States, Charles Cutter documented his Rules for a dictionary catalogue in 1876 and revised those rules several times. They were a foundation for the 1906 rules published in the United States, which were different from those issued in Great Britain. In the 1940's there were two rule books used in the United States – one for description and the other for access points. At that time there were complaints that the rules reflected "case law" and were not based on principles. So Seymour Lubetzky (then at the Library of Congress) worked with IFLA to develop the famous Paris Principles of 1961. The result was another attempt by the British and the United States experts to follow the same rules, but there were enough disagreements that two "texts" were published in 1967 – one the "British text" and the other a "North American text." One reason behind the need for separate texts was the desire of large libraries in the United States not to change their practices for entry of some corporate names under place. The North American libraries retained their old practices and "superimposed" them on headings made under the new rules; that is, they continued their case law approach and old practices (e.g., AACR retained some exceptional rules - rules 98 and 99 - for names of local churches, educational institutions, libraries, airports, etc. entering under the city where they were located). The North American edition of AACR specifically footnotes that those rules are exceptions that were (I quote) "required primarily by the economic circumstances obtaining in many American research libraries. The cost of adapting very large existing catalogs to the provisions of the general rules for corporate bodies without such exceptions is considered to be insupportable." (end of quote) The British took a more principled approach in their edition of the rules.

# IFLA's Influences



## 1961 Paris Principles

## 1969 – ISBDs

- International Standard Bibliographic Description
  - 2007 Consolidated edition



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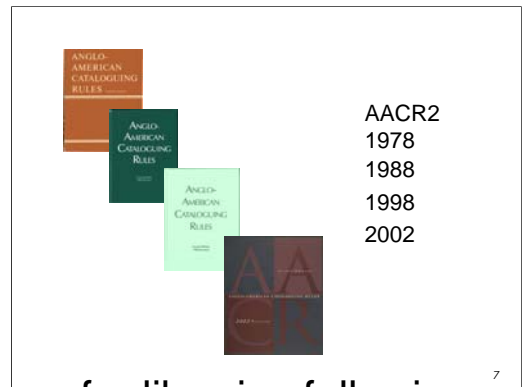
I mentioned the IFLA work on cataloging principles in 1961 – that has now been replaced (Feb. 2009) and the resulting Statement of International Cataloguing Principles or “ICP” is now available on IFLANET.

At the end of the 1960's, IFLA held another meeting of experts to develop the International Standard Bibliographic Description. ISBD's descriptive rules for various types of resources are used worldwide and are basic to cataloging codes everywhere. In some countries they are used in place of cataloging rules for building the descriptive portion of cataloging records.

The ISBDs provide basic descriptive elements arranged in a prescribed order with prescribed punctuation.

There is now a consolidated edition of ISBD. The makers of RDA are watching the work of IFLA and sharing information to harmonize ISBD and RDA.

Following agreements on the International Standard for Bibliographic Description, the English-speaking countries again worked together to agree on rules, and by 1978, AACR2 was issued.



It was a traumatic time of a very big change for libraries following the old “North American text.” This was the move of “desuperimposition” when libraries changed from the old rules that entered corporate names under place, to enter them directly under their names when they have distinctive names.

“Desuperimposition” finally changed headings to a more principled approach that was closer to the Paris Principles agreement. This was a very expensive prospect for libraries in the United States at the time, but we did it. It was a time of split or closed card catalogs, and it gave a big push to the creation of online catalogs that used the MARC format that was then ten years old. That second edition of AACR, known as AACR2, was the first time that both sides of the Atlantic (the US/Canada and the UK) shared the same rules. However, even then there were differences in some choices regarding options allowed in the rules, such as with application of the General Material Designators.

AACR2 incorporated the ISBDs and came closer to the Paris Principles, making it even closer to other cataloguing codes used throughout the world. <Click>

Then we saw revisions to AACR2 in 1988, 1998, and 2002 – they all basically followed the same structure as AACR2 with revised rules to reflect some of the changes in our cataloging environments, such as a new perspective on electronic resources and expanded coverage of serials and integrating resources. Part 1 on description by class of materials is based on ISBD, and Part 2 is on the choice and form of entry. Over the past 30 years we have adjusted both AACR2 and our systems, moving from card catalogs to online catalogs, but it’s now time again for a change.



During the 1990's IFLA again took the lead in bibliographic control to develop a conceptual model, known as FRBR, Functional Requirements for Bibliographic Records. Published in 1998, FRBR reinforces the basic objectives of catalogs and the importance of relationships. This helps users to fulfill basic tasks with respect to the catalog – enabling people to find, identify, select, and obtain information they want. These are known as the FRBR user tasks.

FRBR also offers us a structure to meet these basic user tasks. It includes an entity-relationship model - a conceptual model of how the bibliographic universe operates – identifying all the things in this universe and how they are related. It allows us to group together the things that share the same intellectual and artistic content. It gives us a new way of looking at our bibliographic universe – it's like putting on a new pair of glasses to see the universe in a new way. It also includes the set of data elements or attributes that are mandatory for a national level bibliographic record. Those elements in FRBR translate directly into RDA as the basic data elements – or core elements – for bibliographic description and access. RDA combines the FRBR conceptual model with cataloging principles to give us the intellectual foundations to build cataloger's judgment and better systems for the future. FRBR is not itself a cataloging code, nor is it a data model to design systems. However, applications of FRBR have demonstrated how users can benefit from a well-structured system designed around FRBR's entities and relationships. It has been recognized worldwide as a very useful model for bibliographic information. IFLA has an extensive Webliography that identifies FRBR implementations. Some examples are OCLC's WorldCat, AustLit and other research products coming from Australia and several European countries, and the experiments at the company VTLIS with their system called Virtua.

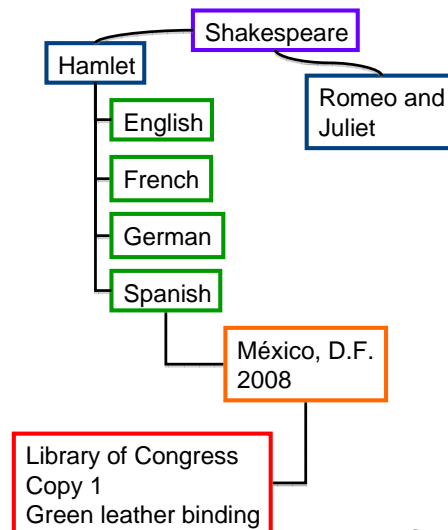
FRBR has recently been used as the foundation for the Dublin Core Abstract Model. We can expect more experimentation and systems designs that will take advantage of FRBR's grouping of bibliographic data for manifestations under expressions of named works. This grouping is also called "collocation."



# Linked Data

## ■ Display

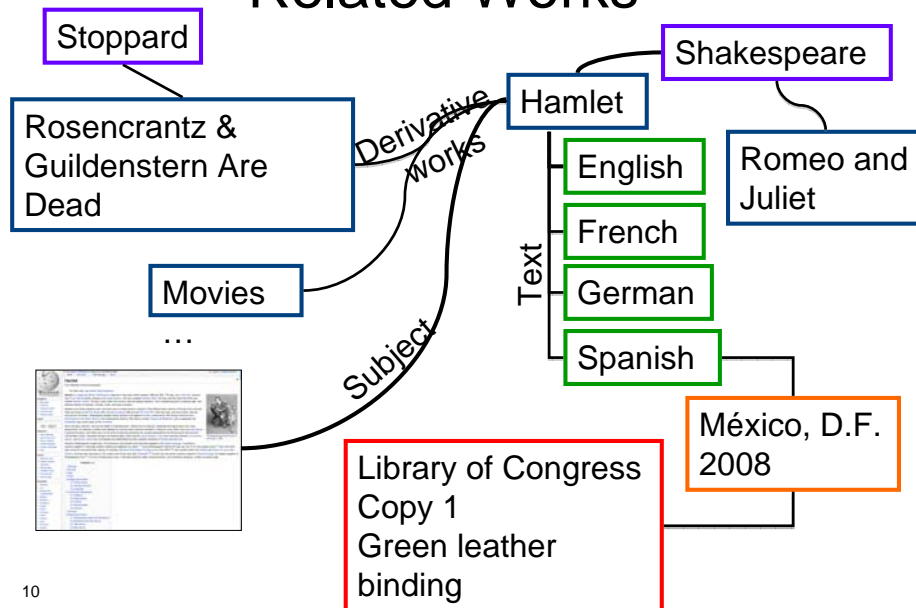
- All the works associated with a person, etc.
- **All the expressions of the same work**
- All the manifestations of the same expression
- All items
- Related works/expressions



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We hope future systems will be developed to take full advantage of mining the metadata catalogers provide. It should be easier to fulfill the functions of a catalog to display all the <click> works associated with a person, all the <click> expressions of the same work, all the <click> manifestations of the same expression, and all the <click> items and their special characteristics, plus...

## Related Works



all related works <click> to movies or plays based on Hamlet – all of this to guide a user through our rich collections and beyond – this shows the connection to the Wikipedia article about Hamlet.

And once we are able to share this linked data on the Internet, we can offer resource discovery systems that will make cataloging much easier by describing once the works/expressions and their relationships to other works/.expression and subject and linking for new manifestation – new resources we add to our collections.



Shakespeare, William, 1564-1616. Hamlet. French.

**LC Control No.** : 47023612

**LCCN Permalink** : <http://lccn.loc.gov/47023612>

**Type of Material** : Book (Print, Microform, Electronic, etc.)

**Personal Name** : [Shakespeare, William, 1564-1616.](#)

**Main Title** : ... Hamlet, traduit par André Gide.

**Published/Created** : [Paris] Gallimard [1946]

**Description** : 2 p. l., 7-237, [2] p. 17 cm.

**CALL NUMBER** : [PR2779.H3 G5](#)Copy 1

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FRBR entities and attributes and some of its relationships have been with us all along. For example. Let's take a look at this OPAC record.

The Library of Congress uses the Voyager integrated library system. If we take a look at the display for Shakespeare's Hamlet, you will see that our OPAC display includes all of the FRBR Group 1 entities – in a sense it is already “FRBR-ized.”

Let's walk through this one to see the Group 1 entities from the FRBR perspective.



Shakespeare, William, 1564-1616. **Hamlet.** French.

**LC Control No.** : 47023612

**LCCN Permalink** : <http://lccn.loc.gov/47023612>

**Type of Material** : Book (Print, Microform, Electronic, etc.)

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**CALL NUMBER** : [PR2779.H3 G5](#)Copy 1

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Work

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When we browse under Shakespeare in the online catalog, we should group the various works together and let the user select which work they want. Then we should group the various expressions we have of that work – sort of like what we already do with uniform titles. Some systems do this better than others now.

With AACR2, we provided a uniform title that included the name of the creator of the work, a preferred title for the work.



Shakespeare, William, 1564-1616. Hamlet. **French.**

**LC Control No.** : 47023612

**Expression**

**LCCN Permalink** : <http://lccn.loc.gov/47023612>

**Type of Material** : Book (Print, Microform, Electronic, etc.)

**Personal Name** : [Shakespeare, William, 1564-1616.](#)

**Main Title** : ... Hamlet, traduit par André Gide.

**Published/Created** : [Paris] Gallimard [1946]

**Description** : 2 p. l., 7-237, [2] p. 17 cm.

**CALL NUMBER** : [PR2779.H3 G5](#)Copy 1

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We also include expression-level information in the uniform title to indicate that this particular description is for a French translation of Hamlet. The OPAC display also shows us the specific



Shakespeare, William, 1564-1616. Hamlet. French.

**LC Control No.** : 47023612

**Manifestation**

**LCCN Permalink** : <http://lccn.loc.gov/47023612>

**Type of Material** : Book (Print, Microform, Electronic, etc.)

**Personal Name** : [Shakespeare, William, 1564-1616.](#)

**Main Title** : ... Hamlet, traduit par André Gide.

**Published/Created** : [Paris] Gallimard [1946]

**Description** : 2 p. l., 7-237, [2] p. 17 cm.

**CALL NUMBER** : [PR2779.H3 G5](#)Copy 1

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manifestation in terms of the body of the bibliographic description and also the individual



Shakespeare, William, 1564-1616. Hamlet. French.

**LC Control No.** : 47023612

**LCCN Permalink** : <http://lccn.loc.gov/47023612>

**Type of Material** : Book (Print, Microform, Electronic, etc.)

**Personal Name** : [Shakespeare, William, 1564-1616.](#)

**Main Title** : ... Hamlet, traduit par André Gide.

**Published/Created** : [Paris] Gallimard [1946]

**Description** : 2 p. l., 7-237, [2] p. 17 cm.

Item  
↓

**CALL NUMBER** : [PR2779.H3 G5](#)Copy 1

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Area Studies Reading Rms

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Items that we hold in our collections – with location information.

You see, FRBR is not so very different from what we do now. The point of using this FRBR model is to help clarify concepts that have been very muddy in our rules in the past and to clarify things we typically ended up learning through experience. Using the FRBR language in the rules and identifying the specific elements or attributes of each entity should make concepts clearer to the next generation of catalogers.

NOTE for translators: For the Intl. Catalog. Princ. (ICP). The decision was made to use the term. 'Ejemplar' to match the Spanish version of ICP.

## What's changing?

- Changes in technology
  - Impact on descriptive/access data
    - book catalogs
    - card catalogs
    - OPACs
    - next generation
- Move from individual library to international audience
- Move from classes of materials to elements and values (more controlled vocabularies)

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RDA is a new cataloging code designed for the digital environment. As with other cataloging codes before it, RDA reflects both the technology of the time and the types of materials that we are organizing, describing, and making available to our users.

The goals for RDA are directly targeted to improve how we catalog and to take better advantage of today's digital environment. Over the past two centuries, we have moved from book catalogs to card catalogs to OPACs. We now are ready for the next generation of systems that use machines to search and display the rich metadata that we provide. Our metadata is our cataloging information. RDA also recognizes that this cataloging data has value beyond an individual library and in fact reaches an international audience.

One of the most significant changes from AACR2 is the move in RDA from AACR2's class of materials concepts to identifying elements needed to describe things. RDA offers more specific controlled vocabularies for some of the elements to prepare us to use machines to manipulate the data more than ever before.





In the late 1990's those of us on the Joint Steering Committee for Revision of the Anglo-American Cataloguing Rules decided to actively try to make changes for the future of the *Anglo-American Cataloguing Rules*. We realized that all these changes in our environment and the development of conceptual models that give us a new way to look at our environment, also gave us new opportunities for improving how we catalog and how we deliver bibliographic information to users. In 1997, we held the **International Conference on the Principles & Future Development of AACR** in Toronto. We invited experts from around the world to share in developing an action plan for the future of AACR.

Some of the recommendations from that meeting have guided the thinking about new directions, such as the desire to document <click> the basic principles that underlie the rules and <click> explorations into content versus carrier and <click> challenging the logical structure of AACR. Some recommendations from that conference have already been implemented, like the <click> new views of seriality – with continuing resources and harmonization of serials cataloging standards among the ISBD, ISSN, and AACR communities. Other recommendations from that conference are still dreams, like <click> further internationalization of the rules for their expanded use worldwide as a content standard for bibliographic and authority records. But we now want to make those dreams a reality.

In 2002 work began on a draft revision of AACR2 then called AACR3. However, by April 2005, the plan had changed. The reactions to the initial draft of AACR3 particularly raised concerns about the need to move to closer alignment with the FRBR model and to build an element set. So, a new structure and plan were developed and the name was changed to *Resource Description and Access* to emphasize the two important tasks of description and access. Importantly from the world perspective, we removed the Anglo-American emphasis so we could take a more international view.

## JSC and Project Management Team



Tom Delsey, editor; John Attig, ALA; Hugh Taylor, CILIP; Deirdre Kiorgaard, ACOC; Barbara Tillett, LC; Marg Stewart, CCC /JSC Chair; Alan Danskin, BL; Nathalie Schulz, JSC Secretary; Marjorie Bloss, RDA project manager

The Joint Steering Committee for Development of RDA just met in Chicago March 11-21, 2009. This picture is from that meeting. This picture includes the JSC and the RDA editor, Tom Delsey and secretary, Nathalie Schulz on the right; and our project manager, Marjorie Bloss on the left. Our chair, Marg Stewart from Canada is in front at the left with white hair.

Left to right –Marjorie Bloss – RDA Project Manager

Marg Stewart, CCC (LAC) and the chair of the Joint Steering Committee

Alan Danskin – BL

John Attig – ALA

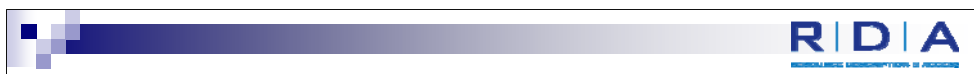
Myself, Barbara Tillett – Library of Congress

Deirdre Kiorgaard – ACOC

Hugh Taylor – CILIP

Nathalie Schulz, the JSC secretary, and

Tom Delsey, the RDA editor



**R | D | A**  
Public Website

<http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/jsc/rda.html>

**R | D | A**  
RESOURCE DESCRIPTION & ACCESS

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We have a JSC Web site where we have posted all of the drafts for RDA and the responses to the drafts as well as other information we hope you will find helpful.

There are some Frequently Asked questions (FAQs) and much more.

## GOALS: *RDA* will be ...

- A new standard for **resource description and access**
- Designed for the **digital** world
  - Optimized for use as an online product
  - Description and access of all resources
    - All types of content and media
  - Resulting records usable in the digital environment (Internet, Web OPACs, etc.)

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The Joint Steering Committee stated our goals for RDA as follows: We envision RDA as a new standard for resource description and access, designed for the digital world.

In other words RDA will be: a Web-based tool that is optimized for use as an online product, a tool that addresses cataloguing all types of content and media, and a tool that results in records that are intended for use in the digital environment – through the Internet, Web-OPACs, etc. The records created using RDA will be readily adaptable to newly emerging database structures.

## *RDA* will be ...

- A consistent, flexible, and extensible framework
- Compatible with internationally established principles, models, and standards
- Primarily for use in libraries, but also adaptable across many information communities worldwide



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The Goals in the RDA Strategic Plan declare that RDA will provide a consistent, flexible, and extensible framework for both the technical and content description of all types of resources and all types of content; that it will be compatible with internationally established principles, models, and standards.

While RDA is being developed for use in English language communities, it can also be used in other language communities. We are expecting that other countries will translate it and adjust its instructions to follow their preferred language and script conventions just as there are now many translations of AACR2. Options are also being added to allow for use of other languages and scripts, other calendars, other numeric systems, etc., beyond those commonly used in Anglo-American countries.

We also intend that RDA will produce information that is compatible across many communities like publishers, archives, museums, and other information organizations.

## General Principles (ICP)



- Convenience of user
- Representation
- Common usage
- Accuracy
- Sufficiency and necessity
- Significance
- Economy
- Consistency and Standardization
- Integration
- Defensible, not arbitrary
- If contradict, take a defensible, practical solution.

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IFLA has now approved a new Statement of International Cataloguing Principles that covers both bibliographic and authority records and all types of resources.

RDA is being based on these new principles.

You notice the first principle is convenience of the user, because we are after all cataloging to help our users. We want the future codes and rules to be easy to understand and to provide only as much metadata as is needed to meet user tasks - to provide accurate data and the minimally necessary elements to identify the resources. In addition the cataloger should include data to help the user navigate the pathways to related resources. And if principles seem to contradict each other in a particular situation, the cataloger should take a defensible, practical solution. The idea is to build cataloger's judgment in deciding how to describe or provide access to bibliographic resources.

## Transcription – Principle of Representation in RDA

- “Take what you see”
  - Correction of inaccuracies elsewhere
  - No more abbreviating
- Accept what you get
  - Facilitating automated data capture

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To give you an idea of how following these principles means a change from AACR2, let's look at the principle of representation shown on the previous slide. This comes into play for transcribed information. RDA will simplify the process of transcription by usually “taking what you see” on the resource – this eliminates many of the AACR2 rules that instruct catalogers to alter the data that they are transcribing. For example, in RDA, inaccuracies will be recorded as they are found on the item, and the corrected data will be provided separately, if needed. This and other simplifications to the transcription rules are designed to facilitate automated data capture and reusing metadata from other sources, such as from publishers – that some of us now capture from ONIX data. Catalogers will also have more flexibility in RDA to take capitalization as it appears and will take abbreviations as they appear on the resource in most cases. The similarities and differences between RDA and AACR2 will be pointed out during training.

In fact, the Joint Steering Committee will be working to provide documentation for trainers to help prepare for a smooth implementation. One particularly useful document will be updated very soon – the “Changes from AACR2”. The Library of Congress also has started preparing examples of records created with AACR2 and RDA to compare.

## RDA Structure

- General introduction
- Elements
- Relationships
- Appendices
  - Capitalization, Abbreviations, Initial articles, etc.
  - Presentation (ISBD, MARC, etc.)
  - Relationship designators
  - Etc.
- Glossary
- Index

This shows RDA's current structure.

There will be a general introduction to provide background.

Then the instructions are arranged to begin with describing a manifestation and then the work and expression it contains. RDA also includes instructions about identifying persons, families, corporate bodies, places, and has placeholders for concepts, objects, and events. It includes all of the elements needed to describe each kind of entity.

Then follow chapters with guidelines on making relationships among the entities.

At the end are appendices about such things as capitalization, abbreviations, and initial articles plus an appendix on how to present descriptive data (including the ISBD display format and the MARC 21 mapping to RDA elements) and how to present authority data. Three appendices cover relationship designators, things like the roles a person or corporate body can play in relation to a work, expression, manifestation, or item - and there will be a glossary and an index.

But also remember this is an online Web-based tool that will have keyword access.



## New Terminology

### *AACR2 terms*

Heading  
Added Entry  
Authorized heading  
See references


### *RDA terms*

Access point  
Access point  
Preferred access point  
Variant access point

With RDA we are making an attempt to update the card catalog-based terminology that remains in AACR2. The AACR term "heading" of course comes from the text that was typed at the top or "head" of a catalog card. We are replacing this term with "access point."

Main Entry and Added Entry headings will become "access points".

The information we give in see references will be recorded as "variant access points."



## New Terminology

<i>AACR2 terms</i>	<i>RDA terms</i>
Main Entry	
Uniform title	Preferred title Name of the work (to include name of creator when applicable)
Authority control	

AACR2 uses two problematic terms – main entry and uniform title. Main entry can either refer to the authorized heading or to the whole bibliographic record. The term ‘Uniform Title,’ is problematic because it has multiple meanings in AACR2. It can be a collocating title for a work, a unique/distinguishing title for a work, a standardized collective title, and so on). So instead of using this term, RDA uses the term ‘Preferred title’ for a work. When we link a preferred title with the name of the creator, we have an ‘authorized access point’ for the work that “names the work.”

We’re also moving away from using the term “authority control.” This is because with new technologies, we have more options for controlling the display form of a name for an entity based on an authority record that clusters together all the variant forms of name – we will probably continue to declare one form as a default “authorized” or “preferred access point” but on the Internet any of the variant forms identified with an entity may be used for display – this lets us display a form that fits best with a user’s need for a particular language or script.

## RDA Elements

- “Core”
- Content Types, Media Types, and Carrier Types to replace GMDs
- Other examples of new elements:
  - File characteristics for digital materials
  - Video format characteristics
  - Custodial information for archival resources
  - Braille characteristics

RDA will have a core set of elements recommended for the identification of each entity.

New elements have been added to RDA: some to solve problems in AACR2 and some to add elements that are lacking in AACR2.

Data elements for Media type, Carrier type, and Content type will be used instead of the GMDs (general material designators) currently in AACR2. One of the complaints about the GMDs now found in AACR2 is that they are not consistent – being a mixture of content and carrier types and the lists are incomplete.

Content types include such things as text, image, sound, cartographic content, notated movement – they describe the work/expression.

Carrier types are categories of the kinds of packages to convey information – the carriers in which or on which we record content, such as a volume, microfiche, videocassette, globe, etc. These carrier types all map to specific Media types, such as audio, video, unmediated – so we may find we do not need to explicitly identify the media type in our bibliographic records, because a machine could do that for us.

Other elements, such as the examples shown on the slide, are missing in AACR2 - file characteristics, video formats, archival custodial information, and Braille characteristics.

# RDA Element Analysis

- RDA element (domain: manifestation)
  - Title
    - Title proper
    - Parallel title
    - Other title information
    - Variant title
    - Key title
    - Abbreviated title
  - element
    - element sub-type
    - element sub-type
    - element sub-type
    - element sub-type
    - element sub-type
    - element sub-type

In RDA the concepts are still those we are familiar with, but they are being expressed differently as a set of elements, element sub-types, and sub-elements to make the data more usable on the Web. There is a table of all of the RDA elements indicating their names and properties that you can find on the JSC Web site.

This element-based approach of well-structured metadata makes the data in our descriptions more usable on the Internet, because this is similar to structures being used by other metadata communities.

All of the RDA elements and the values we have established for some of the elements, like the list of controlled terms we use to identify the types of content, are being made available on the Web as registries to help future Web applications.

## RDA Element Analysis

- RDA element (domain: manifestation)
  - **Publication statement**
    - Place of publication
    - Parallel place of publication
    - Publisher's name
    - Parallel publisher's name
    - Date of publication
  - **element**
    - sub-element
    - sub-element
    - sub-element
    - sub-element
    - sub-element

Here's another piece of the element analysis table: you see again we have familiar things – a publication statement (as in the ISBD) that has sub-elements of place, publisher's name, and date.

## Collaborations with other Metadata Communities

- ONIX (Publishers) – types of content, media, carriers
- RDA, Dublin Core, IEEE/LOM, Semantic Web

- “Data Modeling Meeting” - London 2007



- RDA/MARC Working Group (MARBI)

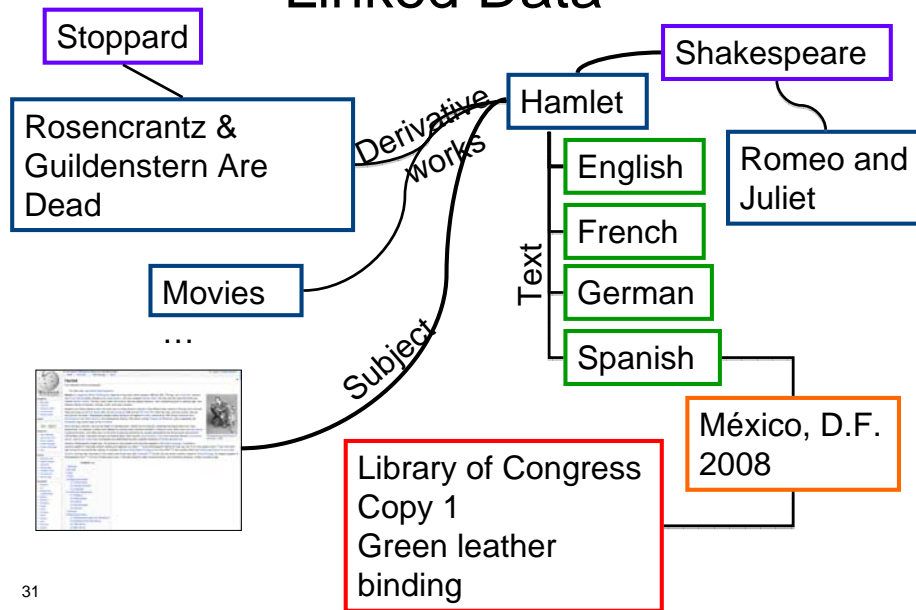
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The Joint Steering Committee has paid close attention to developments in other metadata communities, and initiated collaborations with the publishers who were developing their own metadata set called ONIX. Together we developed controlled vocabularies for media types, content types, and carrier types.

In 2007, JSC representatives met at the British Library with key representatives from Dublin Core, IEEE/LOM, and Semantic Web communities and agreed to examine the fit between RDA and other metadata models. This is the group with which we are working together to develop a data dictionary and have created an initial registry for the RDA elements and controlled terms.

In 2008 the JSC started participating in a joint effort to determine what revisions are necessary to accommodate the encoding of RDA in MARC 21 for the initial release of RDA. This RDA/MARC Working Group presented proposals to MARBI at their meeting June 2008 and many were approved at the MARBI meeting in January 2009. We hope the remainder will be approved in July 2009.

# Linked Data



RDA is preparing us for the future by describing specific elements to identify entities and stating specific relationships that can be used by machines in linked data environments.

## RDA Online/ Implementation

- ILS: Input templates for cataloging
  - Listing the elements and links to RDA guidelines (depends on the ILS vendor)
- Workflows in RDA Online
  - Step-by-step process with link to RDA guidelines
  - RDA Online wizard to create your own “workflows”
  - Share “workflows”

Now how do we all prepare for implementing RDA?

First of all RDA will be an online tool accessible on the Web. We hope eventually it will be connected with your integrated library system or bibliographic utility, like OCLC, provide direct links from a cataloging module template or input screen to the relevant RDA instructions for each data element.

RDA itself will have some “workflows”, that is, simple, step-by-step guides to walk the new catalogers through creating a bibliographic and authority records – there will also be a “workflow wizard” to enable you to build your own workflows that can be shared with colleagues or not as you wish.



HomeRDAOnline.org

**R | D | A** RESOURCE DESCRIPTION & ACCESS

Welcome, Nannette Naught  
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Univ of X, Cataloging

Manage My Account | Respond | Log Out

**RDA**

- + Browse RDA
- + Search RDA
- + Download RDA Schemas

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RESOURCE DESCRIPTION & ACCESS

Prepared under the direction of:  
**The Joint Steering Committee for Development of RDA, a committee of:**  
The American Library Association  
The Australian Committee on Cataloguing  
The British Library  
The Canadian Committee on Cataloguing  
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If there is time, I'd like to take you through a short demonstration of RDA online to show you some of the planned functionality.

## Suggested changes for systems

- New MARC fields for RDA elements
  - Content type, carrier type/media type
  - 502 subfields for dissertations for academic degree, granting institution/faculty, year degree granted, dissertation number, etc.
  - Added relator terms (Appendix I)
  - Authority format fields for dates, places, etc., for names

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As part of planning for the implementation of RDA, the National Library of Australia has posted a set of FAQs (frequently asked questions) related to system changes with RDA.

As I mentioned before we are working with MARBI to be sure MARC has places to put some of the new elements that RDA includes, such as the content type, carrier type, and media types that I mentioned earlier. Some other examples are the addition of subfields for the 502 dissertation note to specifically identify the elements of the degree, the name of the granting institution or faculty, the year the degree was granted, the dissertation number, etc – so machines can use that information for indexing or displays rather than having it as we do now in a textual note. We also are adding more relator terms to the MARC lists and specifying fields in the authority records for specific dates, places, and so on that relate to names.

## More system changes

- Input/verification functions (import/export)
- Indexes for new data elements

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Some other system changes that vendors or you in your local systems will want to make are related to the import and export of records to accommodate these MARC changes – some of which will involve the input or validation functions in your systems or the indexes you may want to add for the new data elements.

## “Legacy” records (now in systems)

- Existing records generally will not need changing (exceptions: ‘global updating’ for Bible, Department)
- However, existing AACR2 records lack new MARC data elements and the FRBR grouping and display advantages of RDA

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So what do you need to do about records already in your systems? Generally you will not need to change them at all. In some specific cases where RDA differs from AACR2, you may want to do a one-time global update to fix headings for the Bible and to now spell out the formerly abbreviated word “Department” in corporate names.

However, if you choose not to upgrade the existing records you will diminish the future ability to use the new elements for the FRBR groupings and display advantages that RDA offers. It may be that adding that information can partially be assisted through machine algorithms and through collaborative projects to share the workload.

## RDA Online and Local System

- Designed to allow integration with library systems
- Initially view in parallel through Web connection

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As noted in the RDA FAQ from the National Library of Australia: “The RDA online product has been developed to allow integration with library systems, with the aim of enabling a cataloguer to click through directly from their cataloguing system to the relevant RDA instruction for the data being input. However, initially it is unlikely that most library systems will be able to support this seamless integration with RDA. Rather, it is expected that the RDA online product will run in the “background” and that the cataloguer will ‘toggle’ back and forth from their integrated library system

## Example of partial Input Template (MARC bib record)

- Transcribed information (take what you see, add ISBD punctuation)
  - Title proper: → 245 \$a
  - Statement of responsibility: → 245 \$c
  - Edition statement: → 250
  - Place of publication: → 260 \$a
  - Publisher: → 260 \$b
  - Date of publication: → 260 \$c
  - Type of carrier: → 383
  - Etc.

We hope systems will offer templates to input bibliographic and authority data that follow RDA elements. Let's look at an example of a part of such a template for cataloging. You will notice a lot looks the same as with an AACR2-based MARC record, but the difference is you now have the option to take what you see when transcribing information. And with RDA, the rule of 3 is optional. Also you now just document the first place of publication (others can be added if you wish), but there is no need to add the place in your own country unless your library wishes to.

Systems of the future will know to display all of these elements as manifestation- level data.

Similarly there would be elements on the template or input screen for works and expressions and for making links to related persons, corporate bodies, & families along with their roles (relationship designators).

## JSC Working Documents

- Changes from AACR2
- Issues deferred until after the 1<sup>st</sup> release
- RDA Elements Table
- <http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/jsc/working1.html>
- Etc.

The JSC Web site now has some additional background documents we hope will be useful – found at the URL (Web address) shown here.

## RDA Testing / Implementation

2009 or early 2010: First Release

+9-10 months: LC, NAL, NLM testing

Training materials

Documentation on system changes

(MARC Format, indexing, etc.)

2010: Implementation (BL, LAC, NLA, etc.)

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RDA is being designed as a Web tool – that is it will be viewed on your computer and have keyword access in addition to an index. We are not yet certain when that online version will be available for you to test, but we hope it will be soon.

The publishers have given a tentative first release date of July 2009. Whenever it is, that will be the start date for testing RDA before implementation. The three national libraries in the United States: Library of Congress, the National Agriculture Library, and the National Library of Medicine are jointly collaborating to test RDA and share our findings on a public Web site this year. We will begin with about 3 months of training, then 3 months of testing, followed by a period of 3 or 4 months to assess the results and propose improvements.

The national libraries in Canada, Australia, and the United Kingdom have also said they will test RDA in order to better implement it in 2010. All of us will be sharing our training materials and documentation.






<http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/jsc/rda.html>

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You can stay informed through the JSC Web site and through collaborations with your colleagues as you together prepare for this new cataloging code.

I think we're at an exciting time for the development of new information systems, more global in nature, that can make cataloging easier and make the results of cataloging much more flexible and useful to our users. RDA is pointing us in the direction towards that future to better serve our users.



Thank you!

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Thank you for your attention.

Any questions?

## Acronyms and Links

- DC – Dublin Core
  - DCMI – Dublin Core Metadata Initiative  
<http://dublincore.org/>
  - DCAM – Dublin Core Abstract Model  
<http://dublincore.org/documents/2007/04/02/abstract-model/>
- FRAD – Functional Requirements for Authority Data  
<http://www.ifla.org/VII/d4/wg-franar.htm>
- FRBR – Functional Requirements for Bibliographic Records (this site includes a Webliography)  
<http://www.ifla.org/VII/s13/frbr/frbr.htm>
- IFLA – International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions  
<http://www.inflanet.org>
- JSC – Joint Steering Committee for Development of RDA  
<http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/jsc/index.html>
- RDA – Resource Description and Access  
<http://www.collectionscanada.ca/jsc/rda.html>