AACR3/RDA

Why bother?
• Simplify
  – Encourage use as a content standard for metadata schema
  – Encourage applications of the FRBR model
  – Encourage international applicability
• Provide more consistency where appropriate
• Improve collocation
  – Work/expression level citation/relationships
  – New approach to GMDs

Why bother?
• Principle-based
  – Build cataloger’s judgment
  – Founded on international cataloging principles
  – Encourage applications of FRBR concepts

FRBR and AACR
(1) 1997 International Conference on the Principles and Future Development of AACR
  – basic principles
  – content vs. carrier
  – logical structure of AACR
  – seriality
  – internationalization

FRBR and AACR
(2) FRBR model provides new insights -- pushes us to look beyond description and access
  – focus on the catalogue or database
  – focus on user needs and objectives of the catalogue
  – focus on communicating information about relationships between entities

AACR3/RDA
• revision work advancing on many fronts
• some revision tasks affect almost every chapter (e.g. FRBR terminology)
• incorporating FRBR terminology necessitates incorporating the concepts changes throughout AACR
• changes beyond the usual scope of amendments
FRBR’s benefits

• aims to get the user to the resource efficiently
• clarifies what is important in a bibliographic record
• clarifies organizing principles for structuring the display of large sets of records or metadata
• emphasizes the importance of relationships between resources

FRBR’s benefits

• generated a re-examination of practices and rules
• presents a conceptual framework for this revision work which should increase clarity for users and maintain coherence and consistency in cataloguing rules
• a model to be maintained, expanded

Strategic Plan – RDA is

• 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.)

Strategic Plan – RDA is

• Multinational content standard providing bibliographic description and access
• For all media
• Developed for use in English language community; it can also be used in other language communities
• Independent of the format (e.g., MARC 21) used to communicate information

RDA will

• Enable users of library catalogues, etc. to find and use resources appropriate to their information needs
• Support FRBR user tasks
  – Find, identify, select, obtain
• Extend beyond FRBR user tasks, e.g.,
  – Use resources
  – Manage collections
  – Navigate systems

Goals in Strategic Plan

1. Based on principles
2. Used worldwide, but derived from English language conventions and customs
3. Easy to use and interpret
4. Applicable to, and operate in, an online, Web-based environment
**Goals in Strategic Plan**

5. For all types of media (analog and digital)
6. Compatible with other standards for resource description and retrieval
7. For use beyond the library community

**Strengths of AACR**

- based on firm principles
- used with all types of media
- flexible and allow for different levels of description
- enable consistency in practice and sharing of catalogue records
- continuity and also constantly evolving
- enable precision in searching
- independent of the format
- applicable in a range of systems

**Goals of AACR**

- rules based on principles
- worldwide use but derived from English language conventions and customs
- easy to use and interpret
- applicable to operate in Web-based environment
- effective bibliographic control of all media
- compatible with other standards for resource description and retrieval
- can be used beyond library community

**AACR3/RDA**

- Increasingly AACR2 is criticized for being too complex, too dependent upon outmoded card catalog concepts, and too difficult to apply to new types of digital resources.
- New edition –2009
- New Introductions
  - Principles, functions of catalog, conceptual info.
- Content guidelines, updated examples
- Authority control

**AACR Areas of change**

- Incorporate FRBR concepts and terminology into AACR
- Rewrite introduction to include a statement of the principles of AACR, a description of the functions of the catalogue, and conceptual information to assist cataloguers in understanding the methods of procedure
- Reduce redundancy and revise for consistency across all types of content in Part I, where possible
AACR Areas of change

- incorporate concept of authority control
- incorporate expression-level collocation
- resolve problems associated with class of materials concept (content versus carrier issues, GMDs)
- introduce rules for multipart items changing over time
- address issue of authorship and restrictions imposed by the rule of 3

AACR3: Areas of Investigation

- New approach to successively issued resources to facilitate cataloging and end user tasks
- New approach to “collections”
- New approach to “uniform titles” to enable better collocation of works and expressions
- Develop in consultation with a “General Editor”

AACR3/RDA: Constituent Comments

- The Joint Steering Committee for Revision of AACR (JSC) and the Committee of Principals for AACR (CoP) discussed feedback received from library constituencies and other rule-making bodies on a draft of Part 1 of an intended new edition of AACR.
- The two committees reaffirmed the need to develop a new code to replace AACR2.
- However, the feedback was clear that a different approach is required than what was represented in the draft of Part 1.
- To signify the change in direction, the JSC and CoP have agreed on a new working title for the code: RDA: Resource Description and Access.

RDA: Resource Description and Access

- RDA will be a new standard for resource description and access designed for the digital world. RDA will provide:
  - a more flexible framework for addressing the challenges of describing digital resources
  - data that is more readily adaptable to newly emerging, more efficient, database structures
  - data that is compatible with existing records already in online library catalogs because of RDA’s foundations in the principles set by AACR.

RDA

- RDA will be designed as an online product for use in a Web environment. It will have the following specific features:
  - Organization around IFLA’s Functional Requirements for Bibliographic Records (FRBR) and related new data models
  - Instructions for recording data presented independently of guidelines for data display, to provide more flexibility for records used in a variety of online environments
  - More “user-friendly” layout and formatting, with instructions written in “plain” English so that the code can be used more easily beyond the library world.

RDA Structure

- General introduction
- Part A - Description
- Part B – Access Point Control
- Appendices
  - Capitalization
  - Abbreviations
  - Initial Articles
  - Presentation of descriptive data (including ISBD and OPAC display)
  - Presentation of access point control data (including ISBD and OPAC display)
- Glossary
- Index
### RDA – Part A
**Description**
- Introduction to part I
- Chapter 1. General guidelines on resource description
- Chapter 2. Identification of the resource
- Chapter 3. Carrier description
- Chapter 4. Content description
- Chapter 5. Acquisition and access information
- Chapter 6. Related resources
- Chapter 7. Persons, families, and corporate bodies associated with a resource

### RDA – Part B - Access Point Control
**Description**
- Introduction to part B
- Chapter 8. General guidelines on access point control
- Chapter 9. Access points for persons
- Chapter 10. Access points for families
- Chapter 12. Access points for places
- Chapter 13. Access points for works, etc.
- Chapter 14. Other information used in access point control

### Expandable GMDs (Possibilities)
- Text: Microform
- Music: Digital
- Multimedia: Digital

### Work/Expression Records
- Classics of literature vs. scientific studies
- Examples in the OCLC database
  - Stephen King
    - 102 works, 231 manifestations
  - Shakespeare’s Hamlet
    - 1 work, 2696 manifestations
  - Rowling, J.K. (Harry Potter stories)
    - 28 works, 300 manifestations

### RDA Timeline (Proposal)
- May 2005-July 2005: Development of prospectus
- Oct. 2005-April. 2006: Completion of draft of part A chapters dealing with resource attributes (formerly known as part I), and constituency review
- May 2006-Sept. 2006: Completion of draft of part A chapters dealing with relationships (formerly known as part II), and constituency review
- Oct. 2006-Apr. 2007: Completion of draft of part B (formerly known as part III), and constituency review
- 2008: Publication

### AACR2 (finite integrating resource)
- Current plans: final AACR2 update 2005
RDA
logical and theoretical
aligned with international standards
with FRBR concepts and terms
better for users
better for cataloguers

Weaknesses of RDA
• Book/print bias
• Rule driven not principle driven
• Overly complex rules that require intensive training
• Too expensive
• Too much ROT (Redundancy, Obsolete, Trivial)
• Structure based on a linear card catalog model
• User studies needed
• Not clear how RDA will implement FRBR

Expectations of Users
• Simple keyword searching
• See cover, title page, table of contents, index, select pages
• Ranked reviews by others
• Listen to snippets of music
• “Spell check” Did mean ....
• Limit by format before searching
• Participant not just passive user
• Suggested other reading

Threats
“... if we in the library field do not develop cataloging rules that can be used for this digital reality, we will find once again that non-librarians will take the lead in an area that we have assumed is ours. We need to apply the principle of least effort, since we know that cataloging as it has been done is increasingly un-affordable. And we need to create cataloging rules that take into account the reality of machine-to-machine communication and the derivation of data elements by algorithms.”
-- Karen Coyle, email to the MARC list

The Real Questions
1. Legacy cataloging:
   How much pain and expense are we willing to tolerate?
2. Radical changes:
   How far can we push the envelope without breaking the systems?
3. Process
   Are we able to discuss the big picture before fighting over the details?

Other Thoughts
• RDA should not try to be all things to all communities nor all metadata standards
  – OAI and DLF work has shown that communities of practice important and valuable
  – Some standards are better suited to some communities than others (CCO, DACS)
• BUT consensus on overarching model (Coyle/Hillmann) and alignment with other content standards essential for interoperability
• Engagement beyond the Dublin Core and IEEE LOM communities important