

Restructured, Redesigned:
Ready or Not
for the New RDA Toolkit

or, Two Loris Talk About RDA

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What we'll cover today:

- Lori R:
 - Overview and status of 3R project, new Toolkit
 - Background (why is this happening?)
 - Redesign of Toolkit, restructuring of RDA – goals, frustrations
 - Application profiles and policy statements
- Lori V.:
 - RDA Toolkit and equity
 - How catalogers without Toolkit access can stay caught up and get questions answered

Disclaimers, caveats

- I am not an expert on the new RDA Toolkit
- In fact, I have paid minimal attention to it until recently
- I have started paying attention
- I am confused most of the time
 - But it is getting a little better

This presentation will not:

- Show you how to use the new RDA Toolkit
- Cover all of the new terminology and concepts
- Eliminate confusion

I hope it will:

- Help you understand where we are
- Give you a sense of what's ahead
- Point you to resources to learn more (when you're ready)

Ready or not?...NOT

- Multi-year “3R Project” wrapped up on December 15, 2020
 - Beta site is now official RDA
- However, official RDA is **not** usable for cataloging yet
 - Lacks guidance needed to actually apply instructions
- Most of us will continue to use the original RDA Toolkit for cataloging at least until July 2022
 - At some point a year-long “countdown clock” will begin and eventually the original Toolkit will be removed

Acronyms

- RDA: Resource Description and Access
- LRM: Library Reference Model
- PCC: Program for Cooperative Cataloging
- RSC: RDA Steering Committee
- WEMI: Work, Expression, Manifestation, Item

Background

- IFLA Library Reference Model (LRM) finalized August 2017
- RDA 3R Project:
 - Redesign: user interface
 - Restructure: “under the hood,” data structure, content management system
 - Incorporate LRM elements
 - Initial rollout June 2018
- Expected outcomes of 3R Project:
 - Experience of using the Toolkit will be very different
 - Little change in practice (what our MARC records look like)
 - RDA will be more linked data ready; more useful internationally

What is the IFLA LRM?

- Consolidation of the FR family of conceptual models:
 - FRBR -- *Functional Requirements for Bibliographic Records*
 - FRAD -- *Functional Requirements for Authority Data*
 - FRSAD -- *Functional Requirements for Subject Authority Data*
- A single, consistent model covering all aspects of bibliographic data
- Defines entities, attributes, and relationships in a high level, general way
- Updates user tasks
- Omits some elements from earlier models and adds some new

New Entities from LRM

- *agent*
 - A person or two or more persons capable of acting as a unit
 - Must be real human beings
- *collective agent*
 - Includes a corporate body and a family
- *nomen*
 - Associates a combination of signs or symbols (an appellation) with an RDA entity
 - Identical strings may refer to different entities [Anne O'Connor]
 - One entity may have many nomen [Charles Dickens / Boz / Timothy Sparks]
- *place*
 - A given extent of space, although the boundaries may change over time
- *timespan*
 - A duration of time, which can be very specific or can be a broad range

New concepts in LRM (selected)

- Diachronic works
 - Aggregating work
 - Manifestation statements
 - Representative expression
-
- Training in LRM is available from the PCC:
 - <https://www.loc.gov/catworkshop/RDA2020/index.html>

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Related Resources

- > [Program for Cooperative Cataloging \(PCC\)](#)
- > [Cataloging & Acquisitions](#)
- > [Librarians, Archivists](#)
- > [Online Catalog](#)
- > [Webcasts](#)

Preparing for the New RDA: RDA Toolkit Restructure and Redesign Project (3R Project)

- > The PCC Standing Committee on Training (SCT) is creating training materials to assist the community in preparing for the New RDA that is the result of the [RDA Toolkit Restructure and Redesign Project \(3R Project\)](#).

What Is IFLA/LRM?

Introduction (PPT : 56 KB)
Module 1 -- What is LRM? (PPT : 182 KB)
Module 2 -- Terminology (PPT : 199 KB)
Module 3 -- Relationships (PPT : 445 KB)
Module 4 -- RES and WEMI (PPT : 993 KB)
Module 5 -- Agent (PPT : 13.87 MB)
Module 6 -- Place and Time Span (PPT : 6.17 MB)
Module 7 -- Nomen (PPT : 1.74 MB)
Module 8 -- Bibliographic Identities (PPT : 866 KB)
Module 9 -- Representative Expression Attribute (PPT : 5.91 MB)
Module 10 -- Introduction to Aggregates (PPT : 3.94 MB)
Module 11 -- Modelling Aggregates (PPT : 6.06 MB)
Module 12 -- Serials in LRM (PPT : 796 KB)

ALA Editions · SPECIAL REPORTS

INTRODUCING RDA

A Guide to the Basics after 3R

Second Edition

CHRIS OLIVER

A more accessible resource for learning what catalogers need to know about LRM

Redesign of Toolkit, restructuring of RDA

- 3R goals:
 - Bring the content in alignment with the LRM
 - Improve the site architecture (more modular and flexible)
 - Enhance user tools and navigation
 - Make the Toolkit compliant with accessibility standards
 - Make the Toolkit well positioned for use with linked data
 - Results of cataloging are the same

Internationalization, flexibility

“RDA is designed for an international audience, with the expectation that cataloguing agents will make application decisions when desirable. These decisions may be formally recorded in RDA Toolkit as policy statements, or as separate documents such as an *application profile* issued by an agent.”

“The metadata should function independently of the format, medium, or systems used to store or communicate the metadata. They should be amenable to use in a variety of environments.”

--from RDA Toolkit, Objectives and principles governing RDA

Why has it all been so frustrating?

- The new Toolkit is optimized for machine use and a linked data environment
 - The language is extremely challenging
 - Not at all linear
- Training resources so far have been very focused on:
 - Data modeling, e.g.:
 - Why there are elements such as “editor person of moving image work of”
 - Why the new element “Nomen” is needed
 - Application of RDA in a non-MARC environment
 - Application profiles for MARC cataloging have not yet been developed, but some training resources have developed them for non-MARC environments (e.g., RIMMF)

- RDA

RDA Table of Contents

+ 0: Introduction

- Section 1: Recording Attributes of
Manifestation & Item+ 1: General Guidelines on Recording
Attributes of Manifestations and
Items- 2: Identifying Manifestations and
Items

2.0 Purpose and Scope

+ 2.1 Basis for Identification of the
Manifestation

+ 2.2 Sources of Information

+ 2.3 Title

+ 2.4 Statement of Responsibility

+ 2.5 Edition Statement

+ 2.6 Numbering of Serials

+ 2.7 Production Statement

+ 2.8 Publication Statement

+ 2.9 Distribution Statement

+ 2.10 Manufacture Statement

+ 2.11 Copyright Date

+ 2.12 Series Statement

[1] 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 

2

IDENTIFYING MANIFESTATIONS

2.0 Purpose and Scope

This chapter provides general guidelines and instructions on recording the often used to identify a manifestation or item. These attributes are recorded (The elements in chapter 2 reflect the information typically used by the producer (title, statement of responsibility, edition statement). The user generally relies

- to determine whether the manifestation described is the one sought
- to distinguish between manifestations with similar identifying information

Not all of the elements covered in this chapter will be applicable to the description. For the elements that are applicable, the description of the manifestation should include the core elements (see [1.3 RDA](#)). If the core elements are not sufficient to differentiate the manifestation, include additional elements, as necessary, from:

ENTITIES

GUIDANCE

POLICIES

RESOURCES

All

RDA Entity

Work

Expression

Manifestation

Item

Agent

Person

Collective Agent

Corporate Body

Family

Nomen

Place

Timespan

Lori

Release: April 2021

[All News >](#)

News

dated on April 6th.

April 2021 RDA Toolkit from the
The April 2021 release of cataloging and
It includes the addition of Best
Library of Congress - Pro are also fixes
the British Library and inonality,
Practices for the Music Liellow
and minor improvement:
including the introduction
Condition boxes to imprc

[Read more](#)

Why has it all been so frustrating?

- New RDA Toolkit **requires** application profiles and policy statements to be usable
 - There are no actual rules – most instructions are optional
 - Agents or communities must develop these
 - Who does this fall to?
- In the U.S./North American cataloging community: LC and the PCC
 - Even to replicate current cataloging practice, adapting and inputting current policy statements has been very time-intensive
 - New concepts from LRM not previously covered by policy statements require additional work

content type

Definition and Scope

A categorization that reflects the fundamental content is expressed and the human sense perceived.

Content type also reflects the number of substances in the absence of movement in which content expressed and intended to be perceived.

 [Element Reference](#)

Prerecording

The value of this element may be used for [expression](#).

Recording

CONDITION

An expression has two or more values of Expression: [content type](#).

OPTION

Record all of the content types.

OPTION

Record only the predominant content type.

OPTION

Record only the content types that apply to the most substantial content of the expression.

Global Standard, Local Choices – The New RDA Toolkit

Kathy Glennan

Chair, RDA Steering Committee

Head, Cataloging & Metadata Services
University of Maryland Libraries



New: Recording methods (guidance chapter)

- Unstructured description
 - Transcribed information, notes
- Structured description
 - Access points, structured notes, names or terms from controlled vocabularies or authority files
- Identifier
 - Such as ISBN, number from an authority file
- IRI (Internationalized Resource Identifier)
 - Example: <http://viaf.org/viaf/75645081>

Application profiles

- Specify what parts of RDA to use in creating metadata for a particular community
 - Entities, elements, vocabulary encoding schemes
 - Whether elements are mandatory, optional, repeatable
 - Recording method to use for a specific element
 - Which options to apply
 - May also include general guidance on transcription, capitalization, punctuation, etc.

Manifestation Elements (p. 1)

Element name	Required	Repeatable	Recording Method
Media type	Yes	Yes	Structured
Mode of issuance	Yes	No	Structured
Title proper	Yes	No	Unstructured
Parallel title proper	Yes, if applicable	Yes	Unstructured
Other title information	Yes, if applicable	Yes	Unstructured
Statement of responsibility relating to title proper	Yes, if applicable	Yes	Unstructured
Variant title of manifestation	Yes, if applicable	Yes	Unstructured
Designation of edition	Yes, if applicable	Yes	Unstructured
Designation of named revision of edition	Yes, if applicable	Yes	Unstructured

Manifestation Elements (p. 3)

Element name	Required	Repeatable	Recording Method
Title of series	Yes, if applicable	Yes	Unstructured
Parallel title of series	Yes, if applicable	Yes	Unstructured
Other title information of series	Yes, if applicable	Yes	Unstructured
Statement of responsibility relating to series	Yes, if applicable	Yes	Unstructured
Numbering within sequence	Yes, if applicable	Yes	Unstructured
Note on manifestation	No	Yes	Unstructured
Identifier for manifestation	Yes, if applicable	Yes	Identifier

Slide from Practical implications: a look at cataloging a book using the new RDA, by Kathy Glennan

Application Profile – Example

Note: This is only a partial example; full evaluation of table entries & content is needed!

Entity	Element	Element type	Min.	Max.	Recording method	VES	CURIE	Comments
Work	preferred title of work	Relationship	1	1	Unstructured	n/a	rdaw:P10223	
Work	category of work	Attribute	0	>1	Unstructured Structured	n/a TBD	rdaw:P10004	Use judgment on recording method
Work	date of work	Relationship	0	>1	Unstructured	n/a	rdaw:P10219	
Work	place of origin of work	Relationship	0	1	Structured	LCNAF	rdaw:P10218	Core when needed to differentiate a work from another work
Work	history of work	Attribute	0	1	Unstructured	n/a	rdaw:P10210	
Work	identifier for work	Relationship	0	>1	Identifier	ISWC	rdaw:P10002	For musical works only

Slide from Global Standard, Local Choices, by Kathy Glennan

RDA Lab Series Relationship Basics AP 1

Version:	License	Category	Last Updated	URLs	Files
2.0	CC BY-NC	App			

Disclaimer: This application profile was created for educational exercises, and is not intended for use with real-world data.

Manifestation: Relationship Elements

Manifestation to Nomen

Record these elements:

title proper

- Cardinality: maximum value=1; required value=1.
- More than one title of manifestation:
 - Apply this [OPTION](#) for titles in the same language.
 - Title in more than one language or script: apply this [OPTION](#).
 - Option: Record title proper in another language or script appearing on manifestation as [parallel title proper](#).

Manifestation to Expression

Record these elements:

expression manifested

- Cardinality: record all.
- Record using a value of Expression: preferred title of expression.




AP and other documentation

- RDA states that there is an element called title proper and presents options on what to record
- Application profile states that you must have a title proper
- Policy statement states that you will apply or not apply specific options within the title proper element
- Other documentation states where and how you will record the title proper in the encoding scheme

Titles that contain errors

CONDITION

A value of Manifestation: [title of manifestation](#)  includes an obvious typographical error.

OPTION

Record a value that includes a typographical error.

[Send to Back](#)

LC-PCC

LC/PCC practice: For monographic works and multipart monographs, Apply the option. Record a corrected title as a Manifestation: [variant title](#)

OPTION


Record a value that corrects a typographical error.

[Send to Back](#)

LC-PCC

LC/PCC practice: For serial works or integrating resources, apply the option.

OPTION

Record a Manifestation: [note on manifestation](#)  giving details of a typographical error.

[Send to Back](#)

LC-PCC

LC/PCC practice: For serial works or integrating resources, apply the option or record the title with error as a Manifestation: [variant title of](#)

New terminology

- Metadata description set – not “record”
- Vocabulary encoding scheme (VES) – controlled vocabularies, authority files
- String encoding scheme (SES) – specification of how to construct a particular string (e.g., access points)
- Entity boundary – when to create a new description set
- Appellation element – “An element that uses an unstructured description, structured description, or identifier to refer to an instance of an RDA entity within a given scheme or context”

No instruction numbers

- Citation numbers instead
 - Randomly assigned
 - XX.XX.XX.XX format
 - Shareable, searchable
 - Do not display automatically

Recording

For a variation in a value of this element that is associated with a part or iteration of a

manifestati

Describing



View Citation



Citation

12.20.21.48

Copy

Recording an unstru

OPTION

Use any source

Record the for

OPTION

Record an uns

word content from a manifestation using Guidance: Transcription guidelines. [Guidelines on basic transcription](#).

Recording an unstructured description

OPTION





Photo by [Jessica Alberto](#) on [Unsplash](#)

LC/PCC plans

- PCC implementation date for new RDA will be no earlier than July 2022
 - LC and PCC will coordinate implementations as much as possible
- LC/PCC documentation will collectively be called “PCC RDA Metadata Documentation”
 - Once this is completed, PCC plans to conduct a test prior to implementation (test for two months, analyze results for one month)
- Work on policy statements has been a HUGE project
 - Evaluating all RDA elements – policy statement needed?
 - So many options! Apply or not? Apply in certain situations?
 - Trying to achieve “status quo” – not change current practice

LC/PCC plans

- All current LC/PCC policy statements are in the Toolkit since April release
 - These are still in draft form and should NOT be considered final
- Policy statements, application profiles, and other metadata guidance must be completed before training can begin
- PCC test may happen late 2021
 - Analysis, revisions, and preparation of training materials in early 2022
- LC has over 300 catalogers to train
 - LC hopes to implement RDA using the BIBFRAME editor, so LC catalogers will not be trained to apply the RDA Toolkit in a MARC environment

PCC work: Non-human entities

- Fictitious entities and non-human personages were considered “persons” in FRAD and original RDA
- LRM changed this
- RDA glossary definition for “person”:
 - An agent who is an individual human being who lives or is assumed to have lived
- We still need to be able to provide access points (name and subject) for such entities in our catalog records

Example from final report of the PCC Task Group for Coding non-RDA Entities in NARs

Kermit the Frog - fictitious character, animal, pseudonym

Bib record: LCCN 2006923865

1000 Kermit, \$c the Frog.

24510 Before you leap : \$b a frog's-eye view of life's greatest lessons / \$c by Kermit the Frog.

Authority record:

010 no2013055922 \$z sh2002006616

040 \$e pccmap

075 \$a Fictitious entity \$a Named animal \$2 pccent

1000 Kermit, \$c the Frog

374 Actors \$a Singers \$a Theatrical producers and directors \$2 lcsh

375 male

4000 Kermit \$c (Fictitious character)

Relationship designators in the original Toolkit

The screenshot shows the RDA Toolkit interface. At the top left is the logo 'RDA TOOLKIT RESOURCE DESCRIPTION & ACCESS'. A navigation bar contains 'RDA', 'TOOLS', and 'RESOURCES'. A search bar is labeled 'RDA Quick Search'. On the right, there are fields for 'Profile Name' and 'Password', and a 'University of' label. A left sidebar lists various sections, with 'I.2 Relationship Designators for Agents Associated with a Work' selected. The main content area shows the following text:

[1] 2

If none of the terms listed in this appendix is appropriate or sufficiently specific, use another concise term to indicate the nature of the relationship.

1.2 Relationship Designators for Agents Associated with a Work

1.2.1 Relationship Designators for Creator 2013/07 D-A-CH

Record an appropriate term from the following list with the authorized access point or identifier for a creator of a work (see [19.2 RDA](#)). Apply the general guidelines on using relationship designators at [1.1 RDA](#).

architect: An agent responsible for creating an architectural design, including a pictorial representation intended to show how a building, etc., will look when completed.
Reciprocal relationship: architect of.

landscape architect: An architect responsible for creating landscape works.
Reciprocal relationship: landscape architect of.

artist: An agent responsible for creating a work by conceiving, and often implementing, an original graphic design, drawing, painting, etc.
Reciprocal relationship: artist of.

book artist: An artist responsible for creating art works that exploit the book form or alter its physical structure as part of the content.
Reciprocal relationship: book artist of.

calligrapher: An artist responsible for creating a work of calligraphy where the focus of interest lies in the aesthetic value of its penmanship or graphic artistry, regardless of whether the same person, etc., also authored the inscribed text.
Reciprocal relationship: calligrapher of.

sculptor: An artist responsible for creating a three-dimensional work by modeling, carving, or similar technique.
Reciprocal relationship: sculptor of.

author: An agent responsible for creating a work that is primarily textual in content, regardless of media type or genre. Creation of a new work by paraphrasing, rewriting, or adapting works by another creator, if the modification has substantially changed the nature and content of the original or changed the medium of expression, is included.
Reciprocal relationship: author of.

Relationship elements in new RDA Toolkit

University of Oregon

ENTITIES

GUIDANCE

POLICIES

RESOURCES

Entities > Expression

Expression

Definition and Scope

An intellectual or artistic realization of a work in choreographic notation, sound, image, object, or other such forms.

Prerecording

The term *expression* may refer to:

- an individual expression
- a part of an expression
- an *aggregating expression*

This entity is an *entity subtype*

elements

All

Attribute Elements



Relationship Elements



Find Element

[contributor agent to performance](#)

[contributor collective agent to amalgamation](#)

[contributor collective agent to performance](#)

[contributor corporate body to amalgamation](#)

[contributor corporate body to performance](#)

[contributor family to amalgamation](#)

[contributor family to performance](#)

[contributor person to amalgamation](#)

[contributor person to performance](#)

[costume designer agent](#)

[costume designer collective agent](#)

PCC work: Element labels

- As part of updating RDA, the RSC has developed a vocabulary of element labels that is intentionally technical
- Element labels are designed for linked data functionality
 - Not intended to be displayed publicly
- Most problematic: WEMI-to-agent relationship labels
 - “contributor person of still image”
 - “arranger person of music”
- Communities can develop their own vocabularies for element labels
 - These would be accessible in the “Community resources” section of RDA

[Resources](#) > [Community resources](#) > [Community vocabularies](#)

Community vocabularies

Select Policy Statement Set (0)

LC-PCC PS



These vocabularies contain controlled terms for use as values of specific RDA elements.

The vocabularies are not maintained as part of RDA, but are pertinent to [RDA toolkit](#) user communities.

Some vocabularies may have incomplete coverage, or lack definitions or notations.

Some are legacy vocabularies that contain terms that may have been used in RDA metadata statements in the past.

- [General abbreviations](#) →
- [Abbreviations for units](#) →
- [Terms in specific languages](#) →

Element labels (from PCC Task Group report)

- PCC Task Group recommends that the PCC community create and maintain a vocabulary of element labels
 - As part of the application profile and policy statements
 - Integrated into policy statements, if possible
 - Use legacy labels from the original RDA Toolkit for WEMI-to-agent relationships where possible:
 - These are familiar to catalogers and should ease the transition to the new Toolkit
 - e.g.: “writer of preface” (rather than “contributor agent of text”)
 - Strongly encourages the use of this vocabulary for all WEMI-to-WEMI relationships in bibliographic records

Ready or not?

- There's a lot to be done before the new Toolkit can be used for cataloging
 - (you can pretend it's all a bad dream for another year or so)
- Resources for learning (when you're ready)
 - Worth doing now (over the next year)
 - Start to become familiar with new terminology, concepts
 - Worth waiting
 - Understanding how we will actually use the Toolkit for cataloging
 - Remember that we'll need application profiles, policy guidance, and training, and these will be developed by LC and PCC

Helpful now

Recordings available on the RDA YouTube channel:

- Practical implications: a look at cataloging a book using the new RDA, by Kathy Glennan:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=olo5uFVv3Ks>
- RDA Toolkit Demo, by Jamie Hennelly:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hahrrR_5hdw
- Brief “RDA Concepts” videos:
<https://www.youtube.com/c/RDAToolkitVideo>

Book:

- *Introducing RDA: a guide to the basics after 3R*, by Chris Oliver.

Workshop materials:

- RDA Toolkit Workshop: A Crash Course (ALA Midwinter 2020)
https://www.rdatoolkit.org/RDAWorkshop_1.20

RSC Presentations 2021

Presentation Date	Presentation Title	Presenter	Sponsor/Venue	Notes	Posted Date
20 April 2021	Global Standard, Local Choices -- The New RDA Toolkit	Kathy Glennan	Webinar for CORE: Leadership, Infrastructure, Futures	Slides only; video recording of the presentation (registration required to view)	21 April 2021
29 March 2021	RSC Operations in 2021: A Return to "Normal"	Kathy Glennan	North American RDA Committee (NARDAC) Update Forum, Online	Slides only; video of this presentation begins at 1:05:00	14 April 2021
16 March 2021	RDA Updates	Kathy Glennan	Council on East Asian Libraries meeting, Online	Presented at the Cataloging Workshop	14 April 2021
04 March 2021	Accessibility and the new RDA Toolkit	Kathy Glennan	Joint Meeting of the Music Library Association and the Theatre Library Association, Online	Presented at the session: Meeting the need for metadata accessibility and usability	14 April 2021
01 March	The New RDA Toolkit: How did we get here,	Kathy	Joint Meeting of the Music Library Association and the	Presented at the Cataloging and Metadata	02 March

Navigation

- [News and Announcements](#)
- ▷ [About RDA](#)
- ▷ [RDA Board](#)
- ▷ [RDA Regions](#)
- ▷ [RSC Members](#)
- [Submitting Proposals](#)
- ▷ [Documents](#)
- ▽ [Presentations](#)
 - **2021**
 - [2020](#)
 - [2019](#)
 - [2018](#)
- [Working Groups](#)
- [Protocols with other groups](#)
- ▷ [Historical Documents \(2015-17\)](#)





Coming later

New editions of:

- *RDA Essentials*, by Thomas Brenndorfer
- *Maxwell's handbook for RDA*, by Robert Maxwell