

To: Committee of Principals  
and  
Joint Steering Committee for Development of RDA

From: Barbara B. Tillett, Chair, JSC

Subject: Annual report for 2013

This is the Annual Report of the Joint Steering Committee for Development of RDA (JSC) to the Committee of Principals (CoP) for the calendar year 2013. The Chair of the JSC, Barbara Tillett, prepared the report with assistance from the JSC and JSC Secretary, Judith A. Kuhagen.

## PEOPLE

As happened during 2012 with changes for ACOC, CCC, and CILIP and the addition of DNB, the Joint Steering Committee for Development of RDA changed personnel during 2013, resulting in all but the BL having new members in the past 2 years. Dave Reser became the new LC representative on December 1, 2012. Kathy Glennan became the new ALA representative on July 1, 2013.

### Membership



The JSC November 2013

Left to right in the above photo, the membership of the JSC was as follows:

Canadian Committee on Cataloguing: William Leonard, (Library and Archives Canada)

British Library:	Alan Danskin
Australian Committee on Cataloguing:	Kevin Marsh (State Library of Western Australia)
JSC Chair:	Barbara B. Tillett (until 31 December 2013)
JSC Secretary:	Judith A. Kuhagen
American Library Association:	Kathy Glennan (University of Maryland)
Library of Congress:	David Reser
CILIP: Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals and JSC Chair-Elect:	Gordon Dunsire (Independent Consultant)
Deutsche Nationalbibliothek:	Christine Frodl

### **JSC Groups**

JSC's **RDA Music Joint Working Group** (members from Library of Congress (LC), the Music Library Association (MLA), and the Canadian Association of Music Libraries, Archives and Documentation Centres (CAML) met in February 2013 and conducted most work via email. They prepared 3 proposals during the year. The members are:

Steve Yusko (LC, U.S.A.), Chair  
 Rachel Gagnon (CAML, Library and Archives Canada)  
 Cheryl Martin (CAML; Western University, Canada)  
 Daniel Paradis (CAML; Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec, Canada)  
 Caitlin Hunter (LC, U.S.A.)  
 Janet Bradford (MLA; Brigham Young University, U.S.A.)  
 Robert Freeborn (MLA; Pennsylvania State University, U.S.A.)  
 Tracey Snyder (MLA; Cornell University, U.S.A.).

The European RDA Interest Group (EURIG) was unable to nominate a member to the Joint Working Group during 2013, but has nominated Anders Cato for 2014.

The **JSC Examples Group** (formerly **RDA Examples Group 3**) continued throughout the year to review and offer examples for Fast Track proposals and other requests. They submitted a discussion paper for the November 2013 JSC

meeting that was well received and follow-up tasks related to an editorial guide will be added to the 2014 actions. The members are:

Kate James (LC, U.S.A.), Chair  
Pam Coleman (British Library)  
Emma Cross (Carleton University, Canada)  
Anita Krawalski (Deutsche Nationalbibliothek, Germany)  
Laura May (Library of Parliament, Canada)  
George Prager (New York University, U.S.A.; PCC Task Group on RDA Records)  
Adam Schiff (University of Washington, U.S.A.)  
David Wells (Curtin University, Australia).

At the November 2013 JSC meeting, the following new Working Groups were established and terms of reference will be coming soon:

**JSC ROF Working Group** (RDA/ONIX Framework)

**JSC Technical Working Group**

**JSC Places Working Group.**

### **CoP's/ALA Publishing's Technical Committee and Need for Other Technical Expertise**

Gordon Dunsire attended the face-to-face meeting of the CoP Technical Committee in London in February 2013, as well as the two virtual meetings, as JSC's representative. He provided a list of background reading materials, chaired the London meeting at the request of the Committee, provided additional background information during discussion, and contributed to the report to CoP.

There is to be a follow-on **RDA Technical Implementation Group** under ALA Publishing with representatives from the JSC, ALA Publishing, IMT, Inc., MMA (Metadata Management Associates), and perhaps RIMMF (RDA in Many Metadata Formats) to further the proposals from the meeting between members of the JSC, ALA Publishing, and MMA held during the 2012 London meeting follow-up to the 2007 London Meeting between the JSC and the DCMI (Dublin Core Metadata Initiative), IEEE/LOM, and Semantic Web/W3C communities. The JSC proposed this at the start of the November 2012 meeting, but the CoP Technical Committee plans overshadowed it. This group should be able to further work on the synchronization of RDA content in RDA products and documentation, including schemas and application profiles, and possibly provide a proof of concept model for RDA templates to help others see the potential of RDA in a non-MARC environment.

## **PROCESS AND COMMUNICATION**

Since the November 2012 meeting of the JSC in Chicago, the following JSC documents were revised to help new members understand how the JSC operates and expectations for their participation:

6JSC/Policy/1 (Statement of Policy and Procedures for JSC)

6JSC/Policy/2 (JSC meetings)

6JSC/Policy/3 (Duty Statement for the JSC Secretary)

6JSC/Chair/7 (Information for new JSC representatives).

We note that in addition to other adjustments made to the 6JSC/Policy/1 document, that the CoP approved the JSC recommendation that the JSC Chair would have constituency experience, but upon taking office, would not represent a constituency.

### **JSC Web Site, RDA-L, and Google Drive**

It is hoped the transition from LAC to ALA Publishing for the RDA-L and the separate updating of the JSC Web site can be accomplished in the next few months. We are long overdue for an updated **JSC Web site**.

The **RDA-L** mailing list has been twice as active as the previous year. At present, there are

- \* 2756 subscribers to RDA-L, almost 600 more than last year at this time.
- \* 3608 messages were posted from November 2012 to October 2013, more than double the number for the previous year (1690).
- \* 3312 have been posted in 2013 so far (January 2013 through November 30, 2013).

Progress is being made on the plan to migrate RDA-L from the Library and Archives Canada host to ALA.

The JSC made extensive use of **Google Drive**, with great help from James Hennelly at ALA Publishing. That tool enabled the JSC to track progress on various activities, such as agreeing to definitions on controlled vocabulary terms, discussing and agreeing to “Fast Track” changes, sharing information on proposals they intended to prepare, etc.

### **Meetings**

One meeting of the JSC was held in Washington, D.C. from 4-8 November 2013 at the ALA Washington Offices.

## **RDA CONTENT**

### **RDA Rewording**

RDA chapters were reworded in response to the comments from the US RDA Test Coordinating Committee. The work started in 2011 and was completed in April

2013. After Chris Oliver (editor) reworked the chapters, the remaining reworded chapters (all those except ch. 6, 9-11, which were added in the December 2012 release) were proofread by Judy Kuhagen and Chris Oliver (with assistance for several by Barbara Tillett and some by John Attig) and then added to the RDA Toolkit in the May 2013 release. General proofreading was done in June by a team of volunteers: Ebe Kartus (ACOC), Kate James (LC), Judy Kuhagen (JSC Secretary), and Thurstan Young (BL).

The JSC sent Chris Oliver a certificate of appreciation in recognition for this monumental effort. Certificates also were sent to those beyond the JSC who volunteered to assist with proofreading: Ebe Kartus, Kate James, Thurstan Young, and Judy Kuhagen,

### **RDA Instructions**

Changes from 43 successful proposals approved during and after the November 2012 meeting were merged with the reworded text and added to the RDA Toolkit in the July 2013 Update. The changes from approved proposals are documented by the JSC Secretary in "Sec final" versions of those proposals posted on the JSC web site.

August 5 was the deadline for proposals for the November 2013 meeting. October 5 was the deadline for constituency responses to those proposals and discussion papers. The constituencies shared information about their plans for proposals and discussion papers, including submitting the following:

- ACOC submitted three proposals
- BL sent five proposals
- ALA sent three discussion papers and five proposals as well as two ALA rep documents from John Attig
- CCC submitted four proposals
- the CILIP representative sent a comprehensive discussion paper on RDA relationship designators
- DNB submitted one discussion paper and three proposals from the German-speaking library community
- LC submitted four proposals and one LC rep discussion paper
- JSC's RDA Music Joint Working Group submitted three proposals
- Barbara as JSC Chair sent the JSC a proposal containing 34 recommendations for the placeholder "subject" chapters as well as forwarding a discussion paper from Deborah Fritz regarding missing elements and sub-elements.

At the November 2013 JSC meeting, the JSC discussed 48 proposals and discussion papers plus the responses to those documents. The documents represented a wide diversity of topics and included submissions from the JSC RDA Examples Group and the JSC RDA Music Joint Working Group in addition to cataloging communities beyond the JSC (the European RDA Interest Group (EURIG), the ISBD Review Group,

and the ISSN Network)

Changes to RDA approved by the JSC during the meeting will appear in the RDA Toolkit in the April 2014 update. Documents, labeled as “Sec final” versions, of approved proposals will be posted on the JSC public web site during January 2014. JSC members will respond to the non-JSC communities who submitted proposals and discussion papers. A table listing the JSC decisions/actions for all proposals and discussion papers will be posted on the web site in January 2014. Some of the major decisions taken are summarized in the Outcomes of the November 2013 JSC meeting.

As follow-up to discussion papers and proposals from outside groups, the JSC Chair, Barbara Tillett sent responses to these non-JSC groups:

- to EURIG in response to their 2013 Discussion papers 2-5 regarding illustrative content, compilations of works, dates of works and expressions, and language of expression;
- to IAML explaining why JSC did not accept their 2012 proposal regarding a separate “music format statement” (RDA treats such as edition statements);
- to ISBD Review Group with JSC comments on the ISBD's mapping with RDA elements;
- to ISBD Review Group in response to their 2013 discussion paper (3) regarding an ISBD profile in RDA and response to the JSC response to their first 2 discussion papers on RDA Appendix D;
- to ISSN Network with suggestions about possible future proposals and a response to their 2012 response on same.

As EURIG chair, Alan Danskin reported back to that group about JSC responses to EURIG proposals.

There were three releases of the RDA Toolkit containing the following:

May release:

- 143 corrections/minor revisions;
- 44 new glossary terms + definitions
- 14 revised glossary definitions

July update (in addition to changes from 2012 proposals):

- 71 corrections/minor revisions
- 4 new glossary terms + definitions
- 6 revised glossary definitions

November release:

- 132 corrections/minor revisions
- 52 new glossary terms + definitions
- 18 revised glossary definitions

This year, we experienced unfortunate delays in “releases” (updates) of the RDA Toolkit.

## **Fast Track**

The “**Fast Track**” process has proven an effective way for the JSC to make straightforward changes to correct and improve text in RDA during the year. The JSC Secretary continues to document these changes in “Sec” documents that are publicly posted to share news of changes.

## **RDA Controlled Vocabularies**

Definitions for 48 terms from RDA controlled vocabularies were added to the Glossary in the May 2013 release and July 2013 update of the Toolkit. There were 52 additional terms/definitions and 18 revised definitions in the November release; 20 revised definitions in May and July. Due to issues with ALA Publishing and MMA, many of these definitions have not been added to the Open Metadata Registry (OMR). The JSC continues its work to agree on terms and definitions for the RDA vocabularies and expects to complete that work for the current vocabularies during 2014. This work is being conducted using Google Drive with a table through which the JSC members give comments and discuss issues. John Attig, beyond his role as ALA representative to the JSC at the first half of the year, continued his role in posting vocabularies to the Open Metadata Registry and assisting with related matters. He was awarded a JSC Certificate of Appreciation for his ongoing work in this area.

## **OUTREACH AND RDA IMPLEMENTATION**

### **JSC Work with External Communities**

In April Barbara Tillett provided training in the Philippines in a train-the-trainers workshop as part of discussions and preparations to implement RDA.

Alan Danskin and Gordon Dunsire had planned to meet with the RDA/ONIX Framework representatives from the publishing community to discuss needed changes to the Framework. The effort will be renewed with a new JSC RDA/ONIX Framework Working Group. Gordon Dunsire has continued to monitor developments relevant to the RDA/ONIX Framework for Resource Categorization. He is maintaining a database of mappings between bibliographic carrier and content categories and the Framework ontology; this includes the RDA carrier, content, and media types, the ISBD area 0 terms, the ONIX product type and content code lists, the MARC 21 category of material codes, and the Dublin Core type vocabulary. It will be possible to upload most of this data into the Registry after the Framework element set has been registered. The exception is ONIX, which does not yet have a linked data representation although it was announced a few months ago that this was in development. There may be opportunities then to map an ONIX namespace

to RDA elements for attributes other than carrier and content types, to improve the interoperability of linked data based on the two standards.

Gordon Dunsire attended the NISO Bibliographic Roadmap meeting in April and represented RDA interests as well as those of IFLA. He also represents RDA interests in the [schema.org](http://schema.org) Bibliographic Extensions and the W3C Best Practices for Multilingual Linked Open Data task groups.

Christine Frodl, in her capacity as a member of the Standing Committee of IFLA's Cataloguing Section, attended the IFLA conference 2013 in Singapore and serves as the JSC liaison to the ISBD Review Group. Gordon Dunsire remains the JSC liaison to the FRBR Review Group of IFLA.

September 10, 2013, the DNB organized a conference "RDA for Archives and Museums" which raised high interest and was well attended with about 100 participants from German cultural heritage institutions. As a result, a working group will evaluate the use of RDA for those communities.

In October, Barbara Tillett met with the Chair and representatives from the Japan Library Association's Cataloging Section and the National Diet Library as well as a similar meeting with representatives from the RDA Training Group of the Institute for Assistance of Academic Libraries (IAAL) in Japan regarding RDA implementation over the next 3-4 years. Japan is committed to following RDA, the new international code.

### **Other Outreach Activities**

In May 2013, the JSC was notified by Alan Danskin of the good news that some of RDA's properties were being used by the "Digitised Manuscripts to Europeana Project".

EURIG (European RDA Interest Group) met in Stockholm 19 and 20 September. EURIG has 32 members, 23 of whom were represented in Stockholm. The survey of members' plans was run during September. Thirteen members report definite plans to implement RDA. This compares with just 4 in 2012. A full report has been compiled for publication on the EURIG [Website](#).

The JSC members and JSC Chair have provided presentations and training for RDA as follows:

John Attig (ALA representative through June 2013)

- April 12, 2013, gave a presentation on "Advanced RDA" at the annual meeting of the New England Technical Services Librarians,
- June 30, 2013, he and Kathy Glennan gave an update on JSC activities at the RDA Update Forum at the ALA Annual Conference, Chicago, IL.



#### Alan Danskin

- National Library of Israel *RDA Implementation* via Skype; January 24th
- ARLIS *RDA implementation workshop*, Christie's Education, London, April 5th
- CILIP CIG *Getting Started with RDA: Pop-Up workshop*, University of Warwick, July 3rd
- National Library of Sweden *RDA Implementation*, Stockholm, September 18<sup>th</sup>
- December 6, 2013, British Library will host a meeting of representatives from UK libraries to discuss Art and RDA.

#### Gordon Dunsire

- Mapping FRBR, ISBD, RDA, and other namespaces to DC for interoperability: an invited presentation to Kunnskapsorganisasjonsdagene 2013, Oslo, Norway, 7-8 February 2013
- Granularity in Library Linked Open Data: a keynote presentation to the Code4Lib conference in Chicago, 12-14 February 2013, which used RDA examples.
- RDA and libraries: a webinar to the College Development Network in Scotland, 13 June 2013. He repeated the webinar to the Joint Information Systems Committee's Scottish regional support network on 27 November 2013, and gave an augmented presentation based on the webinar to staff of the National Library of Scotland on 18 September 2013.

#### Christine Frodl

- RDA Development, Implementation and Application: Perspectives of the Deutsche Nationalbibliothek. Presentation at the RDA conference at the Kungliga Biblioteket, Stockholm, 18.09.2013
- Einführung der RDA im deutschsprachigen Raum. Presentation at AIBM conference in Berlin, 13.09.2013
- RDA – ein internationaler Standard für die Erschließung von Ressourcen. Presentation at the conference „RDA for Archives and Museums“, Frankfurt am Main, 10.09.2013
- RDA – Einführung eines neuen Standards für die Erschließung von Ressourcen. Presentation at the FAMI-Fachlehrertagung in Frankfurt am Main, 16.05.2013
- RDA – Werkstattbericht aus dem JSC. 5. Kongress Bibliothek & Information Deutschland, Leipzig, 13.03.2013
- RDA – die internationale Arbeitsebene. Deutsche Nationalbibliothek Frankfurt and Leipzig, 27.02.2013 and 06.03.2013

#### Kevin Marsh

- *RDA Implementation – Issues, Questions and Answers*, Australian Committee on Cataloguing Seminar, Melbourne University, 1 November 2013

#### Barbara Tillett

- January, an RDA presentation via the Web for Iran;

- February, an RDA presentation for the Hawaii Library Association;
- March, RDA 3-day workshop at the University of Florence, Italy;
- April, 3-day RDA workshop for the National Library of the Philippines;
- April, three presentations on RDA for the Turkish National Cataloging Group and the University and Research Librarians Association at the Boğaziçi University including an RDA implementation group;
- September and October, RDA Tokyo Workshop and three other RDA presentations in Tokyo (Keio University and Gakushuin Women's College) and Kyoto (Doshisha University).

### **RDA Implementation Dates for the JSC National Library Constituencies**

As an observation, 2013 was a year of RDA implementation in several parts of the world, with other areas expected in the next 2 years.

-- LC: switchover of final group of catalogers on March 31, 2013

-- BL: March 31, 2013

-- LAC: Implementation of RDA at Library and Archives Canada began in April 2013 and continued through November 2013.

-- NLA: Implementation of RDA at the National Library of Australia began in October 2012 and was completed on March 31, 2013. Libraries Australia implemented RDA at the same time

-- DNB and the German-speaking library networks: end of 2015.