

To: Office for Library Standards, Deutsche Nationalbibliothek

From: Deirdre Kiorgaard, Chair, Joint Steering Committee for Revision of AACR

Date: 26 March 2007

I am writing in response to your comments on the RDA drafts of part I (December 2005 and January 2006), and part A, chapter 6-7 (June 2006), and to provide you with an update on the JSC's progress in responding to comments on the drafts.

Thank-you for your detailed and considered responses to the drafts.

Comments on RDA Part 1 (1 March 2006)

Your comments were issued as: 5JSC/RDA/Part I/Chair follow-up/4

At the October 2006 meeting the JSC only completed our discussion of constituency responses to draft RDA chapter 3. For this reason I am only in a position to respond to your chapter 3 comments at this time.

A revised version of chapter 3 has just been issued, see <http://www.collectionscanada.ca/jsc/rdadraftch3.html>.

Below, each of your comments is listed, followed by a brief reply.

3.0 Purpose and Scope

There is nothing said about the scope regarding the different genres like incunable, manuscript up to born digital resources on the internet. Is it intended that chapter 3 tries to serve all these different publication types?

Are there plans to consider data for long-term preservation like important information about formats and system environments, about the technical history of the file, the creator software and the viewer software etc.?

Reply: RDA will cover all these publication types, although the JSC recognise that specialist communities will continue to apply their own more detailed rules. The decision was made at the October 2006 meeting to focus the initial release of RDA on the creation of metadata to support user tasks in the FRBR and FRAD models. This means that preservation metadata will not be included, unless it also supports a user task.

3.1.3 Facsimiles and reproductions

Does "reproduction" also cover digitized publications?

Reply: Yes, reproduction includes all methods of creating a reproduction.

3.1.5 Remote access digital resources

The regulations concerning the technical description of remote access digital resources are too short and not very differentiated. We see a problem, because as a cultural heritage organization we have to deal with lots of electronic publications and the task to guarantee long-term access and preservation.

Reply: As noted above, the initial release of RDA will focus on the creation of metadata to support user tasks in the FRBR and FRAD models. Please also see the expanded instructions in the revised draft.

3.4.1.17 Early printed resources

Is there a clear chronological definition for that sort of publication type? We suggest to give the definition of ISBD(A), 0.1.1: "Older monographic publications are chiefly those produced prior to the introduction of machine printing in the nineteenth century and include those published for limited distribution or for sale on demand."

Reply: Both ALA and LC have also requested that a definition of "early printed resources" be included in RDA. However, a definition has not yet been added to the revised draft just issued.

3.5 Dimensions

There seem to be very much regulations in this chapter.

Reply: In the revised chapter the table has been removed, but retention of explicit instructions for different formats was seen as desirable by the JSC constituencies.

3.5.0.3 Recording dimensions / 3.5.0.4 Measurements

We ask you to introduce the metric measure "cm" as an alternative to "inch".

Reply: The instruction has been changed to record dimensions in centimetres to the next whole centimetre up (unless instructed otherwise). There is an alternative instruction to use the system of measure preferred by the agency.

3.6.13.3 Describing other technical details

Does "printed on acid-free paper" fall under this rule?

Reply: See information above (under 3.0) about the scope of RDA. However, this information could be recorded as a note on the base material (see revised Chapter 3).

3.8.0.1 Definition

The wording of the definition uses the wording of the terms that are defined ("a rose is a rose").

Reply: These instructions are now limited to cartographic resources as they are in AAACR2.

3.8.0.3 Recording digital representation of graphic content

We note that “if ... readily available” precedes the detailed possible information.

Reply: See above

3.9.0.4 System requirements for a digital resource

The stipulations call for structured system requirements. We suggest to add an option that allows to give the information in a non-structured form.

We would like to recommend to include some more new examples.

Reply: At the October 2006 meeting it was agreed to add an alternative to “Make a note giving the equipment and/or system as they are presented on the resource.” New examples to illustrate this are given in the revised draft.

3.10 Mode of access

This chapter does not cover URLs yet. URLs might as well apply to chapter 6, item-specific information.

Reply: Mode of access will be moved to chapter 5. See the document [5JSC/ACOC/1/Rev](#) (and responses) which will be discussed at the April 2007 meeting.

Comments on RDA Part A, Chapter 6-7 (3 August 2006)

Your comments were issued as: 5JSC/RDA/Part A/Chapters 6-7/Chair follow-up/1

At the October 2006 meeting, the JSC discussed only the major issues arising from the responses to these chapters. At the meeting it was agreed to switch the order of the two chapters. At the April 2007 meeting the JSC will look at a new Editor’s draft of the two chapters. Your comments on the chapter on persons, families, and corporate bodies associated with a resource will be discussed then. A revised version of both chapters will be issued for review in the middle of 2007.

Instructions on determining the primary access point will be moved to a chapter in Part B on naming works and expressions. As a result, the JSC will delay discussing any comments on determining the primary access point until closer to the release of Part B in late 2007.

Comments on RDA Part A, Sections 3.2, 3.3 and 4.2 (18 September 2006)

Your comments were issued as: 5JSC/RDA/Part A/Categorization/Chair follow-up/1

At the October 2006 JSC meeting a number of changes were made to 3.2, 3.3, and 4.2 which have been included in the revised chapter 3 issued in March 2007. See the minutes of the October 2006 meeting (5JSC/M/103) for information on the decisions made by the JSC (The minutes can be found at:

<http://www.collectionscanada.ca/jsc/working2.html#min>)