



IFLA Cataloguing Section FRBR Review Group

Report of activities

2008-2009

Namespace Project

In the fall the draft FRBR namespaces (for entities, relationships and user tasks) were made available in the [NDSL "sandbox"](#). With a few corrections, the content of the declarations will be complete and up-to-date. The outstanding issue is how to handle a declaration of the FRAD entity *family*. It is logically part of Group 2, and is referred to in the [Statement of International Cataloguing Principles](#) and also in RDA, but obviously not referred to in the FRBR final report. However, as far the technical aspects go, the momentum gained for this work during WLIC 2008 seems to have dissipated as attention turned to the new IFLA website. This project remains a priority as there is clearly a need to actually declare these IFLA vocabularies sooner rather than later, so that the official versions can be referenced by the vocabularies being developed by other communities.

FRBRoo

FRBRoo version 1.0 (dated May 2009) was posted on the CIDOC CRM website. Some initial steps have been taken towards engaging the archival community in a harmonisation of conceptual models. At the CIDOC annual conference in Athens, Greece, September 15-18, 2008, Pat Riva participated in the CRM SIG business meetings which included discussion with invited archivists about potential cooperation, and she was also part of the discussion panel *Museums, Archives and Libraries: Digital Interconnections*. There have been some subsequent email exchanges but no meetings yet. Various aspects of the FRBRoo model have been presented or published throughout the year. "FRBRoo, a conceptual model for performing arts", prepared by Martin Doerr, Chryssoula Bekari and Patrick Le Boeuf, was presented at CIDOC 2008. The paper "FRBRoo: Enabling a Common View of Information from Memory Institutions" prepared jointly by Pat Riva, Martin Doerr and Maja Žumer was published in *ICBC* v.38, no. 2 (April/June 2009). A paper by Patrick Le Boeuf "Modélisation conceptuelle de l'information bibliographique et muséologique: CIDOC CRM et FRBRoo" has been accepted for publication in *Documentation et bibliothèques* (vol. 55, no 4, octobre-décembre 2009).

Review Group Wiki Workspace

This year the Review Group followed the example set by the ISBD Review Group and created a workspace on PBworks. This is intended to allow discussion of documents in progress without the continual exchange of email attachments and consequent version confusion. The accumulated suggestions for review of FRBR were transferred to the wiki in March. Some discussion of the text describing the *person* and *corporate body* entities took place on the wiki. The wiki has also been adopted for the discussion and sharing of more procedural or administrative matters, such as updates to the Strategic Plan. As the documents on the wiki are internal or in-process documents, access is intended to be for Review Group members, working group members, and liaisons with other groups such as the ISBD Review Group. Public documentation will remain on the FRBR Review Group pages on the IFLA website.

FRBR Bibliography

The most recent update of the bibliography (version 13.3, dated November 15, 2008), is at <<http://www.ifla.org/files/cataloguing/frbrg/frbr-bibliography.pdf>>. It is now 57 pages and increasingly difficult to maintain. Many of the resources in the bibliography are for online documents, which are subject to URL changes over time. As FRBR is central to many developments in cataloguing codes worldwide, if viewed broadly the scope of the bibliography could encompass a great deal of current writing in cataloguing.

Web Site

The FRBR Review Group pages were completely migrated to the new [IFLA website](#) in April and May thanks to the ongoing work of section Information Coordinator John Hostage. This caused the URL for the FRBR text to change, which received a great deal of negative comment on the discussion list. Fortunately it was possible to implement some redirects. The new URI for FRBR is <http://www.ifla.org/en/publications/functional-requirements-for-bibliographic-records>. No new sections were added to the site, and only routine updates were carried out to existing pages.

Discussion List

The frbr@infoserv.inist.fr listserv, hosted by INIST in France, currently has 781 subscribers (another year of slight growth). Pat Riva and Patrick Le Bœuf remain the co-listowners. The listserv archive is available to subscribers from <<http://infoserv.inist.fr/wwsympa.fcgi/info/frbr>>. The list remained quiet again this year, mainly carrying announcements of documents, projects and publications with relevance to FRBR. Other threads: handling attributes of relationships, particularly the start/end dates of the relationship, relationship for equivalent content, interest in and potential applications for the FRBR RDF namespace, relationships in FRISAD.

Working Groups

The **Working Group on Aggregates**, chaired by Ed O'Neill, will be holding two meetings during the Milan conference. Discussion in Quebec did not result in any consensus for any of the alternative views of the modelling of aggregate works presented in the revised version of the discussion paper, *Modeling Aggregates*. As a result, the Working Group will step back and first return to defining an aggregate, then reviewing the principles and identifying those that are relevant, and finally, determining how aggregates should be modelled in FRBR.

The **Working Group on FRBR/CRM dialogue**, co-chaired by Patrick Le Bœuf and Martin Doerr for CIDOC CRM, held two meetings at Imperial College, London this year, on November 6-7, 2008 and May 20-22, 2009. All remaining issues raised in comments received in response to version 0.9 (January 2008) were reviewed, and the version 1.0 text was completed May 2009 and posted on both the CIDOC CRM and IFLA FRBR websites. Updates to the ISO standard for CRM (many resulting from FRBRoo) have been submitted to ISO for incorporation into ISO 21127:2006. Work on the definition of a FRBRoo “core” model is continuing.

Pat Riva
Chair of the FRBR Review Group
August 2, 2009