IFLA Cataloguing Section
Liaison to ALA CC:DA

Report on the American Library Association’s Committee on Cataloging: Description and Access

2006-2007
Submitted to the Standing Committee of the IFLA Cataloguing Section

For background information on the Committee on Cataloging: Description and Access (CC:DA), please refer to the liaison’s report for 2005/2006.

As in the previous year, most of CC:DA’s attention has been focused on the development of RDA, the successor to the Anglo-American Cataloguing Rules, 2nd edition (AACR2). The Joint Steering Committee for Revision of Anglo-American Cataloguing Rules has changed its name to Joint Steering Committee for the Development of RDA. In March, a revised draft of chapter 3, “Carrier,” and an addendum to chapter 4, “Content,” were released for comment. A revised draft of chapter 6, “Persons, Families, and Corporate Bodies associated with a Resource,” and chapter 7, “Related Resources,” was made public in June. A draft of Part B on access point control is expected in December 2007 (a year later than the previous plan) followed by a complete full draft in July 2008. The expected publication date has now been pushed back to 2009.

At the same time, the JSC has been responding to criticisms that RDA doesn’t adhere closely enough to the conceptual models in Functional Requirements for Bibliographic Records (FRBR) and Functional Requirements for Authority Data (FRAD) or that it doesn’t follow the standards for well-formed metadata followed by other metadata communities. The JSC has updated its document on the scope and structure of RDA and issued new documents on an RDA element analysis and an RDA to FRBR mapping to show how they plan to go forward. All these documents can be found on the JSC Web site (see below).

Among the decisions made in the past year was that the alternative title (i.e., the second part of the title in a title like The Hobbit, or, There and Back Again) would no longer be considered part of the title proper. Instead, an element sub-type will be added to the title element in RDA. Also, the phrases “Publisher not identified”, “Place of publication not identified”, and “Date of publication not identified” will be used instead of Latin abbreviations in the statement of publishing information. In an effort to remove some of the Christian bias in the rules, headings for books of the Bible will be entered directly

http://www.ifla.org/VII/s13/index.htm
under “Bible” instead of under “Bible. O.T.” and “Bible. N.T.” and the names of the Old and New Testaments will no longer be abbreviated when identifying those parts.

Representatives of the RDA community and the Dublin Core Metadata Initiative met at the British Library to examine the fit between RDA and other metadata models. They decided to seek funding to develop and RDA application profile to better integrate RDA into the evolving Semantic Web.

CC:DA takes a strong interest in standards and documents that emanate from IFLA, especially FRBR and the ISBDs. In the past year, CC:DA task forces issued reports and comments on the consolidated ISBD, the Statement of International Cataloguing Principles, and the draft of Functional Requirements for Authority Data.

URLs

ALA Committee on Cataloging: Description and Access
http://www.ala.org/ala/alctscontent/catalogingsection/catcommittees/ccda/ccda.htm

Resource Description and Access
http://www.collectionscanada.ca/jsc/rda.html

Prototype demonstration of RDA
http://www.rdaonline.org/

Data Modeling Meeting between RDA and DCMI
http://www.bl.uk/services/bibliographic/meeting.html

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