IFLA Metadata Newsletter

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The Bibliography Section
The Cataloguing Section
Subject Analysis and Access Section

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ABOUT IFLA METADATA NEWSLETTER

The newsletter is published twice a year (June and December).

Contributions are welcome at any time.

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LETTER FROM THE CHAIRS

Dear members of the IFLA Bibliography, Cataloguing, and Subject Analysis and Access (or BIBS, CATS, and SAA) sections,

We are happy to present this issue of the Metadata Newsletter, which showcases a variety of metadata projects, achievements, and news. Many thanks to the colleagues who contributed information on the many metadata activities taking place within IFLA and beyond, and to our ever-diligent editors Jay Weitz (BIBS), Harriet Aagaard and Caroline Saccucci (SAA), Priscilla Pun and Marja-Liisa Seppälä (CATS).

Filled with energy from the 2019 IFLA WLIC, that took place in Athens, Greece in August, we are looking forward to an exciting and productive year ahead. 2019 was an election year and a time of change. We are sad to see colleagues who have been deeply involved for a long time leave our committees and grateful for their work. We hope they will continue their contributions to IFLA, and we look forward to working with them again in the future. We are excited to welcome new members, develop new projects, and continue working on ongoing ones.

We had a productive 2019 conference. An agreement was reached on the hosting of IFLA namespaces, which allows IFLA to perform its role as an international standardising body for metadata. We organised two very successful Satellite meetings, the “RDA: Resource Description and Access 2019” and the “Metadata Specialists in the Machine Age,” in Thessaloniki, Greece, with the help of our hosts at the Aristotle University Library. During WLIC, each Section held an open Session, we held a well-attended IFLA Metadata Reports session, and presented at the Division III session on “Library Services for a Multicultural World: with Special Consideration to the Many Languages Involved.” At the Standing Committee meetings, each Section developed its Action Plans for 2019-2021, which were aligned to the IFLA Strategic Directions and Key Initiatives and inspired by Division V’s declaration for diversity.

As new chairs, we would like to thank you all again for placing your confidence in us and in particular we would like to thank our predecessors, Miriam Nauri (BIBS), Miriam Björkhem (CATS), and John C. DeSantis (SAA) for their hard work and their contributions to the advancement of our sections.

We are eager to hear from you and invite you to share your ideas with us. We are looking forward to a yet another great year for metadata in 2020!

Athena Salaba Chair of the Subject Analysis and Access Section Standing Committee

Vincent Boulet, Chair of the Cataloguing Section Standing Committee

Mathilde Koskas, Chair of the Bibliography Section Standing Committee
NATIONAL AND REGIONAL NEWS

NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

By Susan R. Morris, Special Assistant to the Director, Acquisitions and Bibliographic Access, Library of Congress, USA

The following is a summary of news from the Library of Congress since our previous report in the June 2019 issue of the IFLA Metadata Newsletter (vol. 5, no. 1).

APPOINTMENTS AND DEPARTURES
Dr. Theron (Ted) Westervelt is the new chief of the U.S./Anglo Division in the Library of Congress Acquisitions and Bibliographic Access Directorate (ABA), effective Sept. 30, 2019. Ted is chair of the IFLA Standing Committee on Serials and Other Continuing Resources. Before joining U.S./Anglo, he was head of the U.S. Serials—Arts, Humanities and Sciences Section, U.S. Arts, Sciences and Humanities Division, in ABA. He served for a year as head of the library at the U.S. Department of Transportation. As chief of U.S./Anglo, Ted is responsible for acquiring and cataloging collection materials from the United States (by purchase or exchange), Australia, Canada, Ireland, New Zealand, Scotland, the United Kingdom, and jurisdictions in Oceania. The U.S./Anglo Division also is charged with primary oversight of the Electronic Resources Management System (ERMS) database; acquisition of all major gifts to the Library’s collections; acquisition and management of U.S. government documents; and the cataloging of rare materials. Ted is also the manager of the Library’s efforts to bring in more digital content for the collections via copyright deposit.

Kate James, a cataloging policy specialist in the Policy, Training, and Cooperative Programs Division (PTCP), left the Library of Congress in September. Kate recently concluded her service as Examples Editor for the RDA Toolkit and as a Library of Congress representative to the North American RDA Committee (NARDAC). David Lucas Graves retired from PTCP in July; he was responsible for issuing and maintaining the ALA-LC Romanization Tables that are sponsored jointly by the American Library Association and the Library of Congress.

The PTCP Division has several new staff members. Ivey Glendon is the product manager for Cataloger’s Desktop, the Library’s subscription database of more than 300 cataloging tools and documentation. Daniel Griffin and Alysia Peich are new senior instructors in PTCP, which develops and conducts professional training as well as developing cataloging and metadata policy and providing the secretariat for the Program for Cooperative Cataloging (PCC). The Acquisitions and Bibliographic Access Directorate merged two divisions, Policy and Standards and Cooperative and Instructional...
Programs, to form the Policy, Training, and Cooperative Programs Division on June 9, 2019. Judith Cannan, chief of COIN, is chief of PTCP.

**BIBFRAME**

BIBFRAME (Bibliographic Framework) is an emerging encoding standard first developed by ABA’s Network Development and MARC Standards Office (NDMSO) to facilitate use of library catalog data in the linked open data environment. BIBFRAME will eventually replace the Machine Readable Cataloging (MARC) standard for capturing online bibliographic data, the standard that the Library of Congress created more than 40 years ago and that is used by libraries worldwide. The focal offices for BIBFRAME development and training are the Network Development & MARC Standards Office (NDMSO) and the Policy, Training, and Cooperative Programs Division (PTCP).

The BIBFRAME Pilot Project that began in 2016 is continuing. The number of trained, participating Library staff has increased to more than 100, including catalogers in the Library’s Cairo, Jakarta, Islamabad, and Nairobi offices and all “LC-Washington” units. They are creating BIBFRAME descriptions for materials in nine formats: monographs, serials, rare materials, notated music, cartographic resources, Blu-ray DVD audiovisual resources, 35 mm audiovisual resources, sound recording resources, and print or photographic resources. The ABA Directorate published a BIBFRAME Manual in September for internal and external users at URL [https://staff.loc.gov/wikis/display/BP2/BIBFRAME+Manual](https://staff.loc.gov/wikis/display/BP2/BIBFRAME+Manual).

Pilot participants create bibliographic descriptions in both the BIBFRAME Editor (input tool), expressed in the BIBFRAME data model, and in the Library of Congress Integrated Library System (ILS), expressed in the MARC 21 Bibliographic Format. The Library of Congress distributes its cataloguing data to OCLC, Inc., and several dozen other customers in the nonprofit and profit sectors. At present, nearly all these organizations require cataloguing data in the MARC format, and the Library of Congress is committed to distributing all its cataloguing data in MARC for as long as there is serious demand. In addition, the Library of Congress’s current integrated library system accepts bibliographic data only in MARC, and certain other local systems depend on MARC, such as the binding preparation database and book labeling systems. Therefore, the participants in the BIBFRAME production pilot currently produce bibliographic descriptions first in BIBFRAME and then again in MARC.

The bibliographic data in the BIBFRAME 2.0 database is used in combination with authority data from the LC Linked Data Service: [https://id.loc.gov/](https://id.loc.gov/). Beginning in June 2019, NDMSO added Works to ID.LO.C.GOV: [id.loc.gov](id.loc.gov) when the BIBFRAME file of Works, Instances, and Items was loaded into ID. The LC Name and Subject authority files (NAF and Library of Congress Subject Headings, LCSH) have been available in ID.LO.C.GOV for nearly 10 years. Over time, several other important files maintained by the Library were added to the ID Linked Data Service collection, such as MARC language and country codes, LC Classification, and the LC Thesaurus of Graphic Material. In ID.LO.C.GOV, files were available for individual search and for download or viewing in various formats including RDF (BIBFRAME, SKOS, and MADSRDF) and XML. (The ID.LO.C.GOV service also makes available a large number of lists and terms needed by the preservation standard, PREMIS.)

Since ID.LO.C.GOV is an integral part of the BIBFRAME developments, it has been enhanced with a number of term lists that Library of Congress BIBFRAME cataloging staff need to support type-aheads and pick lists in the BIBFRAME Editor and to supply URIs for entities in the BIBFRAME descriptions.

Development of a BIBFRAME-to-MARC data conversion tool is underway and testing is expected in 2020. The Library of Congress will not be able to implement BIBFRAME completely until it is able to convert BIBFRAME data to MARC as well as MARC data to BIBFRAME. This is a major undertaking since
MARC and BIBFRAME are conceptually different in many respects: BIBFRAME Works vs. MARC authority records; the MARC Leader and 008 and 007 fields; and so forth. The MARC-to-BIBFRAME data conversion tool was refined for the production pilot; work on BIBFRAME-to-MARC conversion will continue at least into 2020.

In fiscal 2019, the Library of Congress cataloged 386,853 new works on 271,052 new bibliographic records. The ABA Directorate produced 237,441 of the total 271,052 new records. The total of new completed bibliographic records was lower, although the number of works cataloged was higher, than in fiscal 2018, when the Library completed 293,135 bibliographic records to catalog 305,955 works.

Copy cataloging accounted for more than 31 percent of total cataloging production, or 84,747 records, compared to 77,598 in fiscal 2018. More than 59 percent of ABA’s copy cataloging—44,463 records—was produced for materials from other countries. The cataloging metadata that ABA produced are available everywhere in the Library of Congress Catalog on the World Wide Web and are distributed via the Library’s Cataloging Distribution Service and bibliographic utilities for the benefit of the entire library community.

Among many special cataloging projects, ABA has begun cataloging the 5,000 items in the James H. Fraser Baltic Collection, featuring materials published in Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia that the collector used as reference resources to compile his book, *Publishing and Book Design in Latvia 1919-1940: a Rediscovery*. In addition, ABA is recataloging old Japanese law books for the Law Library of Congress and assisting with documentary records for the Cape Verde Jewish Heritage Project, a nonprofit organization.

CATALOGING IN PUBLICATION (CIP)
The Cataloging in Publication (CIP) Program in fiscal 2019 provided cataloging in advance of publication for 53,121 monographs, on the request of publishers that had offices in the U.S. This number included 15,843 e-books. The companion Preassigned Control Number Program assigned Library of Congress Control Numbers to 48,775 monographs that were not eligible for CIP cataloging. The 32 institutional CIP Cataloging Partners provided 5,531 of these records, a decrease from the previous year because they could not catalog CIP titles for three weeks during the installation and data migration of the new online system, PrePub Book Link (see IMJ v. 5, no. 1). The CIP Program served the needs of both the Library of Congress and the larger library community by providing high-quality metadata for books and e-books considered likely to be widely acquired by libraries throughout the U.S.

CHILDREN’S AND YOUNG ADULTS CATALOGING PROGRAM (CYAC)
The CYAC Program in the U.S. Programs, Law and Literature Division (USPRL), Library of Congress, catalogues a representative sample of children’s literature for the Library’s own collections, develops new children’s subject headings, proposes changes to existing subject headings, monitors the policies and practices of children’s cataloguing, and keeps abreast of trends in children’s publishing for the benefit of all libraries. In fiscal 2019, USPRLL increased support for the Children’s and Young Adults’ Cataloging (CYAC) Program with a section head and six librarians trained to catalog juvenile literature. The number of CIP titles that received CYAC subject headings and summaries remained steady at 3,482, compared to 3,516 in fiscal 2018. The turnaround time for processing CYAC CIP titles was cut in half, from 55 days in fiscal 2018 to 26.2 days in fiscal 2019.
DEWEY PROGRAM AT THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS
The Library of Congress Dewey Program supports libraries worldwide that classify their titles in Dewey Decimal Classification (DDC). Caroline Saccucci is the CIP and Dewey Program Manager. She is a member of the IFLA Standing Committee for Subject Analysis and Access. In fiscal 2019, the Library’s Dewey Program assigned DDC numbers to 116,090 titles, supporting libraries worldwide that use the DDC to organize their collections.

ISSN CENTER
The U.S. ISSN Center in USPRLL assigned a record-breaking 6,341 International Standard Serial Numbers (ISSN) in 2019, an increase of 10.5 percent over fiscal 2018. Of these, 2,621 ISSN, or 41 percent, were assigned to online resources. ISSN statistics over many years show that print resources continue to be published at a steady rate. The high number of ISSN assigned to publications requested by CONSER libraries in 2019 represented the successful elimination of an arrearage of more than 1,500 titles that had accumulated, partly as a result of libraries requesting ISSN for older print titles being digitized or moved to off-site storage. In 2020, the U.S. ISSN Center plans a project for more than 5,000 titles in HathiTrust and a project to assign ISSN to science blogs. Work continues on ISSN Uplink, an ISSN web form application, workflow, and communication system.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS SUBJECT HEADINGS (LCSH) and LIBRARY OF CONGRESS CLASSIFICATION
The directorate added 7,259 new authorized subject access terms (either Library of Congress Subject Headings or genre-form terms) and 1,868 new Library of Congress Classification numbers in fiscal 2019. The very large increase in authorized subject access terms compared to only 2,221 the previous year was due largely to decision in the previous year to cancel LCSH authority records for “multiple” subdivisions (subdivisions that served as models for subdividing by multiple different terms in a given category) and replace them with authority records for each individual valid heading string that was based on a multiple (see IMJ v. 5, no. 1). Cancellations and replacements in 2019 concentrated on the “multiple” subdivisions that follow –Religious aspects. More than 5,550 authority records for individual heading strings were created, while 697 “multiples” were cancelled.

Work continued on the development of the Library of Congress Classification indigenous law schedules. The schedules for the indigenous law of Bolivia, Columbia, Ecuador, Brazil, and Paraguay were drafted, for release in 2020.

POLICY, TRAINING AND COOPERATIVE PROGRAMS
The Library of Congress is an institutional member of the North American RDA Committee (NARDAC), which elects one representative to the worldwide RDA Steering Committee (RSC). Most of the RSC’s work in fiscal 2019 focused on the RDA Toolkit Restructure and Redesign Project (3R Project). A PTCP cataloging policy specialist, Kate James, served as the RDA Examples Editor, an ex officio member of the 3R Project “core team” working on the design and structure of the revised Toolkit. She coordinated a project this year to solicit feedback from Library of Congress cataloging staff on the 3R beta version of the RDA Toolkit. Fifteen participants were asked to review a common set of content areas in the Toolkit, perform a common set of tasks, and respond to a common set of questions using an online survey tool. Kate analyzed the survey results and provided a summary of the responses to Library management, the RSC, and ALA Publishing, the RDA Toolkit publisher for the U.S., to help inform the development of the Toolkit as well as the development of training and policy documentation at the Library of Congress.

In April 2019, the RSC announced that the English text in the 3R beta version of the RDA Toolkit was stabilized. Work turned to planning for implementation, in anticipation of implementing no sooner than one year after the new Toolkit is released.
The Program for Cooperative Cataloging is an international consortium of more than 700 institutions that provide cataloging, training, and standards development. Staff in PTCP serve as the secretariat for the PCC. The PCC has shown increasing interest in BIBFRAME, RDA, and emerging alternatives to conventional cataloging. Its working groups in 2019 included standing committees on Training, Standards, and Applications; and task groups on Engagement and Broadening the PCC Community; Identity Management; Aggregates in Beta RDA Toolkit; Metadata Application Profiles; LD4P Serials Affinity; Diachronic Works in Beta RDA Toolkit; Element Labels in Beta RDA Toolkit; and Data Provenance in Beta RDA Toolkit. Each group had a liaison or full member from PTCP or NDMSO. The numerous working groups indicated the prominence of the PCC in the library metadata community as well as the large investment that ABA made to ensure their effectiveness.

The Library of Congress-Program for Cooperative Cataloging Policy Statements (LC-PCC PS) were not updated in fiscal 2019 because the RDA Toolkit remained frozen as a result of the RDA 3R Project. Once stabilization of the beta RDA text was achieved, the PTCP Division and the Program for Cooperative Cataloging (PCC) began work on policy statement development. In August 2019, four joint LC-PCC task groups, each co-chaired by a PTCP staff member, were charged to make recommendations for policy statements regarding new concepts that had been introduced into the beta RDA as a result of the 3R Project. In September 2019, a group of PTCP policy staff and the Library of Congress Music Division’s NARDAC representative produced a proposal for discussion by the PCC Policy Committee on how LC-PCC policies might be documented in the new RDA Toolkit using a combination of application profiles, policy statements, and workflow documents.

NEWS FROM AZERBAIJAN

By Adiba Ismayilova, Deputy Director for Library and Information Services and International Relations, National Library of Azerbaijan
Professor, Honored cultural worker

Tahirov Karim Mohammed
Director of the National Library of Azerbaijan

The Azerbaijan National Library is a national treasure and the bookkeeper carrying out state policy in the field of libraries in the republic. It collects and preserves the national publications, the works of the Azerbaijani authors published in foreign countries in Azerbaijani, as well as other information resources published in foreign languages.

The library was founded in 1922 and its official opening was on May 23, 1923. In 1939, the library was named after M.F. Akhundov, the thinker, playwright, and educator. By the decision of the Cabinet of Ministries of the Azerbaijan Republic dated April 15, 2004, No. 50, the Library was given the status of “The National Library” and is known as the Azerbaijan National Library (ANL).

There are 361 workers in the 24 departments of the National Library. According to the Laws of the Azerbaijan Republic “On Library work” and “On publishing”, the National Library should receive four mandatory copies of books and two mandatory copies of newspapers and magazines published throughout the country, and on the basis of those
materials, the library must create the archive fund of the national press. The priorities of the National Library are the formation of the book fund, the further improvement of the e-catalog and e-library, automation of reader services, and implementation of significant measures in the application of new technologies. The National Library works with the automated library system VIRTUA program. Now through the program based on Oracle, the reader services process is fully automated. Readers’ registration, issuing tickets to readers, passing of readers from the checkpoint, searching and ordering books on e-catalog, virtual order of books in advance, online bibliographic and methodical services have been provided. Today, there are 4,630,212 copies of literature in the stock of the National Library. Some 22,300 readers became members of the library in 2019, and in total, the number of readers reached 187,348. The number of ever-increasing virtual readers reached 1,000,000. The attendance of readers coming to the library during 2019 reached 316,219.

In total, bibliography and bibliographic materials, information books and newsletters, methodical materials, etc. in 37 titles and 6800 copies in circulation had been published by the National Library during 2019. All publications by the National Library had been delivered to the Central Library Systems of the republic and Baku city libraries promptly, and placed on the website of the National Library, on the E-catalog, and on the “Publications of our library” section.

About the International Scientific-Practical Conference "National Libraries as Mobile Information Centers"

Within the framework of the VI Baku International Book Exhibition-Fair on September 27-28, 2019, the National Library of Azerbaijan hosted the International Scientific and Practical Conference "National Libraries as Mobile Information Centers" with the participation of the heads of the National Libraries coming from 14 countries: Turkey, USA, Russia, Belarus, Lithuania, Latvia, Ukraine, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Uzbekistan, Moldova, Kyrgyzstan, and Bashkortostan, and ambassadors of the respective countries. The conference was attended by 26 specialists on librarianship from 14 countries.

Within the framework of the conference, the Minister of Culture of the Republic of Azerbaijan Abulfas Garayev and Vice-President of the Heydar Aliyev Foundation Leyla Aliyeva solemnly opened the exhibition "Nasimi Manuscripts in the world libraries" in the National Library of Azerbaijan with the participation of representatives of the National Libraries of 14 countries. This exhibition featured 32 copies of Nasimi manuscripts and digitized copies from Turkey, Iran, Czech Republic, Egypt, Bosnia, and USA in the Turkish, Arabic, and Persian languages.

From the opening ceremony of the exhibition "Nasimi manuscripts in world libraries"
Conference participants in front of an exhibition “Nasimi manuscripts in world libraries”

Additionally, the opening of the “International Cooperation Hall” included permanent literary corners of 14 countries within the framework of the conference, held at the National Library with the participation of ambassadors and the heads of the National Libraries from 14 countries. The opening of this hall will allow for the establishment of closer ties between libraries and the expansion of information exchange.

The International Cooperation Hall

**NEWS FROM FINLAND**

By: Mikko Lappalainen; Development manager
National Library of Finland

In the past few years the National Library of Finland has been developing its subject authorities towards a more easily reusable linked data format. Old string based monolingual thesauri have been transformed into multilingual machine readable indexing “ontologies”, and a new linked data vocabulary service called Finto has been set up for the dissemination of the new type of vocabularies. A culmination point in this development was reached in the summer of 2019, when the production of subject authorities was permanently moved away from the library databases into a completely linked data based environment. In the process all old bibliographic records with subject indexing in the Finnish Libraries’ Union Catalog were converted to host the new form of concepts.

Over decades libraries have been putting a lot of effort into creating thesauri and other controlled vocabularies to better organise and make accessible vast amounts of data and information. The potential of the vocabularies for users outside the library sector has been identified in the past, but often the library based standards and formats like MARC21 used in production of the said vocabularies, have been inhibiting utilizing them elsewhere. The idea of developing library thesauri into a more widely usable linked data ontologies gained momentum in Finland with the rise of the idea of semantic web in the early 2000s. The FinnONTO research project (2003-2012) laid the foundation to the work that Finto service has been continuing in the National Library from 2013. The main focus has been in using library thesauri of various domains as a basis for a large public sector “knowledge graph”, that would help to connect data and public services Finland. Semantic technologies have been seen as key in developing the findability and accessibility of digital public services, and in this development libraries...
have been playing a key role in Finland during the past few years.

For library metadata experts the development has meant adapting linked data practices in day-to-day work. In the past, the most widely used library thesaurus YSA was maintained within a library cataloguing system in MARC21 authority records that were browsable through a separate interface. As the monolingual MARC-based YSA was modified into the multilingual General Finnish Ontology YSO (http://finto.fi/yso/en/), the practise of maintaining a library vocabulary took a whole new meaning. As MARC21 does not really support the production of multilingual vocabularies, it was clear from the get-go that no MARC-based system could serve as an editing platform for a multilingual vocabulary. Also as it was wanted that the new ontology could be easily usable outside the library sector, a whole new linked data environment was set up. An open source vocabulary service Finto.fi was developed in-house for the publication of the new ontologies, and APIs were added for easy integration of YSO and other new vocabularies to information systems. For editing available SKOS and OWL editors were taken into use, and new practices like linking of concepts to external international vocabularies were added to the workflow.

The use of Finto and its vocabularies spread fast to different kinds of organisations, from museums and archives to government agencies and media houses. Ironically in library sector the adoption of the new ontology could be easily usable outside the library sector, a whole new linked data environment was set up. An open source vocabulary service Finto.fi was developed in-house for the publication of the new ontologies, and APIs were added for easy integration of YSO and other new vocabularies to information systems. For editing available SKOS and OWL editors were taken into use, and new practices like linking of concepts to external international vocabularies were added to the workflow.

Transforming the old thesauri into LOD ontologies was one thing, the other was converting the existing bib-records in library databases to support the new type of concepts. This task presented several challenges again mainly related to MARC21 format. First it was decided that since the authority records were “multilingual”, so should bib-records be. This meant duplicating the 65X-fields for each of the supported languages. The permanent identifiers (URIs) were recorded to subfield 0, after each 65X-field. Finally the language of the term in a given 65X-field was expressed in the source code of the vocabulary in subfield 2. For example in the case of a finnish language term the source code was yso/fin. The end result was not the prettiest MARC-records you’ve ever seen, but it could be said that that the main objectives of the conversion were reached. Still on the to-do list is an automatic enrichment script, that would fill in the additional language version of a chosen concept to a bib-record. This way a cataloguer can do indexing using just one of the three supported YSO languages, and the rest can be added in automatically to make the end result multilingual.
650-fields in a bibliographic record after the conversion. For each concept, a separate field is needed for each supported language (just Finnish and Swedish in this case). Also notice the vocabulary source codes with language additions in subfield 2, and the URIs in subfield 0.

Once the pipeline on the ontologies from Finto to library systems was ready and functional, and the legacy data was converted to match the new form of concepts, it was finally time to “pull the plug” on the old library based thesauri, and focus the vocabulary work to the development of linked data ontologies. The network of partners of the National Library has expanded through the wide usage of Finto’s ontologies, and libraries’ vocabulary work is now seen more as a part of advancing the semantic interoperability of public sector at large.

**NEWS FROM GERMANY**

By: Elke Jost-Zell, Department of Subject Cataloguing

First of all we’d like to introduce you to our new website and bid you a friendly welcome! [https://www.dnb.de/EN/Home/home_node.html](https://www.dnb.de/EN/Home/home_node.html).

The website can be viewed mostly barrier-free through all kinds of mobile devices. We invite visitors and partners from national and international institutions of culture, science and of course everyone else interested in our work to our most important information channel. Contents, functionality, user guidance and website design have been completely revised and technically enhanced.

The website content is divided into five main categories: Collections, Library Services, Cultural Offerings, DNB Professional and About Us. These pillars guide our four different user groups, library users, publishers whose publications we collect, the expert audience of library, archive and information systems and the public, to their main places of interest.

As an expert you will find information at the entry point DNB Professional: [https://www.dnb.de/EN/Professionell/professionell_node.html](https://www.dnb.de/EN/Professionell/professionell_node.html).

Here we offer facts and news about our collection policy and legal deposit copy delivery procedures, our methods of descriptive and subject cataloguing, bibliographic indexing of the collections, the German National Bibliography and information on standards, concepts and guidelines around cataloguing, data interchange, cross-linking, rights clearing, collections preservation and digital long term preservation.

You will also find more about our library standardization tasks in national and international committees, the GND, as well as announcements for
special events, cooperations, services and developments.

For general information on the German National Library’s website please contact https://www.dnb.de/contact

DNB website and DDC
The former separate website DDC Deutsch has been included in the German National Library’s main website and can be found at www.dnb.de/ddc. The former URL www.ddc-deutsch.de is still valid, users are being redirected to the new page.

There is also a new wiki page, DDC Deutsch Info, providing experts with further information on the DDC Subject Categories and on WebDewey applications, including help documents for specific WebDewey features (The wiki page is only available in German language).

For information on DDC Deutsch please contact Heidrun Alex, Department of Subject Cataloguing, h.alex@dnb.de or Tina Mengel, Department of Subject Cataloguing, t.mengel@dnb.de

RDA / MARC
RDA and the 3R Project
The new RDA Toolkit has been released at the end of April 2019, and the English version is stable (but not frozen). Regular releases are being conducted, and changes are recorded. New adaptations, conducted during the transition period, will take the effects on the translations and the policy papers into consideration. Basically, the standard will constantly be developed, and the RSC is planning to elaborate further Guidance Chapters. These will be incorporated into the toolkit as soon as possible. Further adjustments, supplementations and corrections will be implemented, and the communities are called for their aid and support by reporting vague or uncorrect parts to ALA Publishing.
The user communities can now start the adjustment works, like translating and transferring the former toolkit’s policy statements (DACH-AWR, BL PS, LC PCC PS etc.) into the new environment. For German-speaking Europe the Office for Library Standards (Arbeitsstelle für Standarisierung, AfS) carries out those adaptations in close team work with panels and working groups. Consistency with the international community is considered vital. Close partners are the European RDA Interest Group (EURIG), the British Library, the Library of Congress and the North American Program for Cooperative Cataloging (PCC).

Translations works are being in progress, the first work package consists of the RDA Registry. These works are of special interest because it defines the terminology for working with RDA in German. Our colleagues from the Office of Library Standards are working on this and present cases of doubt to the Cataloguing Panel (Fachgruppe Erschließung) for discussion. They bring their results into agreement with the RSC Translation Working Group at regular meetings and via mailing list and Wiki.

For transmitting the Policy Statement from the former toolkit into the new environment ALA Publishing has established a Policy Statements Working Group. From the ranks of the users the British Library and the German National Library are participating. The working group meets every month in a web conference. For German-speaking countries, the Office of Library Standards currently prepares the transfer of the policy statements (DACH-Anwendungsregeln).

The 3R Project’s purpose is to create a stable platform for a linked-data compatible and international standard. Shortly before the RSC Meeting in October 2019 the RDA Board and RSC announced to close the 3R Project on December 15, 2020. This will be the start of a transitional period for all user communities until the old RDA Toolkit can be deactivated. The date will be scheduled by the RDA Board and the RSC approximately at the end of 2020. The decision will comply with the the development status of the communities’ strategy for changing the practical cataloguing according to the new Toolkit.

For many years European colleagues have commented that they consider the standard RDA not truly international. This subtle point has been grasped and the 3R Project has been focusing on it. In regard of the fact that many a content has just been carried over from the former text, these contents should now be reconsidered and revised. A RSC Task Force will be constituted to proceed with the project.

Expert Group for Cataloguing in DACH
The Expert Group for Cataloguing (Fachgruppe Erschließung) is currently concerned with evaluating the new RDA Toolkit. A final report should be finalised at the end of January 2020. A preliminary report will be presented to the Committee of Library Standards in December 2019. Members of the committee will assign orders for continuing with the works on the basis of the results. Special working groups are further assigned to prepare application profiles and best guidelines for cataloguing special materials like images with RDA. They are working on the basis of the new RDA Toolkit since summer 2019. A new special working group for audiovisual media resources has been constituted by the Committee for Library Standards in July. Members of the working group have met for a kick-off meeting in the German National Library, Frankfurt in November and prepared a work schedule.

For information on RDA and RDA committees: http://www.rda-rsc.org/news
For information on RDA and the 3R project https://wiki.dnb.de/display/RDAINFO/RDA-Info or please contact Renate Behrens, Office for Library Standards, AfS, r.behrens@dnb.de
European RDA Interest Group (EURIG)
At their meeting in Budapest at the beginning of May the European RDA Interest Group (EURIG) exchanged views about the status of the new implementation and adaptation work. The EURIG members agreed upon a close cooperation at their annual meeting in Copenhagen in 2018 and now confirmed that agreement.

The „new“ RDA contain clear rules for particular issues just as before, but after the prototype’s modification many conceptional and more theoretical concepts have been brought into the standard. These need to be edited and included into the Application Profiles before they may be used for effective cataloguing.

After EURIG’s counseling a statement for RSC and the RDA Board was issued in 2018 with the result that a general and international Application Profile in the form of an official RSC Document was called for. Local and special communities need this for developing further APs for their particular requirements. This proposal was accepted at the RSC Meeting in October 2018. Since then the Editorial Committee has worked out a draft for an Application Profile which builds upon the standard set of data elements for German-speaking Europe. On the draft’s basis RSC members have recommended to continue work on the subject.

RSC has recognized the urgent need for a general RDA Application Profile as well as the calling for a RSC Working Group working on it, and further special application profiles, for example for music. EURIG will continue working on an European Application profile, along with the international RSC Working Group for Allocation Profiles. Upcoming adaptation works for European user communities should be made in close cooperation, considering the data compatibility and avoid the duplication of effort.

During the next weeks an EURIG Examples Group will be established. As a first step significant examples from the user communities will be collected and merged into an European data pool for examples. This collection of examples might be used as training material for the instruction courses for the new RDA Toolkit. In a second step the examples could be examined for their relevance in an international context, compiled and given into the care of the RSC Examples Editor for the RDA Toolkit. This might be leading to an increasingly international focus the RSC pursues.

More information on EURIG: http://www.rda-rsc.org/europe

Cataloguing with authority data in archives and libraries (Ressourcenerschließung mit Normdaten in Archiven und Bibliotheken (RNAB))
A special working group of the Steering Committee, the AG RNAB (formerly RNA/RDA) completed the revision of the RNA guidelines concerning RDA and published it in May 2019 under its new label: Cataloguing with authority data in archives and libraries, Ressourcenerschließung mit Normdaten in Archiven und Bibliotheken, RNAB.

You will find it in the RDA info Wiki on our website https://dnb.info/1186104252/34 (only in German). The ongoing works on the guidelines, especially the vocabulary support will be continued by the editorial team (Austrian and Swiss Literature Archives and State Library, Berlin). The team will continue as an expert and communication platform. The RNAB have been designed on the basis of the former RDA Toolkit, and so an update will soon be required. RNAB training courses are in the process of planning and announced in the RDA info Wiki as soon as possible.

MARC Advisory Committee (MAC)
The latest MARC Advisory Committee agenda contained two papers submitted by libraries from the German-speaking countries: Proposal 2019-06 „Defining a Field for a Subject Added Entry of Unspecified Entity Type in the MARC 21
"Bibliographic Format" was accepted with the alteration that field number „688“ was chosen, the highest field number that is definable in the MARC 6XX range for subject headings.

Discussion paper 2019-DP04 „Defining Subfield $g in Field 751 of the MARC 21 Bibliographic Format“ was uncontroversial, as there were no other options, and subfield $g „Miscellaneous information“ already existed in all X51 fields for geographic data.

For speeding up the procedure the paper has been handled and accepted as a fast-track-proposal by the MARC Steering Group, and the addition was published in update 29 to the MARC documentation in November 2019.

http://www.loc.gov/marc/bibliographic/bdapndxg.html

Other forthcoming proposals include the enhancement of indications of source in MARC 21: Up to now field 883 „Machine-generated Metadata Provenance“ can only be used for information about the data’s machine or partly machine generated origin. A new value at the first indicator position and some renamings (field and subfield names) could enable distinguishing data that has been created intellectually. This touches the approach of „data provenance“ in the RDA context.

http://www.loc.gov/marc/mac/an2019_age.html

**BIBFRAME**

Representatives of the RDA Steering Committee and of the Organizer Group of the Annual BIBFRAME Workshops in Europe met in June to begin a conversation about the relationship and interoperability between RDA and BIBFRAME.

See the brief announcement at http://www.rda-rsc.org/node/603 .

For a report on the 3rd Annual BIBFRAME Workshop in Europe, with active participation by the German National Library, see the column Meetings, page 35.

**BIBFRAME**

For further information on the German National Library’s activities in the MARC Advisory Committee, in the MARC/RDA Working Group and in the BIBFRAME initiative, please contact Reinhold Heuvelmann, Office for Data Formats, Information Infrastructure, r.heuvelmann@dnb.de
Integrated Authority File (Gemeinsame Normdatei, GND)

Twittering GND
Would you like to find out about the latest developments, news and events around the GND, share your thoughts with us, swap ideas and make proposals? Please follow us at Twitter: @gndnet.
Link: https://twitter.com/gndnet

GND for Cultural Data (GND für Kulturdaten, GND4C)
The opening of the GND requires ways of communication for experts from all kinds of institutions in order to cooperate and find and cultivate solutions. The GND4C team had invited guests for an Open GND4C-Forum to Leipzig. Sixty experts went in four world cafés debating with the project team about the topics of the current stage of development.

You will find more information in the GND4C blog. https://wiki.dnb.de/pages/viewrecentblogposts.action?key=GND
Proceeding the encouraging feedback for the project’s progress preparation for the second phase will start in November 2020.

For information on GND4C please contact Barbara K. Fischer, Office for Library Standards, AfS, b.k.fischer@dnb.de

GND meets Wikibase
The German National Library and its GND partner institutions evaluate the software Wikibase along with Wikimedia Germany. It needs to be verified if this software is able to satisfy the requirements of cultural heritage institutions on a cooperative authority file.

In the first stage of the project two Wikibase entities were attached. One serves the testing of different GND modelings. The other entity should display the GND in greatest similarity to the current GND data model. Another test contains the import of larger amounts of data into a Wikibase entity. The German National Library regularly exchanges experiences with the Bibliothèque Nationale de France who works on a similar evaluation of Wikibase for its authority file.

For further information on the Wikibase evaluation please contact Barbara K. Fischer, Office for Library Standards, AfS, b.k.fischer@dnb.de

Web presentation
The history of the Integrated Authority File (Gemeinsame Normdatei GND)
The Integrated Authority File (GND) is widely used by libraries. Many of us may remember the constitution of the GND in 2012. Today the GND is appreciated not only in the library world but reaches far more user groups. But how can we understand the data the GND contains if we do not know its history? We can’t. Esther Scheven, member of the German National Library’s GND project, has compiled an exhibition on the GND history for last year’s GNDCon and found things that were new and surprising even to her.

Please take a look into the GND exhibition’s web presentation (in German only): https://prezi.com/view/68tABmETxbWeAc7VFQqi/ (not suitable for Internet Explorer) or http://d-nb.info/11940103X

For further information on the GND history please contact Esther Scheven, Department IE Subject Cataloguing and Office for Library Standards, AfS, e.scheven@dnb.de

International Association of Music Libraries (IAML) Workshop - GND Editors Meeting
This workshop invited all level editors engaged in the Integrated Authority File (GND) to gather in the city of Augsburg on September 17 to 20, 2019.
They focused on the sharing of information and communication on general and specific questions. The questions part consisted mainly of questions concerning authority file tasks collected prior to the meeting. Discussions spun between very specific questions on standard guidelines as well as basic aspects. One topic concerned the prospects and challenges of the GND opening for music research. The attendees emphasized the importance of suitable and supporting tools for data entry and check routines to allow non-librarian specialists creating records in compliance with the rules. The most important result of this very constructive event is the continuation of this professional exchange in order to deal with the specific issues of music. The German National Library will start a mailing list, configure a special section in the GND wiki and exchange regularly with the music theme group. An annual GND user meeting will be held.

More information:  
http://www.aibm.info/tagungen/2019-augsburg/

**International Standard Name Identifier, ISNI**

The meta standard International Standard Name Identifier (ISNI) connects established identification systems and enables an enhanced usability. Up to now, it combines authority data for persons from 52 sources, like national libraries and library networks. Among them is the Integrated Authority File (GND), managed by the German National Library and her partner institutions.

In January 2020 the MVB, Frankfurt am Main, a technology and information services provider for the German book industry, takes on the task as a registry agency for ISNI in Germany, Austria and Switzerland.


**Project ORCID DE – Supporting Open Researcher and Contributor ID in Germany**

* (Projekt ORCID DE – Förderung der Open Researcher and Contributor ID in Deutschland) 

ORCID-DE is the German National Library’s claiming service for German-speaking scientists to complete their bibliographical references and to connect to the world wide authority data network. At the same time they interlock with the Integrated Authority File (GND) by claiming authorship of their own publications in the German National Bibliography. The publication’s metadata transfer into the ORCID record in the bibliographic reference as well as into the library catalogue. By linking the GND record and the publication, the GND identification number (ID) is automatically linked as „other ID“ in the ORCID record. The ORCID records data are unified, sources originate from data bases of affiliated organizations, projects and publications. In a convenient procedure scientists can transfer their desired data into the record. They choose which information about themselves the record shall contain as well as which parts are visible for certain institutions – or not.

This means that ORCID users do have access of metadata of all media works in German and published in Germany via the German National Bibliography. More than 7,5 million ORCID-IDs have established the identification system orcid.org as an international standard in the scientific world. The latest milestone was reached on July 9th 2019 with the claiming service’s deployment. In the following three months approximately 1.300 claiming procedures claimed over 5.500 title records of the German National Bibliography. 1.900 of those were linked with the matching GND authority data record. The forthcoming ORCID data dump will show how many GND-ID have been applied into the ORCID records. The project has been funded by the German Research Foundation, Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG).

More information: [https://www.orcid-de.org](https://www.orcid-de.org)
Cataloguing
Digital Assistant (Digitaler Assistent)
What kinds of technical environments and tools should the German National Library use in the future?
After a successful pretest we agreed upon implementing the Digital Assistant, a product of Eurospider Information Technology AG in Zürich, as an assistant system for subject cataloguing in 2020 for the duration of two years. The system provides subject cataloguing data from various sources as proposals for librarians to choose from for their own cataloguing. Some libraries in Germany, Switzerland and Austria have already adapted the system. After the production test the German National Library will consider the practical value of this tool for intellectual subject cataloguing.

For further information on the Digital Assistant, please contact Helga Karg, Department IE Subject Cataloguing, h.karg@dnb.de

Changes to subject cataloguing procedures

Series A
In May 2017, the German National Library published its concept for the development of subject cataloguing procedures, which is now being implemented step by step. One important element of this concept is the use of automated cataloguing subject cataloguing processes, also for physical media works. However, it also states that core intellectual cataloguing activities will continue, e.g. in the case of subjects for which machine-based cataloguing processes do not deliver satisfactory results; intellectual cataloguing will also be carried out for the purpose of developing machine based processes further and maintaining the GND. At present, it is impossible to say which subjects and publications will have to be catalogued intellectually on a long-term or permanent basis. The German National Library is currently continuing to catalogue Series A publications intellectually and guarantees that it will continue to do so until the end of the 2nd quarter of 2019.
1 July 2019 marked the start of a transition scenario developed by the DNB in cooperation with the subject cataloguing initiative group of the Committee for Library Standards and approved by the Committee itself. This specifies which academic publications in Series A are guaranteed to undergo intellectual subject cataloguing by the DNB over the next 3-5 years.
The interim scenario is oriented on requirements pertaining to book-related subject categories. The decision as to which a subject is book-related and which users clearly require printed academic literature issued by German publishers was made by the DNB in agreement with the subject cataloguing initiative group of the Committee for Library Standards. For these book-related subjects, the DNB guarantees to continue to do intellectual subject cataloguing of printed monographs in Series A during the transition period, i.e. creating subject headings, DDC numbers and DDC Subject Categories, provided the monographs concerned are classified as academic literature. Intellectual cataloguing will also continue for monographs of non-book-related subjects, e.g. if they address historical, ethical or legal aspects of the subject. All publications of non-book-related subjects will be assigned DDC Subject Categories.

Series B
As part of the process of implementing the above-mentioned subject cataloguing concept, work on the automated assignment of subject headings to Series B and H publications began in 2017. The data services began delivering this data in autumn that year. Subject headings are assigned automatically on the basis of the bibliographic data and digitised tables of contents. Machine-based subject cataloguing processes undergo continuous quality screening.
and regular evaluation so that they can be improved. During the course of one of these evaluations, which encompassed a large quantity of Series B and H documents, it was found that the percentage of incorrectly assigned subject headings in Series B was at 30% relatively high, and that the percentage of useful and very useful subject headings was less than 50%. This is largely due to a number of factors including the high proportion of works in the field of social sciences and the emphasis placed by key subject-specific terms on persons, corporate bodies and geographical information, leading in turn to cataloguing errors. The DNB therefore decided that as of 1 July 2019, machine-based cataloguing for Series B publications will cease until further notice. However, it is working on alternatives for the subject cataloguing of this group of publications, e.g. by integrating more external data. The machine-based assignment of subject headings to Series H publications will continue, as the majority of machine-generated subject headings were rated either useful or very useful (59% in all), while the percentage of incorrectly assigned subject headings was just 18%. Publications of the Series B and H will further be assigned DDC Subject Categories and for some subjects machine-generated DDC Short Numbers.

Detailed lists of disciplines, structured by DDC Subject Categories, are published on the German National Library’s website:

For further information on subject cataloguing in the German National Library, please contact Dr Volker Henze, Department IE Subject Cataloguing, v.henze@dnb.de

Conference Network Machine-based Procedures in Cataloguing (Fachtagung Netzwerk maschinelle Verfahren in der Erschließung)
From 10th to 11th October 2019 our Conference Network Machine-based Procedures in Cataloguing took place in the German National Library in Frankfurt/Main. Approximately one hundred guests and partners from libraries, library service institutions, information centres, university and science institutions, museums, archives and software and consultancy firms dwelled over questions around machine-based procedures for cataloguing.

What are Artificial Intelligence’ advanced technologies able to accomplish – and where do they fail? Are models and experiences from other application fields, for example curating of digitized documents, broadcasting, product advertising or patent control, adaptable for libraries? Are there connecting factors for cooperation? Are search engines already capable of achieving the same results as automated procedures for cataloguing? Questions like this were the heart of experts contributions concerning text analytics, machine learning and deep learning. Tutorials allowed the participants a deeper understanding for the practical experience. The programme offered basic courses for programming with Python, analyzing natural language texts as well as workshop talks on methodologies and processes used in the Leibnitz Information Centre for Economics (Leipzig-Informationszentrum Wirtschaft, ZBW) and the German National Library. The Knowledge Café invited lively talks about strategies for subject cataloguing in the digital age and the requirements of science today and tomorrow.

The Network Machine-based Procedures in Cataloguing is a platform for the exchange of information and experience about technologies and procedures in cataloguing and metadata quality. Following the conference’s positive response, further meetings will be held to offer room for experts sharing their thoughts about applications and technologies for automated cataloguing,
metadata quality and the use of discovery systems in these formats.

For further information on machine-based cataloguing please contact Elisabeth Mödden, Section AEN, Automatic Indexing; Online Publications, e.moedden@dnb.de

Designing Access! is an annual conference dedicated to the effects of digitalization on the access to cultural heritage. Last year’s conference took place in Berlin, and the 2019 conference was hosted again by the German National Library in Frankfurt am Main.

Digitalization offers many opportunities for an easy access to works of cultural heritage. Representatives of museums, libraries, archives and other heritage institutions discussed the challenges of clearing legal, technical and administrative obstacles and agreed that pragmatic solutions should be found and used.

The German National Library cooperates with the collecting societies in Germany by providing a service for the rights clearing of out of print works – an important step for granting access to books. But there’s more to manage – access for pictures online, and the use of free licenses to enable public institutions to spread content where possible.

More information: https://zugang-gestalten.org/

NEWS FROM EGYPT
By: Rania Osman, Bibliotheca Alexandrina, Egypt

A BA Prepublication Copy of the 23rd edition of the Arabic DDC, Volumes 1, 2 and 3, October 2019

Professor Amgad El-Gohary, Head of the Library Sector, Bibliotheca Alexandrina, announced the prepublication of the Arabic DDC Volumes 1, 2 and 3 with updates up to March 2019.

DDC Volume 4: Index is currently in the uploading and the updating phase, and is work in progress to be finalized for a pre-publication in December 2019.

This prepublication of the Arabic translation of DDC Volumes 1, 2 and 3 is extracted from the International DDC Translation Software: PANSOFT.

New Concepts and Applications for cataloging
Presented in the Sharjah International Library Conference, November, 2019 a workshop on the Significant changes that have taken place in the cataloging community, especially IFLA’s Library Reference Model (LRM) and the 3R (RDA Toolkit Restructure and Redesign) Project on RDA. Catalogers need to understand these new concepts and processes. The preconference addressed the impact including new entities and elements, and
how these changes transform the cataloging practice. https://www.sibfala.com/program

Facilitators:

Rania Osman, Head of Library Projects Section, Information Institutions and Professional Skills Department, Bibliotheca Alexandrina, Egypt. She is chair of the RDA Arabic Translation team.

Tharwat Al-Olaimi, Cataloging and Metadata Librarian, University of Sharjah, UAE. He has extensive experience in Resource Description and Access (RDA), and recently recognized by the ALA International Spotlight initiative.

NEWS FROM THE NETHERLANDS

By: Meta van der Waal-Gentenaar, Metadataspecialist, Department Digitalisering & Documentverwerking, National Library of the Netherlands

New registration environment for the KB / National Library

In the Netherlands we have a long tradition of shared cataloguing. We used to create bibliographic metadata in a shared cataloguing system called the GGC (Gemeenschappelijk Geautomatiseerd Catalogussysteem), a joint cataloging platform for the national information infrastructure, on the CBS platform (OCLC). In recent years, the university libraries and several scientific or special libraries are cataloguing more and more in WorldCat. While its function as a central metadata hub for the whole of Dutch libraries has decreased, the GGC is still an important source for WorldCat and central in the network of public and heritage libraries, which the National Library serves and is part of.

The National Library of the Netherlands is still cataloguing on the GGC platform in records in its original cataloguing format Pica3/Pica+, which is also well known in other libraries using the CBS platform. The National Library is currently investigating a transition to a new cataloguing environment with, in a few years, the possibility of cataloguing in entities, for example BIBFRAME or the entities of IFLA LRM: Work, Expression, Manifestation, and Item (WEMI). In 2018 we started with a Request for Information on the European Market. This RFI was quite useful and in January 2020 we will take the next step.

Exploring possibilities automated metadata generation

Since the foundation of the KB, National Library of the Netherlands in 1798, our cataloguers have described publications manually. Due to the increasing amount of born-digital publications and the rise of artificial intelligence (AI) applications, we might now be able to train the computer to assist our cataloguers in assigning keywords to publications.

In the whitepaper ‘Exploring possibilities automated metadata generation’ https://zenodo.org/record/3375192#.XdvYUGRgV9A (Kleppe et al 2019) we describe the results of our first experiments with automated generation of metadata. In the past year, a group of KB colleagues from different departments formed a research group and teamed up with academic researchers with different expertise. Together we explored several tools that suggest keywords from a
controlled vocabulary that has been used at the KB since 1885.

We used a train/test set of 18k/5k dissertations from six Dutch universities to compare the performance of several algorithms. Since we aim to assist cataloguers to find the right keywords rather than fully automate the process, we focused on recall scores: if the algorithm outputs a list of twenty possible keywords, are the right ones among them?

We presented the initial promising results, which led us to further experiment with the tool ‘Annif’ on different types of data. We briefly describe experiments we did on digitized early-modern legislative texts and elaborate on our current focus on e-books. Although we hope to improve performance of these algorithms, we believe they should merely facilitate the work of cataloguers, rather than fully replacing them. The human perspective, expertise, and skill will remain necessary for guaranteeing the quality that we as the KB represent.

Development metadata model

In 2018, the KB, National Library of the Netherlands, created a draft for an information model for content. This information model for collection data integrates with an existing information model for customer data at the KB.

Currently, the efforts to further this model are focused on creating a broad entity relationship model for all collection content of the KB. Eventually, this will lead to a KB metadata model. At its core, this model will be based on an attempted integration of the conceptual models of both IFLA-LRM and PREMIS. Further, it will consist of an application profile that describes the applicable relationships between the entities, what properties (or attributes) to apply, and in what format and / or according to what standard. For the bibliographic metadata in this model, we use the RDA Toolkit Beta site as our reference.

National Bibliography of the Netherlands

The KB, National Library of the Netherlands, has redefined the selection criteria for the Dutch National Bibliography and has identified the information needs of the various existing and potential users of the bibliography. We are now in the process of designing the metadata model and analysing potential metadata sources. The goal is to make a plan to improve the quality of the metadata by next year and ultimately compile a new Dutch National Bibliography.

1 http://annif.org/
NEWS FROM RUSSIA

90 years to the Cataloging Department of the National Library of Russia (St.-Petersburg).
Looking to the future, don't forget about traditions

By Stanislav Golubtsov, Head of Cataloguing Department, National Library of Russia

In April 2020 the Cataloguing Department of the National Library of Russia (St.-Petersburg) celebrates its 90th anniversary. The cataloging of the National Library of Russia collections began from its opening in 1795. Practically from that time the formation of rules and standards for bibliographic descriptions of publications and approaches to the formation of the library catalogs began.

Already in 1808 the director of the Imperial Public library (the previous name of the National Library of Russia) Mr. Olenin, created the first Russian Guide of organizing funds and catalogs, and also developed a classification that became not only the basis for organizing funds and first catalogs, but also the structure of the Imperial Public library in the 19th century. This structure of our library, with a number of changes, lasted until a major reorganization in 1930.

In his Guide of organizing funds and catalogs, Mr. Olenin, in particular, suggests describing books not in notebooks, but first on separate cards or sheets of special thick paper and as an example of bibliographic description gives a description of the 1643 year publication.

A card with a description of this 19th century edition.

On this example it is interesting to observe how, over two centuries, not only a technology have changed, but also approaches to compiling and completing a bibliographic record. Now the description of this publication presented in the electronic catalog of the National Library of Russia in completely different content level. It is in RUSMARC format and is accessible to all users through a web interface.

You can find out the machine-readable entry for this publication in the electronic catalog of the National Library of Russia at this link or using the proposed QR code:

Mr. Aleksey Nikolaevich Olenin made the rules for describing books, which were improved in 1819 and in this form had a great influence on the formation of the Bibliographic Description methodology in Russia. It is for the first time the rules determined the arrangement of elements. The heading was put first, and it was also indicated that wherever the author was indicated in the book - in the Bibliographic Description the author should come first in the nominative case.

One of the famous Russian bibliographers, an employee of the Imperial Public Library, Mr. Vasily Anastasevich, back in 1818, suggested fixing different spellings of the names of authors of cataloged books.

For example, in the authority file of the National Library of Russia, the record given on Ole Worm contains not only variant forms of the name, but also factual information about this person. There you can find information that he is a Danish scientist, naturalist, archaeologist and collector, a well-known researcher of runic inscriptions. You can also find out that the writer Howard Lovecraft (1890-1937) attributed to Ole Worm a translation from Greek into Latin of the fictional book “Necronomicon”. You can familiarize yourself with this authoritative entry at this link or using the proposed QR code:
The formation of the Personal Names Authority File is based on the traditions of the development and organization of copyright complexes in the alphabetical catalogs of the National Library of Russia. An Authority File is constantly updated and edited in the process of cataloging current receipts and during the cataloging of publications from NLR (National Library of Russia) funds.

The system of Russian national Authority Files was developed on the basis of the card catalog system of the National Library of Russia. Thus, subject headings Authority File was created on the basis of the country’s only unique in volume and universal in content list of subject headings used in the subject catalog of the National Library of Russia. This system also includes the Corporate Body Authority Files and the Uniform Titles Authority File.

From the very beginning of the Imperial Public Library (St.-Petersburg) activities cataloging has been the basis of professional communication and interaction of the Imperial Public Library with other Russian libraries. Since the beginning of the 19th century, the Imperial Public Library (currently the National Library of Russia) has been an authoritative organization involved in the continuous professional development of colleagues and methodological assistance center to Russian libraries.

Back in 1812, Mr. Andrei F. Deryabin, the head of the Mining Cadet Corps (today St. Petersburg Mining University, one of the largest universities in mining and the first higher technical educational institution in Russia) ordered “the library and library catalog to be arranged in the same order as accepted at the Imperial Public Library”, he also asked Mr. Olenin to provide a sample of the organization adopted in the Public Library.

At the present time traditions of the professional education in the National Library of Russia continue to evolve. So, for example, the National Library of Russia is a scientific and methodological center for cataloging, subjectification and authority control for Russian libraries. And for several years already successfully held the seminar on the theory and practice of machine-readable cataloging in the format “RUSMARC” organized by the National Library of Russia Cataloging Department, as well as regular internships of Russian librarians on machine-readable cataloging, use of authoritative files and subject headings are held.

In the Cataloging Department the development of RUSMARC (the Russian version of UNIMARC) machine-readable formats for bibliographic and authority records have begun.

The Cataloging Department of the National Library of Russia was established in October 1930. It focused on the complete processing of books, periodicals (newspapers and magazines), small
materials (group processing) and compiling catalogs for all the main funds of the Library, except for specialized types of publications.

The Department was also assigned the functions of a center for scientific and methodological work in this area.

Information about the history of cataloging in the National Library of Russia would not be complete without a story about ordinary people - cataloguers who are engaged in daily professional process for processing information for cataloging in the National Library of Russia.

Today, with the development of electronic communications in the professional community, as well as social networks, personal interaction does not seem to be a big problem. But what were those first catalogers who did not occupy prominent posts? Who were not famous scientists or writers, but simply did their job?

Mr. Vasily Y. Atkinson and Mr. Ivan Krilov. Drawing by Mr.O. A. Kiprensky from the Mr.Olenin’s album. Mascara, pen

So, for example, at the picture we see Vasily Yakovlevich Atkinson (1791 - 1844), who practically all his life, 34 years, was dedicated to the cataloging at the Imperial Public Library.

The current catalogers of the National Library of Russia rely on traditions, but are optimistic and confident about the future.

NEWS FROM SERBIA
Preparing the Serbian UDC edition online
By: Ana Stévanovic, National Library of Serbia

The work of the preparation of the new Serbian edition of the Universal Decimal Classification started in January 2019. The project has been coordinated by the National Library of Serbia (NLS) and involved work on the digitization of the old Serbian printed edition, its alignment with the newest version of the UDC Master Reference File (UDC MRF), translation and the proofreading of the complete Serbian text of the schedule. The latest phase of the project involved the publishing of the Serbian UDC edition in the UDC Online Hub platform; including the translation of a search interface and a users and account management module into Serbian. The Serbian UDC Online opened for use on 2 December 2019 and this report provides some insight into the short and intensive project work that is now in its final phases.

The use of UDC in Serbia has a long tradition. It was implemented in libraries in former Yugoslavia in 1940’s, after The Second Word War, and still is the main classification system in most Serbian libraries. The license funding for the publishing of the UDC editions in former Yugoslavia was covered by the Yugoslav Bibliographic and Information Institute (YUBIN) until it ceased to exist in 2005. Following the dissolution of YUBIN the copyright of the Serbian text of the UDC was transferred to the NLS. Since 2005, following the translation of the UDC
Summary into Serbian (http://www.udcsrsummary.info/php/index.php?lang=sr), the NLS managed to published two abridged printed editions (2013 and 2015) awaiting for several more years to embark on the bigger translation work.

In 2018, NLS started initial preparations for the project through requesting necessary funding, joining the UDC Consortium and organizing a team of translators and editors.

The scan of the printed YUBIN edition from 2004 was converted into text, formatted and aligned with MRF 12 in January 2019. The alignment resulted in only around 45,000 (out of 72,000) UDC classes with Serbian translation. For editorial team, however, missing classes were the least of the problems. The previous YUBIN edition in Roman script was hastily prepared resulting in a poor quality and outdated text in need of extensive editing and revision. In addition, a number of problems has arisen in the process of conversion from Roman to Cyrillic script. Thus, almost every class, whether it was already translated or not needed some kind of revision.

In order to complete this enormous task and given that the use of the UDC schedules online was planned as free access for all libraries in Serbia, NLS invited collaboration from two libraries - Matca Srpska Library and University Library „Svetozar Markovic“. And as a result, the editorial and translation work was divided and coordinated.
between 50 volunteers. Participants were mostly library professionals joined by a small group of students who all approached the project with enthusiasm and eagerness. In some cases, and when it was possible, for more difficult and specialized terminology, external experts were consulted.

Because of the number of volunteers, and the need to impose strict editorial control, it was decided that most of the translation and proofreading work would be performed off-line. Spreadsheets containing class’s captions and including notes only and those with examples were sent out in the first phase of the project in early February 2019 by main coordinator to mark the beginning of the project. After a couple rounds of proofreading and editing, they were uploaded into the translation database and then underwent another round of the final proofreadings online. The distribution and sequence of spreadsheets was managed by the principal project coordinator at the NLS with help from coordinators from the NLS and two other libraries involved in the project.

Application Notes, Scope Notes and Information Notes have been translated online by the principal coordinator, the editor-in-chief of the Serbian UDC Online. The same person was also responsible for the UDC Online interface preparation, which although standard for all nine languages on the UDC Online Hub, required significant adjustments to support the Serbian language, the first language using Cyrillic script on the Hub and the one which required additional testing.

NLS was lucky to have assembled the team of hardworking and dedicated participants with different educational background and expertise who were all familiar with UDC and eager to finally see an up to date UDC edition. In the course of the projects we were fortunate to collaborate and benefit from participations from people with different set of skills. The most important members of the team in this type of projects, are always those who are fluent in both English and Serbian and have good knowledge of classification and we were lucky to have many of them on board. However, the project benefited greatly from participations of colleagues who, although not necessarily fluent in English, were experienced librarians with years of experience working with UDC, and their help in revising Serbian text of the schedules was indispensable. The team also included a smaller number of language experts who, although not familiar with classification, were very cooperative, opened to suggestions and responsive to our professional needs. It truly was a team work and team effort.

Nevertheless, numerous translation difficulties occurred during the process. First and the most important was - translation and adjustment of classification scheme from universal level to more specific, local level. Every culture has different notions of knowledge organizations and it is always difficult to stay as exact as possible with respect to the general nature of an international system. One encounters and has to find solution for various issues on the level of vocabulary choice, semantics and syntax. For example, some of the geographical terms or indigenous languages of Africa, North and South America were translated into Serbian for the first time and there was no relevant linguistic sources in Serbian to draw upon.

After 11 month and with 60 304 classes prepared (the total number of classes is about 72 000) Serbian UDC Online (https://sr.udc-hub.com/sr/login.php) was launched for trial period on December 2nd, for all librarians in Serbia, free of charge.

The project is now in its final phase and we feel that our experiences provide an excellent example of how much that can be achieved through a joint effort. It is a credit to Serbian librarians, to have managed to assemble a team of people with different professional experience and different skills and knowledge, who all participated (and some of them continue to do so) in creating a professional tool that will make day to day job easier for all librarians in their country.
NEWS FROM SWEDEN
By: Harriet Aagaard, National Library of Sweden

In September 2019 the National Library hosted the 3rd International BIBFRAME Workshop in Europe. For information about the workshop, see page 35.

The National Library has been interested in AI & machine learning for a long time, and in May 2019 a new department, the KB-lab started. (KB is short for Kungliga Biblioteket, i.e. the National Library). The first project has been to classify academic publications in Swepub (National Research Publication Database) according to a classification system based on FORD. 2

We are interested in collaboration and using best practises from other projects and plan to join the AI4LAM community.
https://sites.google.com/view/ai4lam/home

Librarians at the National Library need to learn about main aspects of machine learning. We have arranged several lectures this autumn and plan for more information to staff next year.

Are following a web tutorial a better way of learning? The Finnish AI web course “Elements of AI” has been a success. More than 225 000 people have done the course.

Google has published a web course for developers “Machine Learning Crash Course”
https://developers.google.com/machine-learning/crash-course. It is more technical than the Finnish course and it has programming excersises. I found it useful but skipped the programming excersises.

MEETING REPORTS

INFORMAL MEETING OF THE PERMANENT UNIMARC COMMITTEE 2019 AUGUST 27, IFLA CONGRESS, ATHENS, GREECE

By Jay Weitz, Secretary of the PUC, Senior Consulting Database Specialist, OCLC Online Computer Library Center, Dublin, Ohio, USA

On 2019 August 27, IFLA’s Permanent UNIMARC Committee (PUC) gathered during the IFLA Congress in Athens, Greece, for an informal meeting. In attendance were Ms. Saeedeh Akbari-Daryan (National Library and Archives of Iran); Ms. Nijolė Blūžiūvienė (Martynas Mažvydas National Library of Lithuania); Ms. Flavia Bruni (Istituto Centrale per il Catalogo Unico, Italy); Mr. Gordon Dunsière (Independent Consultant, Scotland); Mr. Massimo Gentili-Tedeschi (Biblioteca Nazionale Braidense and ICCU, Italy); Mr. Ben Gu (National Library of China); Ms. Irena Kavčič (National and University Library of Slovenia); PUC Chair Ms. Gordana Mazić (IZUM, Slovenia); Ms. Mélanie Roche (Bibliothèque nationale de France); Ms. Maria Stegaeva (Russian Presidential Library); Ms. Yang Wang (National Library of China); Ms. Jenny Wright (Bibliographic Data Services Limited, United Kingdom); and Mr. Jay Weitz (OCLC, USA), PUC Secretary and rapporteur.

The minutes of the May 2019 PUC meeting in Maribor, Slovenia were approved and are available on the PUC website (https://www.ifla.org/files/assets/uca/puc-meetings/29_puc_minutes_2019_maribor.pdf).

PUC Elections and Membership

Trying to fit the PUC into the general organizational structure of other IFLA entities has been difficult, particularly regarding its leadership and membership. The unique PUC role of maintaining UNIMARC demands both expertise and continuity in
ways that most other IFLA groups do not require. To that end, Ms. Mazić was re-elected as PUC Chair and Mr. Weitz was elected to the new position of PUC Secretary, which is actually the role he has been playing as Vice Chair since 2000. Unless the IFLA Committee on Standards decides otherwise, the PUC will need to elect a new Chair in 2021.

Ms. Akbari-Daryan is now a full PUC member. Ms. Bliūdžiuvienė is representing her Martynas Mažvydas National Library of Lithuania colleague and new PUC member Ms. Genovaite Rutkauskiene. Ms. Stegaeva is representing her Russian Presidential Library colleague Ms. Olga Zhlobinskaya. Ms. Roche, who serves on the French UNIMARC Committee, is representing new PUC member Ms. Héloïse Lecomte (ABES, France).

Ms. Branka Badovinac (IZUM, Slovenia) has become a corresponding member because of her diligent work on the online UNIMARC format documents. Ms. Bruni remains as PUC Web Editor.

PUC Action Plan
The PUC’s Action Plan must be submitted by 2019 October 15.

The Action Plan Focus Area 1, to increase UNIMARC visibility, Key Initiative 3 is to establish a model for maintaining the UNIMARC Namespaces. The PUC will need to work with the Linked Data Technical Sub-Committee (LIDATEC) to determine the exact process and the need for funding the maintenance of the PUC Namespaces.

The Action Plan Focus Area 2, to harmonize UNIMARC with IFLA models and descriptive rules, parallels that of the Cataloguing Section regarding the IFLA Library Reference Model (LRM). The RDA Steering Committee (RSC) has been waiting for waiting for the RDA to UNIMARC mapping do that it may be included in the new RDA Toolkit. Work on that can begin now so that when the UNIMARC Namespaces are ready, the PUC can create a formal mapping. The RSC will do the actual work on the mapping once they know which versions of UNIMARC/Authorities (U/A) and UNIMARC/Bibliographic (U/B) to use. Ms. Mazić will send the current Word versions of the two documents to Mr. Dunsire. The mapping is the first stage, and the second stage is the creation of an application profile. The mapping itself could be ready for IFLA 2020 in Dublin, Ireland, but the application profile could take longer.

The joint Library of Congress (LC), International Association of Music Libraries (IAML) and PUC project to consolidate the two Medium of Performance vocabularies and possibly Japanese translated terms will also need to be loaded to the Namespace. Because of Mr. Gentili-Tedeschi’s retirement, a new IAML/PUC liaison is needed for the consolidation project to continue. Mr. Joseph Hafner (McGill University), former chair of the IAML Cataloguing and Metadata Section, is the new Chair of LIDATEC.

UNIMARC Online Edition Editorial Group
The UNIMARC Online Edition Editorial Group has a deadline of 2019 October 15 to have the first version ready, looking forward to having the fully harmonized and linked final document online around the end of calendar 2019.

Bibliographic Standards in Linked Data Study Group
Ms. Roche is chair of the newly formed Bibliographic Standards in Linked Data Study Group, which reports to LIDATEC and aims to support the publication of any documents regarding the diffusion of IFLA bibliographic standards onto the Semantic Web. The Study Group will include
members from the Bibliographic Conceptual Models Review Group (BCM RG), ISBD Review Group, PUC, and LIDATEC. Members will serve four-year terms that may be renewed once. The chair will be elected for two years, renewable once, and will be the LIDATEC liaison. Other liaisons will be chosen, as appropriate. The PUC must choose one to three members as representatives once the Committee on Standards (CoS) approves the new study group, probably in mid-October. Ms. Roche will forward the full Terms of Reference to Ms. Mazić for dissemination to the PUC.

Upcoming UNIMARC Work, Meetings, and Other Activities
The PUC will hold a conference call probably on 2019 October 2, particularly to discuss the PUC Action Plan and other IFLA follow-up.

The newly renovated Martynas Mažvydas National Library of Lithuania has invited the PUC to hold its 30th meeting in Vilnius in 2020. IZUM in Maribor, Slovenia, has also invited the PUC to return in 2020. The committee will discuss and decide soon on the location of its meeting, tentatively in March 2020.

DEWEY DEcimal CLASSIFICATION

By Elise Conradi, Head of Bibliographic Services, Biblioteksentralen AL, and Caroline Saccucci, LC

Highlights from Dewey Decimal Classification Editorial Policy Committee Meeting 142
Dewey Decimal Classification (DDC) Editorial Policy Committee (EPC) Meeting 142 convened 23-24 September 2019 at the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C. EPC is the ten-member international body that advises the Dewey editorial team and OCLC on changes, innovation, and the general development of the DDC. EPC includes delegates from Great Britain, the European Dewey Users Group (EDUG), South Africa, Australia, Anglophone and Francophone Canada, and several from the United States. U.S. delegates are appointed by the American Library Association (ALA) with the exception of the Library of Congress, which is a continuing member. Other delegates are appointed by OCLC or by a specific constituency, such as EDUG. The following delegates attended EPC 141:

Jonathan Furner, University of California at Los Angeles, Los Angeles, California, USA, chair
Michele Zwierski, Nassau Library System, Uniondale, New York, USA, vice-chair
Elise Conradi, Biblioteksentralen, Oslo, Norway (EDUG)
Gerd de Jager, University of South Africa, Pretoria
Sylvie Leblanc, Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec, Montréal, Canada
Jo Maxwell, Bibliographic Data Services, Dumfries, Scotland (UK DDC Forum)
Melissa Parent, State Library of Victoria, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia (Australian Committee on Cataloging)
Deborah Rose-Lefmann, Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois, USA
Caroline Saccucci, Library of Congress, Washington, DC, USA
Paula Van Strien, Library and Archives Canada/Bibliothèque et Archives Canada, Ottawa, Canada

The OCLC Dewey editors Alex Kyrios and Violet Fox attended as did Dewey volunteers Juli Beall and Winton Matthews. Marti Heyman, OCLC Executive Director of Metadata Operations, Jody DeRidder, Director of Metadata Frameworks, and Sandi Jones, DDC Product Manager also attended. Karl Debus-López, Chief of the U.S. Programs, Law & Literature Division, attended the reports section of the meeting to present the LC Report to EPC members.
LC Dewey classifiers attended portions of the meeting on both days. EPC 142 also included a Classifiers Forum for LC Dewey classifiers to meet with EPC members to talk about their areas of expertise and discuss classification issues.

The Dewey editors have focused much of their time and energies on building community engagement in the editorial process. Violet Fox gave a brief presentation on how this works and discussed how EPC members could get more involved. As a part of this effort, LC Dewey classifiers contributed three exhibits and suggested two others.

Much of the meeting centered on discussion and approval of EPC exhibits. EPC exhibits are written proposals to update the DDC. These can be changes to the notation in the schedules or tables, add instructions or other notes, captions, Relative Index, the Manual, editorial rules, and other changes. Exhibits present the problem, research done, and recommended solution in a narrative form, and they often include sample DDC hierarchies and indexes showing the proposed changes. Some of the exhibits emanate from the editorial work plan, while others originate as questions posed by Dewey users, particularly classifiers at the Library of Congress, and translation teams. Exhibits may be approved in whole or in part; some exhibits are intended for discussion only. Once an exhibit is approved, the recommended changes are implemented in WebDewey. If only part of an exhibit was approved, the unapproved part may appear as an exhibit in an electronic meeting—a “meeting” via email with a specified time period for email discussion and a voting deadline—or it may come back in revised form with a need for more discussion in the next annual face-to-face meeting.

All the exhibits were approved by the EPC, but several members abstained from voting on exhibit 142-S79.2. There was unanimous agreement about the need to find an immediate placement for documents about podcasting, but several members felt that podcasting should be part of a larger overhaul of the entertainment hierarchy regarding the treatment of Internet media. While the exhibit was ultimately approved, the editors were tasked with writing a document highlighting existent problems in the hierarchy and challenges in restructuring.

As part of the effort to engage community feedback, all exhibits are now made publicly available online in a Google drive entitled “Dewey exhibits” prior to meetings. In addition to the publication of exhibits, there is also information posted about how to get involved with Dewey editorial updates. Dewey exhibits

Here is the list of exhibits presented at EPC 142 with those contributed by LC Dewey classifiers in italics:

EPC 142-S26.1 Migration in Christian social theology
EPC 142-S33.1 333.9554 Resource economics of mollusks
EPC 142-S53.1 Mechanics in physics
EPC 142-S61.1 Food intolerance
EPC 142-S62.2 LED lighting
EPC 142-S79.1 Gaelic games
EPC 142-S79.2 Podcasting
EPC 142-S79.3 Pickleball and racquetball
EPC 142-S95.1 Historical periods of Taiwan, Hong Kong, and Macau
EPC 142-S98.1 Historical periods of Brazil
The 3rd International BIBFRAME Workshop in Europe was held in Stockholm at the National Library of Sweden. 93 people interested in library data as linked data attended. The “International” part of the name is because it is truly an international endeavor, even though the initiative was taken by Europeans.

On the first day there were 12 presentations focusing on different projects on the transition from MARC: LC’s work with BIBFRAME, LD4P on practical aspects of using the BIBFRAME model, SHARE VDE, Index data and of course what we do at the National Library of Sweden.

In June 2018 we went into production with a new cataloguing system for the Libris union catalogue, based on Linked data, building upon the BIBFRAME model. As 500 Swedish libraries do their cataloguing in Libris and export records to their local library catalogues, it has been a huge change for libraries all over Sweden. Unfortunately Swedish library catalogues still need MARC21. The round trip conversion processes is a challenge for development.

The relation to RDA was an important question in several presentations. One of the main problems is aligning the LRM work with the Bibframe model. LC talked about their use of “hubs”, Share VDE talked about superworks. The National Library of Sweden were in the initial stage of work normalization and handling conversion of linked works in their data flows. Will the different models be interoperable enough when sharing data? It is important to meet and to collaborate!

Richard Wallis, Data liberate, held a closing presentation: “The Relevance of BIBFRAME Beyond our Walls”. Is BIBFRAME the way to reach outside the library walls with our data? To publish structured data on the web is not enough and he suggested working together with schema.org. He has started a mapping between BIBFRAME and schema.org: https://bibframe2schema.org/

The second day we decided to have panels discussing different topics, instead of different simultaneous workshops. As most people are interested in all kinds of questions concerning BIBFRAME we thought this was better. The panels discussed:

- Identites
- Changes
- Infrastructure
- Relationships
- Editors

Each panel had one hour for short presentations and discussions.

The panel presentations and discussions gave a deeper understanding of how different projects plan or have implemented important features.
Panel discussing Relationships. Osma Suominen is moderator. Photo: Harriet Aagaard


Next year we will meet in Budapest, Hungary!

The first European BIBFRAME workshop was held in 2017 at the German National Library https://wiki.dnb.de/display/EBW/EUBFWS2017 and the second in Florence at European University Institute http://www.casalini.it/EBW2018/

STANDARDS NEWS

REVISION OF THE IFLA STANDARDS PROCEDURES MANUAL

By Renate Behrens, German National Library

IFLA provides since a long time free accessible standards for different applications. Most of these standards are well-known and have a widespread application. Many IFLA working groups worked out such standards and revise them periodically. The Committee on Standards provides an IFLA Standards Manual for this procedure. As providing and maintaining standards is an essential work of IFLA, the Committee on Standards intends to revise the IFLA Standards Manual so as to provide an update of the guidelines for IFLA standards in the near future. To that end, there is a need for clear-cut definitions and criteria.

This revision work will cover practical issues such as the approval procedure for standards as well as general requirements for IFLA standards. A small working group of four members from the German National Library, the French National Library and the International ISSN Centre has taken on this task and worked out a proposal that was submitted to the Committee on Standards. The proposal was finally agreed during the WLICs in Kuala Lumpur and Athens. This Review Group is very much interested to have a strong collaboration with further IFLA sections providing standards.

According to the ISO definition, a standard is a document that provides “requirements, specifications, guidelines or characteristics that can be used consistently to ensure that materials, products, processes and services are fit for their purpose”. https://www.iso.org/standards.html

Three kinds of normative documents

IFLA so-called “normative documents” can actually be hierarchised into three categories: declarative documents such as statements and conceptual models; prescriptive documents such as standards; implemental documents such as guidelines, best practices, and professional reports. Before stating out what distinguishes them, the Review Group would like to enunciate what brings them together.

All three kinds of documents should be user-oriented, and therefore should be made freely available to their intended audience. ISO standards have a 5-year revision policy: every five year, the community is asked whether to maintain, update, or deprecate the standard. The Review Group
recommend that a similar system be adopted by the Committee on Standards.

The declarative and prescriptive levels are very much alike. Both are international in scope, and both call for consensus. What distinguishes them is their purpose, and the underlying question to which they answer. Although conceptual models are not prescriptive by nature, they may become so when a user seeks to implement them effectively in a specific system.

According to these definitions some IFLA documents now called guidelines should in fact fall in the first category of statements. The members of the working group will add examples to the proposal for this discussion to get a clear picture of how the proposed categorisation of standards can be helpful for a clearer distinction of standards and to work out an effective review process for IFLA standards.

During WLIC 2019 in Athens the Committee on Standards took over the responsibility for this task and add the work of the Standards Procedures Manual Review Group (SPM RG) to its action plan. The Review Group will propose terms of reference and a time frame for the future work in the beginning of 2020.

As many IFLA standards from different IFLA sections will be affected by this work, the Committee on Standards and the Standards Procedures Manual Review Group will kindly invite members from other sections to join the discussion.

**A three-tiered hierarchy**

Due to their nature and purpose, declarative and prescriptive documents should be the responsibility of the Committee on Standards, whereas there is a more clear-cut line where the implemental level is concerned.

**Declarative level**

Statements and conceptual models are prescriptive documents whose purpose is general. They should comply to these characteristics:

- User-oriented;
- Freely available;
- International in scope;
- Reached by consensus;
- Maintained and updated by an identified structure (e.g. Review Groups);
- Approved by the IFLA Committee on Standards.

The underlying question to which they answer is: *Why?*

**Prescriptive level**

Standards are prescriptive documents whose purpose is technical. They should comply to these characteristics:

- User-oriented;
- Freely available;
- International in scope;
- Reached by consensus;
- Provide consistent practice;
- Suitable for practical work;
- Maintained and updated by an identified structure (e.g. Review Groups);
- Approved by the IFLA Committee on Standards.

The underlying question to which they answer is: *Why?*
• Prescriptive by nature

The underlying question to which they answer is: How?

Implemental level

Guidelines, Best practices and Professional reports are descriptive documents whose purpose is illustrative. They should comply to these characteristics:

• User-oriented;
• Freely available;
• Based on actual practices and workflows;
• Approved by a task force on behalf of a Section (e.g. the Cataloguing Section).

The underlying question to which they answer is: What examples?

Respectfully submitted for the Standards Procedures Manual Review Group

Renate Behrens (chair), German National Library
Vincent Boulet, National Library of France
Mélanie Roche, National Library of France
Deanna White, ISSN International Centre

ISBD: FIFTY YEARS ON

By Michael Gorman

In August 1969, 50 years ago, the International Meeting of Cataloguing Experts (IMCE) took place in Kastrup, a suburb of København. That meeting led to the formulation of the International Bibliographic Description—an international cataloguing standard that endures to this day.

In 1967, I, then an employee of the British National Bibliography in London, was asked by UNESCO’s Anthony Thompson, on behalf of IFLA, to do a study of descriptive cataloguing data in national cataloguing agencies. I analyzed hundreds of records from LC, BNB, and a varied group of six other national bibliographic services (including those of Sweden, West Germany, Hungary, and Argentina). The results were published in a report that incorporated recommendations for a uniform order of descriptive data; a regularization of content, including standard use of abbreviations; and a plea for regularized punctuation. That UNESCO/IFLA paper was a “document for examination” at the IMCE and I was one of the three official British delegates to that important international conference. My study was circulated
to a number of cataloguers and cataloguing theoreticians for comment and the comments received were digested by the eminent Hungarian librarian Ákos Domanovsky.

The IMCE, chaired by Hugh Chaplin, was held on the 22nd through the 24th of August 1969, in the Danmarks Biblioteksskole. It consisted of 41 delegates from 33 countries (from Australia to Yugoslavia), 7 staff, and 12 observers. There were three sessions—the first on the Paris Principles and the third on shared cataloguing. The second session consisted of a lengthy discussion of my IFLA paper, following which the delegates reached general agreement on the outline and content (with few significant changes from my document) of a “standard bibliographical description” (SBD). The elements and order of elements of that description were:

- title
- subtitle
- author statement
- subsidiary author statement
- edition statement
- subsidiary author statement relating to the edition
- imprint statement
- collation
- series statement
- notes (including any other title for the same work that it is useful to mention)
- (the last element was the only addition to those recommended in my paper)

A working party of eight was set up to produce a draft standard based on the agreement. The chair of the working party was A.J. “Jack” Wells (the founder and head of BNB) and I was to act as its secretary and drafter. There was a lot going on in the world in the late 1960s, even in the small pond of library cataloguing, in which national and international standardization of cataloguing data was an over-riding concern. Arriving at a standard set of elements in a standard order and delimited in a standard manner was the purpose of the effort to achieve an international standard for bibliographic description (what became the ISBD). It was a vital part of the overall effort to achieve national and international standardization, cooperation, and sharing; leading ultimately, to Universal Bibliographic Control.

The Working Group considered my redrafting of the SBD based on comments received at the IMCE and resulted in a 1970 document called “Standard bibliographic description.” The first official ISBD—the International Standard Bibliographic Description—was published in 1971. In August 1973, the IFLA Committee on Cataloguing held a meeting in Grenoble, France, and appointed an editorial committee, of which I was the secretary, which agreed the final draft of what became the first “standard edition” of the ISBD (Monographs).

There is no space here to describe the development of the general ISBD (ISBD(G)), which I had the honour of drafting, or of the various ISBDs for different formats or the ways in which the ISBD has transcended differences in national and regional cataloguing codes to regularize descriptive data globally. Suffice it to say that the IMCE was a significant milestone in cataloguing history. I was the youngest delegate to that meeting and, sadly, may be the only delegate still living.

RDA STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING
OCTOBER 2019

By Linda Barnhart, RSC Secretary

This article describes the fifth in-person meeting of the RDA Steering Committee (RSC), which was held on 21-25 October 2019 in Santiago, Chile.

The RSC deeply thanks Ángela Quiroz Ubierna and the staff of the Biblioteca del Congreso Nacional de Chile for their generous hospitality throughout the week under quite extraordinary circumstances.

More detail may be found in the Outcomes document on the RSC website.

The meeting broadly focused on planning for the post-3R Project (RDA Toolkit Restructure and Redesign Project) environment, including a deeper dive into some of the more challenging areas of RDA content.

Unfortunately, the three-day “Segundo Coloquio sobre RDA en América Latina y el Caribe” had to be cancelled. This meeting was to have been a step toward building a formal Latin American/Caribbean regional organization as the region prepares to join the RSC.

The 3R Project for the English text of RDA is now considered to be complete. The RSC reconfirmed the components of the new plan with steps marking the transition from the original Toolkit. See the announcement on the RSC website for details.

The RSC reconfirmed that the text of the English language RDA is stable and has been since April 2019. For the past six months, work has proceeded on translations, policy statements, application profiles, and other related tasks, such as MARC 21 mapping. However, stable does not mean frozen; we continue to fix typos and make other editorial changes that do not have significant impact.

Internationalization

The RSC is acutely conscious of the demands that internationalization of this standard requires and is increasingly aware of and is taking steps to remove Anglo-American focus in RDA content.

The RSC received a draft report by Ahava Cohen (National Library of Israel) “Western and Christian Bias in the 3R Toolkit.” The committee will address some specific concerns from the report now, but Fuller consideration will require the establishment of a Working Group.

The Italian and the Finnish translation teams have completed their work translating RDA Reference and have moved on to translating boilerplate (also called re-usable) text in RDA as the next step before translating individual RDA instructions.

RDA Content

The RSC began what will be an ongoing conversation in examining and refining the purpose and use of the Resources tab.

The RSC also began a closer look at the string encoding scheme and punctuation pattern options that are found primarily in authorized and variant access point instructions and is considering relocating them.

The group continued its discussion of the Collective Agent entity, moving ahead with new ideas raised at its September 2019 asynchronous meeting.

The briefing paper “Work boundaries” provided a description of the issues in determining the circumstances under which a new work should be described. The RSC agreed that text about work boundaries should be incorporated in a separate Guidance chapter.
The briefing paper “RDA metadata implementation scenarios” outlined enhancements to the original RDA database implementation scenarios that reflect the structure and content of the new Toolkit. There was agreement and support that the original scenarios will be retained, and a scenario for linked open data will be added. This content will be added to the Toolkit.

The briefing paper “Expression excerpts” discussed issues in recording extracts of expressions and how they can be resolved. The RSC will consult with experts and communities and will discuss the principles and recommendations further.

The briefing paper “RDA Content Elements” made recommendations for developing expression “content” elements (such as colour content and illustrative content) to conform to the aggregates model. The RSC will consult with experts and communities and will discuss the principles and recommendations further.

**Beta Toolkit Design and Functions**

The RSC requested and received a report from the North American RDA Committee (NARDAC) to examine RDA element labels, including the potential adaptation of element labels from the RDA unconstrained element set for public display.

The group reaffirmed the Revision History/Release Notes approach that was tested in the September 2019 release and will continue on this path.

A new idea arose in re-thinking the list of elements at the end of each entity chapter, to enable the sorting of relationships and attributes. This will be tested.

The RSC continued discussion of ways to stabilize and improve the Relationship Matrix, including exploring alternative interactive features.

The RSC agreed that the naming of the releases of the RDA Toolkit for citation purposes is desirable. The group agreed to a month and year format; thus, the current version of the beta site is “RDA September 2019.”

**RSC Communication and Work Processes**

The Application Profiles Working Group was officially approved, including the proposed membership and Terms of Reference.

The RSC supported adding five translators to the Translation Working Group for the five official partial translations, noting that all official translations should be members of the Working Group. Previously, partial translations (translations only of RDA Reference, not RDA instructions) were represented by a single member.

At the request of the RDA Board, the RSC will develop a rolling three-year operational plan that will be harmonized with the “RDA Strategic Plan 2020-2022.” A draft will be prepared which, when finalized, will give a clearer public picture of anticipated RSC work for the next two to three years.
This planned extensive revision builds on previous work done and materials produced in the past, including an ulterior mapping with other standards and conceptual models including LRM, and draws from several proposals for revision received from the ISBD communities of users and the ISBD RG liaisons since the publishing of the 2011 Consolidated Edition.

**WLIC 2018: The Revision Plan**

After the approval of the proposed work plan for ISBD Revision 2018-2022 by the IFLA Committee on Standards on 24 August 2018, an ISBD Editorial Group (IEG) has been established in 30 August 2018 by the ISBG Review Group and entrusted with the Revision tasks. The tasks included to complete an alignment of the ISBD elements set with the IFLA Library Reference Model (LRM) on the manifestation level, to extend the standard’s coverage to non-published resources, and to eventually propose a new structure for the ISBD.

After a post WLIC 2018 daylong meeting in which the Terms of reference of the IEG were established, the group had a physical meeting in November 2018 hosted and facilitated by the National French Library (BnF). During this Fall meeting, the IEG, with as Chair Mélanie Roche from the BnF (also Chair of the BCM RG) started an alignment between ISBD elements and LRM-manifestation and identified the gaps and the inconsistencies at the levels of some sub-elements. Other issues, like the completeness and functionality of the ISBD punctuation and its role in the emerging and future library systems in light of linked data developments, were discussed and explored in this meeting.

The IEG continued with a new chairmanship and some changes in membership, to address other pressing needs, equally important and urgent as bringing the standard up-to-date to the new technological and bibliographic developments,
being to fulfil the needs of the communities of users and liaisons, providing an urgent solution for their cataloguing problems as per the several proposals that kept being received by the ISBD RG since the 2011 Consolidated Edition.

During this period that spanned from May 2019 through August 2019, the new IEG, Chaired by Elena Escolano Rodriguez, Former Chair of the ISBD RG and other sub-groups, worked remotely on planning work and organizing tasks. Some critical decisions were made Elena, such as “not to lose the granularity of ISBD in achieving the alignment to LRM-Manifestation, and to focus on content issues to make a progress in the Revision”. This focused the activities of the IEG during this period on studying and implementing proposals for cartographic materials and unpublished resources.

**Post WLIC 2019: A New Work Plan**

A new work plan for the ISBD Revision and the Terms of reference of these two sub-groups (renamed Task Forces) were drafted, discussed and established by the members of the ISBD Review Group after WLIC 2019 through emails. These are:

- The Content Update Task Force, entrusted with producing an Update to the ISBD Consolidated Edition 2011 - to provide for the urgent needs of communities of users -, and to extend the coverage of the ISBD to include a larger array of resources, especially unpublished resources, with Elena Escolano Rodriguez as Chair.

- The ISBD for Manifestation Task Force, entrusted with working out an alignment of the ISBD elements set to LRM manifestation with stipulations for describing a manifestation according to LRM, and to envision the future direction of the ISBD as a full implementation of the LRM, with Renate Behrens, from the Deutsche Nationalbibliothek Standards Office, and Liaison from the RDA Steering Committee, as Chair.

The Task Forces have to ensure their work is done in consultation and continued harmonization with concerned partners, i.e. liaisons. These are, among others, the IFLA Rare Books and Special Collections Section for the first Task force, and the ISSN Network and the RDA RSC for the second Task Force, as part of maintaining a close harmonization between the three standards, ISBD, ISSN and RDA as per a previous agreement between the three entities.

The two Task Forces are expected to present their drafts during IFLA WLIC 2020. Final drafts are planned for publication early 2021, after fulfilling
the Committee on Standards requirements as per the comments that will be received. Most of the work of the two Task Forces will be done remotely. However, two face to face meetings for each Task Force are planned, one in early Winter 2020 and one in late Fall 2020.

**ISBD Vocabularies to Linked Data**

In parallel to this Revision plan tackled by the two Task Forces, the ISBD Linked data Study Group (LD-SG), that is part of the Bib-LD Study Group Chaired by Mélanie Roche, will be working closely with LIDATEC (Linked Data Technical Sub-Committee of the IFLA Committee on Standards) on updating the ISBD vocabularies and uploading them to the new IFLA namespaces Registry, the MMA server. The Study Group will pursue its work under LIDATEC’s direction and with other concerned professional units like the BCM Review Group and the Permanent UNIMARC Committee (PUC), making the necessary technical tests until stabilizing the vocabularies on the new server. This will ensure the optimization of the ISBD vocabularies to the semantic web and Linked Open Data to support its adoption and use by Libraries and other Archives and Museums (LAM) and IT communities.

With an ambitious plan, a roster of international experts in bibliographic standards and strategic liaisons, the ISBD RG could embark on an exciting journey to transform the well-established ISBD Standard. As a major step for the development of the standard as the 2011 Consolidated Edition was, the current Revision will achieve a new big move for the ISBD Standard and for IFLA. Besides being an IFLA’s 2019-2024 and all time strategy of developing and maintaining bibliographic standards and tools to support the work of libraries, it will constitute a strategic mandate for IFLA: keeping up with the developments in the bibliographic universe, and achieving a complementarity between IFLA standards, thus providing a complete suite of compliant bibliographic standards.

A busy 2020 year is awaiting members and liaisons of the ISBD Review Group, which first fruits will be presented in WLIC 2020. A full day meeting of the ISBD RG is planned in Dublin on 21 August 2020, connected with WLIC 2020, in order to present, discuss and review the work of the Task Forces and Linked Data Study Group, and to plan for the next steps and future work. We hope that by this time the established standard would have figured out its future direction, hopefully in a cutting-edge shape.

**Acknowledgements**

This plan could not be imagined, planned and cannot be implemented without the roster of international experts in bibliographic standards, who shaped it and volunteered also in the Task Forces: Massimo Gentili-Tedeschi, Chair of the ISBD RG 2015-2019; Dorothy McGarry, Honorary member of the ISBD RG; Gordon Dunsire, Former RSC Chair, RSC Technical Team Leader; Mirna Willer, Former Chair of the ISBD RG; Ricardo Santos Muñoz, ISBD RG Information Coordinator and Webmaster and Liaison from IFLA Cataloguing Section. Also, our Consulting Liaisons: Adelaida Caro Martín, Liaison from IFLA Rare Books and Special Collections Section; and Mikael Wetterstrom, Liaison from the ISSN Network. The new ISBD RG members: Judit Fejes, National Széchényi Library; Flavia Bruni, Istituto Centrale per il Catalogo Unico; Saeedeh Akbari-Daryan, National Library and Archives of Iran; and of course our three Chairs of the Task Forces and LD Study Group, Elena Escolano Rodriguez, Renate Behrens and Mélanie Roche, previously introduced. For the full list of members and ISBD documentation please visit: https://www.ifla.org/isbd-rg

Lastly, I wish to express my endless thanks and deep appreciation to Massimo Gentili-Tedeschi, Chair of the ISBD RG 2015-2019, for whom I cannot express in words my gratitude for his technical and managerial support to me from August 2019-present. I cannot also put in words my admiration...
for the corpus of published and unpublished documentation left by him, that documents the great legacy of the ISBD and that kept in excellent and admirable status the memory of the ISBD Review Group and its managerial and administrative details. Thank You Massimo!

NEW MEMBERS

Bibliography

Adiba Ismayilova is Deputy Director for Library and Information Services and International Relations of the National Library of Azerbaijan, Honored Cultural Worker, and a member of the IFLA Bibliography Section Standing Committee. At the International Scientific-Practical Conference entitled "National Libraries as Mobile Information Centers," held at the National Library of Azerbaijan on September 27-28, 2019, she presented a paper entitled "National Library of Azerbaijan in Virtual Space".

Katri Kananen, Head of Services, Library Network Services, National Library of Finland. I am responsible for the National Bibliography of Finland (Fennica) and The National Discography of Finland (Viola). My keen interests are promoting the awareness and appreciation of national bibliographies in our digital age.

I am very proud of fact that the Finnish national bibliography (Fennica) has been published as linked open data. It is very exciting that we are freeing our metadata from the catalogue and enabling our resources to be shared in the web environment.
Marina Neshcheret, Leading Researcher, Center for Research, Problems of Development of Libraries in the Information Society, Russian State Library

My name is Marina Neshcheret. I work at the Russian State Library (Moscow) and, since 2019, I am a member of the IFLA Bibliography Section. My experience in the Library spans more than 30 years. I came to the Library after graduating from the historical faculty of the Moscow State Pedagogical Institute and immediately joined the friendly family of bibliographers of the Department of Reference and Bibliographic Service. In 1999, I was appointed head of the department and worked in this position for 16 years. In 2008, I defended my dissertation "Evolution of theoretical and methodological ideas about bibliographic search in Russian bibliography." Now I am Leading Researcher at the Center for Research on Library Development in the Information Society.

My sphere of interests is wide: reference and bibliographic service, history of bibliography, problems of bibliographic search, library and information services for persons who do not have a job and a permanent home. I published a monograph "Bibliographic search: evolution and modernity" (2010) and have published more than 120 articles. I also support the volunteer movement in Tunisia to restore the names of Russian sailors and soldiers whose ashes are buried on Tunisian territory. I am married, I have three grown children and four grandchildren. In my spare time, I like to travel and enjoy cycling and surfing. In addition, I like to read modern prose and to watch movies in the style of arthouse. I have a positive and sociable nature, but, unfortunately, insufficient knowledge of the English language hinders my activity. At the same time, I am eager to take an active part in the initiatives and projects of the Bibliography Section.
UPCOMING EVENTS

IFLA WLIC 2020 CALL FOR PAPERS
https://2020.ifla.org/conference-programme/calls-for-papers/

OPEN SESSION: SUBJECT ANALYSIS AND ACCESS SECTION TOGETHER WITH KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT SECTION

Subject Access and Artificial Intelligence: Enhancing competencies and safeguarding ethics

Digital technologies of all its sorts have given rise to wider considerations and applications of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in library and information environments. In particular, the exponential growth of data, information and knowledge can no longer be managed by libraries, research centres and similar institutions via traditional means. AI operates via algorithms that restrict freedom of choice, changing the ways in which public users (externally) and library professionals and workers (internally) access resources.

Historically, two important aspects of our profession have been to understand: a) the user’s information needs and b) ways in which users interact with resources. AI-based solutions may assist or altogether replace manual procedures traditionally developed and performed by trained, educated professionals. Thus, the library and information sciences field must empower subject librarians to draw upon and evaluate their own unique skill set for the discovery and analysis of AI’s advantages and disadvantages, including ethical considerations.

We invite papers on the following range of topics dealing with subject access and application of AI in the library domain.

1. Technological and practical issues with applications of AI in subject analysis and access in libraries including applications of data analysis, automatic indexing, machine learning, transforming big data into meaningful semantic data and data visualization;

2. Ethical challenges in subject access and impact of AI and automatic categorization/classification on creativity, freedom of choice and privacy in resource discovery. Including: recognizing misuse and manipulation of algorithms and biases in the choice of training sets; preventing discriminatory outcomes in machine learning, risks of censorship or biases and risks to information integrity;

3. Ethical challenges in application of traditional knowledge organization systems and vocabulary control in library collections vs Ethical challenges in designing and applying algorithms in automatic classification and resource discovery;

4. Enhancing subject analysis and knowledge organization systems’ skills in supporting decision making and improving practices in libraries in the context of AI; discussing principles and values guiding the development and use of AI in knowledge organization and subject indexing and access in integrated and/or digital library systems; identifying knowledge organization and subject access expertise

5. Evaluating the role of subject access in improving user experience and usability of library collections and assessing transferability of these skills into the new technological environment; evaluating potential impact of AI on libraries with respect to design and implementation of new technologies and how
this affects staff, necessary competencies and skills, education and training

Important dates
- 21 February – Deadline for submitting and abstract
- 31 March – Presenters will be notified
- 1 June – Deadline for submitting a paper (approximately 8-12 pages)

How to submit a proposal
Proposals should include:
- Title of the presentation
- An abstract for your paper (up to 400 words)
- A short bio for all intended authors of your paper, including name, email, and institutional affiliation (as appropriate)
- Language of the paper
- Language of the presentation (preferably English)

Proposals should be submitted electronically no later than 21 February to
Harriet Aagaard
IFLA Subject Analysis and Access Section
Email: harriet.aagaard@kb.se
And to:
Spencer Arcadia
IFLA Knowledge Management Section
Email: acadias1@gmail.com

15-21 August 2020
https://2020.ifla.org/