The 29th Meeting of the Permanent UNIMARC Committee

2019 May 9-10

IZUM Institute of Information Science
Maribor, Slovenia

A report by Jay Weitz, Vice Chair of the PUC

OCLC Online Computer Library Center, Dublin, Ohio, USA

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On 2019 May 9 and 10, IFLA’s Permanent UNIMARC Committee (PUC) gathered at IZUM Institute of Information Science in Maribor, Slovenia, for its 29th formal meeting. In attendance were Ms. Saeedeh Akbari-Daryan (National Library and Archives of the Islamic Republic of Iran); Ms. Branka Badovinac (IZUM, Slovenia); Ms. Flavia Bruni (ICCU, Italy), attending remotely; Ms. Rosa Galvão (National Library of Portugal); PUC Chair Ms. Gordana Mazić (IZUM, Slovenia); Ms. Agnès Manneheut (University of Nantes, France); Mr. Oscar Nalesini (ICCU, Italy); Ms. Olga Zhlobinskaya (Boris Yeltsin Presidential Library, Russia); and Mr. Jay Weitz (OCLC, USA), PUC Vice Chair and rapporteur.

During the two days of meetings, the PUC discussed a total of sixteen UNIMARC/Bibliographic (U/B) and UNIMARC/Authority (U/A) change proposals; the “Guidelines for Archival Materials;” online publication of U/B; and other topics. The minutes of the August 2018 informal PUC meeting at the IFLA Congress in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, were approved and subsequently added to the PUC website (https://www.ifla.org/files/assets/uca/puc-meetings/pucreport2018ifla_published.pdf).

For the first time, this PUC meeting was live streamed for authorized attendees.

UNIMARC Formats

The UNIMARC change proposals were discussed mostly in numerical order. Unless otherwise noted, the proposals were accepted or accepted as amended. In some cases, these actions represent final approval of previously accepted proposals that were subsequently found to need additional work.

- **UNIMARC/Bibliographic (U/B):** The current 3rd edition was published in mid-2008. Updates through December 2018 are currently available at https://www.ifla.org/node/8415?og=33.
  - U/B 135 (Coded Data Field: Electronic Resources) has had additional codes defined in subfield $a/1 (Special Material Designation) to conform with RDA Carrier Types and MARC 21. Code “r” has been redefined to “Online: A special material designation for digital resources that are accessed, processed, executed, etc. remotely.”
  - U/B 210 (Publication, Distribution, Etc.) and a proposed U/B 214 (Production, Publication, Distribution, Manufacture Statements) were discussed in tandem. In an attempt to decide if it was better to adapt the existing U/B 210 or to create a new U/B 214 to accommodate the greater detail called for in the IFLA Library Reference Model (LRM), it was decided to create the new field U/B 214, rather than adding complexity to the existing field U/B 210. The Comité français UNIMARC (CFU) will improve the proposal, adding instructions for using field U/B 214 for older monographic publications along with an example. Cross references will be added to both the new U/B 214 and the existing U/B 210 fields.
  - U/B 606 (Topical Name Used as Subject) will continue to be worked on by the CFU to accommodate genre/form terms as subject access points and subdivisions, in conjunction with U/A 280.
  - U/B Numerical Subfields are in the process of being clarified and harmonized for consistency with U/A Control Subfields. A definition of “Control Subfield” will be added to U/B 1.3, “Definitions.” The validity of U/B subfield $1 in each of the U/B 6-- block fields will be
doublechecked. Only selected U/B subfields $2 will be included in the list of Control Subfields. U/B subfield $2 will be renamed “Source.” U/B subfield $3 will be renamed “Authority Record Identifier.” The suggestion to include U/B subfield Su (Uniform Resource Identifier) among the Control Subfields was rejected. It was decided to keep U/B subfield $4 (Relator Code) as one of the defined U/B Control Subfields.

- U/B Appendix G: Subject Systems Codes, has had several new codes added at the request of the CfU. The CfU will also work on resolving inconsistencies among codes listed in U/B Appendix G, the relevant MARC 21 code lists, and proposed changes to U/A 123. The result will be a revised proposal from the CfU for online publication.


  - U/A 106 (Coded Data Field: Personal/Corporate/Family Name/Trademark/Printer/Publisher Device Used as Subject Access Point) has been renamed “Coded Data Field: Entity Name Used as Subject Access Point” and been extended for use with territorial names, geographic names, and topical subjects.
  
  - U/A 123 (Coded Data Field: Territorial or Geographical Name) has had subfield $2 for Source added
  
  - U/A 180 (Coded Data Field: Form, Genre, or Physical Characteristics) was proposed for the coding of distinctions among form, genre, and physical characteristic access points. In the course of discussion, it was discovered that field U/A 180 had already been defined in a 2012 proposal as “Form of a Textual Language Work.” Ms. Galvão will research the proposal archive and report back to the PUC about the status of U/A 180.
  
  - U/A 223 (Authorized Access Point – Character), U/A 423 (Variant Access Point – Character), U/A 523 (Related Access Point – Character), U/A 723 (Authorized Access Point in Other Language and/or Script – Character) were discussed in the context of the propriety of using subfield $3 (Authority Record Identifier for Name) in the examples.
  
  - U/A 280 (Authorized Access Point – Form, Genre, or Physical Characteristics) will continue to be worked on by the CfU to accommodate genre/form terms as subject access points and subdivisions, in conjunction with U/B 606.
  
  - U/A 370 (Note on History of Work), U/A 371 (Note on Nature of Content of Work), and U/A 372 (Note on Coverage of Content of Work) were proposed to accommodate three aspects of the detailed description of the LRM entity Work. The PUC preferred the definition of a single field with separate subfields for the three aspects, for which the CfU will prepare a consolidated proposal.
  
  - U/A 822 (Note on Corresponding Term in Other System) has been proposed for information on corresponding data in external systems. The field has been renamed “Corresponding Data in Other Systems” and work will continue on refining the proposal.
  
  - U/A Control Subfields are in the process of being clarified and harmonized for consistency with U/B Numerical Subfields. The use of U/A subfield $2 is being extended to more fields in the U/A 8-- block. U/A subfield $4 will be added to list of U/A Control Fields, with a definition to be provided by the CfU. The suggestion to include U/A subfield Su (Uniform Resource Identifier) among the Control Subfields was rejected.

All updated proposals will be published after being approved by The PUC in an online meeting or by email.

Planning for the online publication of the full text of U/B, including editing of the introduction and the appendices, continues and was further discussed in an editorial group conference call on 2019 May 29.

**Guidelines for Archives**
The Title of the document has been changed to “Guidelines for Archival Materials.” A new example from the CfU is being refined for inclusion in the guidelines document. Appendix A, currently titled “Table of Correspondence of EAD Elements/Attributes and UNIMARC,” has been retitled to “Table of Correspondence of EAD and UNIMARC.”

Upcoming UNIMARC Meetings and Other Activities

The PUC will meet informally on Tuesday, 2019 August 27, 4:15-6:45 p.m. at the IFLA Congress in Athens, Greece.

The next official meeting of the PUC is tentatively scheduled for 2010 March 24-25, either at the BnF in Paris or at IZUM in Maribor, Slovenia.

Respectfully submitted by Mr. Jay Weitz, OCLC Online Computer Library Center, USA; incorporating corrections from Ms. Rosa Galvão, Ms. Agnès Manneheut, Ms. Gordana Mazić, and Ms. Olga Zhlobinskaya.

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