



IFLA Cataloguing Section FRBR Review Group

Report of activities

2007-2008

Expression Entity Amendment

In November 2007 the Cataloguing Section Standing Committee approved the final text of this amendment, the first amendment to FRBR. The last adjustments resulting from comments received during the world-wide review held in late 2006 were incorporated during the meetings in Durban. A great deal of work by the Working Group on the Expression Entity, chaired by Anders Cato, went into getting this just right. The report in *SCATNews* 28 (December 2007) “What's New with the FRBR Entity Expression” by Pat Riva and Anders Cato, explains in detail the WG's task and the process followed in preparing and approving the amendment. Their *International Cataloguing and Bibliographic Control* article “Modifications to the FRBR Entity Expression” (v.37, no.1 (January/March 2008), p. 2 & 17) focuses on the content of and rationale for the changes.

Namespace Project

To further encourage and facilitate the uptake of FRBR in implementations, in 2007 the Review Group initiated a new project to define namespaces for FRBR in RDF. The Review Group felt that it is appropriate that this work be carried out authoritatively under the auspices of IFLA. As the members of the Review Group did not have the technical expertise required, Gordon Dunsire, co-chair of the DCMI RDA Task Group which is establishing a namespace for RDA elements, agreed to serve as a volunteer consultant to carry out this project. The Review Group has received a report for consideration and further action at this conference.

FRBRoo

Substantial progress has been made towards completing FRBRoo — the object-oriented definition of FRBR developed within the framework of the CIDOC CRM. In January 2008, a complete text, version 0.9 of the document, was issued for comment. The co-chairs of the working group prepared an update on the work for *ICBC*. “Harmonising CIDOC CRM and FRBR” by Patrick Le Bœuf and Martin Doerr appeared in v. 36, no. 4 (Oct./Dec. 2007). The paper “FRBRoo : Enabling a Common View of Information from Memory Institutions” prepared jointly by Pat Riva, Martin Doerr and Maja Žumer will be presented at the Cataloguing Section program on Thursday, August 14, 8:30-10:30.

FRBR Bibliography

Patrick Le Bœuf has continued to update the bibliography which is now is 55 pages long. The most recent update at http://infoserv.inist.fr/wwsympa.fcgi/d_read/frbr/FRBR_bibliography.rtf (version 13.2) is

dated July 17th, 2008. Many of the resources in the bibliography are for online documents, which are subject to URL changes over time. This year David Miller checked all the links and was able to find current addresses for the majority of the documents.

Web Site

Additions to the website focussed on providing an updated current text of FRBR in PDF and HTML, incorporating the expression entity amendment and a number of corrections discovered over the years. The amendment and errata are also posted as separate documents, to assist translators and to retain the history of changes. The full original 1998 text of FRBR remains available. A new page provides a select list of basic readings intended as a place to start finding out about FRBR. Many thanks to John Hostage for his ongoing cooperation.

Discussion List

The frbr@infoserv.inist.fr listserv, hosted by INIST in France, currently has 743 subscribers (another year of slight growth). Pat Riva and Patrick Le Bœuf are co-listowners. The listserv archive is available to subscribers from <http://infoserv.inist.fr/wwwsympa.fcgi/info/frbr>. The list has been particularly quiet this year, mainly carrying announcements of projects and publications with relevance to FRBR. Other threads: relationships between expressions, the nature of the relationship between a work and a commissioning body, extension of FRBR to archival materials.

Working Groups

The **Working Group on Aggregates**, chaired by Ed O'Neill, continued its work. The discussion paper, *Modeling Aggregates*, presenting three alternative views of the modeling of aggregate works and comparing their application to two cases was the focus of lively discussion in Durban.

The **Working Group on FRBR/CRM dialogue**, co-chaired by Patrick Le Bœuf and Martin Doerr for CIDOC CRM, held two meetings this year: December 4-7, 2007 in Nuremberg, Germany and May 12-15, 2008 in Heraklion (Crete, Greece). In addition to preparing the draft definition of FRBRoo that was released for comment in January 2008 and considering the comments, progress was made on the definition of a FRBRoo “core” model and on Meta CRM.

Pat Riva
Chair of the FRBR Review Group
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