



IFLA Cataloguing Section FRBR Review Group

Report of activities 2009-2010

This year the FRBR Review Group transitioned to the new terms of reference, adopted in 2009, which formally expanded responsibility to encompass the whole FRBR family of conceptual models. Attention turned to the task of preparing a consolidated or harmonised statement of IFLA's conceptual models, first concentrating on FRBR and FRAD. A barrier to this work is that FRAD, published in print in June 2009, is still not available as an online publication for the Review Group members to work with. Now that FRSAD is finalised (June 2010 text approved by the Classification & Indexing Section) and available online, the work can expand to consider the three models at once.

Members of the Review Group were active in three IFLA Task Groups which prepared reports for the spring meeting of the Professional Board:

IFLA's role in Bibliographic Standards

IFLA Namespaces

International Cataloguing & Bibliographic Control

All three of these groups worked in areas important directly or indirectly to the overall work of the RG.

Namespace

The existing draft FRBR namespaces (for entities, relationships and user tasks) were expanded to include FRBR attributes and a complete suite for FRAD was also created. The framework of the namespace raised a number of policy decisions which had to be addressed, points which were not explicitly addressed by the FRBR or FRAD final reports and are the object of ongoing discussion. These vocabularies are still in draft, pending responses to the issues raised in the report of the Namespaces Task Force. This work is interrelated with a number of non-IFLA initiatives in linked data. RG member Gordon Dunsire was a lead investigator for the Vocabulary Mapping Framework and Miriam Säfström participated in the VMF Advisory Board on behalf of the Review Group.

Archives-Libraries-Museums (ALM) Harmonisation

A productive meeting and workshop was held January 27-29, 2010 in Helsinki, hosted by the National Gallery of Finland. Pat Riva, Gordon Dunsire, Eeva Murtomaa and Patrick LeBœuf attended. January 27 was a tutorial on CIDOC CRM followed by a business meeting on CRM and FRBRoo issues. A workshop on Conceptual Modelling for Archives, Libraries and Museums was held on January 28th, the agenda is available at: http://www.cidoc-crm.org/agentas/workshop_finland.html. The focus on January 29th was developing an understanding of the present international landscape of archival standards. Claire Sibille (secretary to the ICA Committee on Best Practices and Standards) presented an overview which was followed by a discussion of areas of library/archival inter-relationships and then of archival/museum inter-relationships. The meeting wrapped up with the approval of a small number of updates and editorial

corrections to FRBRoo, these are mainly technical updates relating to the need for each property to be attached properly to the property hierarchy. The resulting FRBRoo version 1.0.1 (January 2010) was posted on the CIDOC CRM website. This was the only meeting of the joint CIDOC CRM-FRBR harmonisation group held this year. Continuation of the ALM exchanges is to be hoped for, a mailing list hosted on the listserv of the Institute of Computer Science at the University of Heraklion (which also hosts the FRBRoo and CIDOC CRM lists) has been created and an umbrella group named the ALM Harmonisation group was tentatively created, pending endorsement by the ICA Committee on Best Practices and Standards.

Review Group Wiki Workspace

Working together on a wiki has gained momentum now that we have been using this tool (on PBworks) for a second year. A great deal of exchanges relating to the namespace technical issues have taken place on the wiki. The structure of the wiki permits related issues to be handled piece-by-piece, which seems to allow members to work at their own pace and immediately share those comments and queries that they have completed. This allows the work to advance more quickly overall. As a reminder, access to the wiki is limited to Review Group members, working group members, and liaisons with other groups such as the ISBD Review Group.

FRBR Web Site

A new section for FRAD was created in the publications section of the FRBR Review Group web pages. This includes the FRANAR paper on authority record numbering as well as translations of FRAD (Chinese and Spanish are complete so far). Unfortunately, FRAD itself is not yet available online. An umbrella section entitled *Functional Requirements: the FRBR Family of Models* serves as a gathering for the pages for the FRBR, FRAD and FRSAD publications. No other new sections were added to the site, but minutes were posted and the existing pages were maintained.

Discussion List

The frbr@infoserv.inist.fr listserv, hosted by INIST in France, has continued to grow and currently has 832 subscribers. Pat Riva and Patrick LeBœuf remain the co-listowners. The listserv archive is available to subscribers from <http://infoserv.inist.fr/wwsympa.fcgi/info/frbr>. List threads this year: statistics on holdings relating to multi-manifestation works, identifiers such as ISTC, announcements of workshops, projects and publications with relevance to FRBR.

Working Groups

The **Working Group on Aggregates**, chaired by Ed O'Neill, held two meetings during the Milan conference. Progress was made in defining three different types of aggregates: the mosaic work, comprised of components typically viewed as a whole; the aggregate of expressions, typically viewed as a set of individual pieces, resulting in a new manifestation; and the aggregate of items, resulting from combining separate items to form a new item, such as when binding certain items of a manifestation together locally.

Pat Riva
Chair of the FRBR Review Group
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