



IFLA Cataloguing Section FRBR Review Group

Report of activities 2015-2016

Consolidation of the IFLA Conceptual Models

The consolidation project made great strides this year, especially in terms of introducing the new model to the wider community and approaching the final stages of completion. In previous years, there were also great strides forward as the model took shape, but these strides were mainly obvious within the FRBR RG. This year, the world is aware of the draft model and it is becoming part of the discourse in modelling and cataloguing communities.

The first public introduction of the model was during WLIC 2015, in Cape Town, with the paper and presentation by Pat Riva and Maja Žumer: *Introducing the FRBR Library Reference Model* (<http://library.ifla.org/1084/>). The paper in the IFLA Library is already being cited in published articles as well as being referenced by developers of cataloguing standards, notably several references to this paper in the 2015 RDA proposals and discussion papers.

The discussion of the LRM during the all-day meeting of the RG, on August 21, 2015 led to some additional changes and adjustments. The CEG led the discussion of the draft definition of the model and the transition mappings and attention was focused on critical points where decisions and/or approvals were required.

The Consolidation Editorial Group (CEG) then held meetings on October 5-9, 2015, in Heraklion, Greece, purposefully timed also to enable FRBR RG representation for the FRBR - CIDOC CRM Harmonization meeting (with thanks to FORTH for providing the meeting space). During the October meeting, the CEG incorporated changes arising from the consultation with the full RG and also planned the completion of the drafts for world-wide review.

Pat Riva was invited to present an overview of the LRM for the RDA Steering Committee meeting in November (see below). The presentation for the RSC was updated to reflect the latest decisions and adjustments.

In early 2016, the CEG finalized the draft model definition and transition mappings and circulated them to the RG for final comments before the world-wide review. The world-wide review is a crucial step in

the approval process for IFLA standards. The world-wide review was launched on February 28, 2016, with a closing date for comments on May 1st, 2016. Comments were collected on the wiki so that all RG members had access to the full text of the comments. The CEG wrote a summary of the world-wide review which is published in the June 2016 IFLA metadata newsletter (pages 27-29).

http://www.ifla.org/files/assets/classification-and-indexing/ifla_metadata_newsletter_616_final.pdf

From May 19 to 23, 2016, the CEG met in Paris to assess the comments received during the world-wide review (34 submissions, 163 pages of documentation) and discuss how to proceed (with thanks to the Bibliothèque nationale de France for providing the meeting space). The discussions and decisions taken during these intense days of meetings will result in a revised draft of the model. The CEG will discuss the revised draft of the model with the RG during the full-day meeting in Columbus on August 19th, 2016, immediately after WLIC. There will be a preliminary presentation of new changes to the model during the second business meeting of the RG during WLIC (August 18, 13:15-14:15, C226). During the August 19th meeting, the RG and CEG will also review the time-line for completion of the model, as well as discuss how to respond to comments received during the world-wide review.

The FRBR RG is very grateful to the Professional Committee for their financial support for two face-to-face meetings for the CEG, one before and one after the world-wide review. As mentioned elsewhere, the work accomplished at these in-person meetings could not have been completed merely with e-mail, Google docs or even Skype. The CEG members needed to review disparate ideas and suggestions, as well as assess the impact of incorporating changes while maintaining a consistent and coherent model. They needed the dynamic of real-time dialogue and brain-storming to thrash out difficult points, assess the direction of changes, and review the modelling itself. These meetings were of critical importance for advancing the completion and approval of the LRM.

FRBRoo

The approval process for FRBRoo advances, but may appear a bit slow. However, this is due to the fact that the model is a work of collaboration, a model developed by the international library and museum communities. Any changes to FRBRoo must also be discussed with ICOM's committee, the Special Interest Group for CIDOC-CRM (CIDOC-CRM SIG).

During the spring of 2015, the FRBR RG organized the world-wide review of FRBRoo, and its extension, PRESSoo. Comments were received and Patrick le Boeuf spearheaded the review of comments, preparing changes to the definition of the FRBRoo model, and drafting responses to comments on both standards. The documents were sent to both the FRBR RG and the CIDOC-CRM SIG for approval. The new draft of FRBRoo is version 2.4 and it is this version that was submitted to the Committee on Standards for the final phase of the approval process.

During the WLIC meetings in Cape Town, a question was raised about the future maintenance of the PRESSoo model. As a result of this discussion, the Cataloguing Section decided to form a new review group for PRESSoo, chaired by Clément Oury. The chairs of the two RGs quickly decided that it would be important to have a formal liaison between the two groups. Patrick Le Boeuf was seen as the perfect candidate because of his long-standing involvement with both models. The chairs also discussed the process for submitting approval forms to the Committee on Standards. With two RGs, each RG would submit its own approval form, but we would coordinate submission, in terms of content and timing, as well as alerting iFLA Headquarters about the dependency of one model on the other and the advisability of keeping them together during the next stage of approval.

The Committee on Standards approved FRBRoo in principle with minor revisions requested. Though the changes are categorized as minor, some still need to be seen by both committees responsible for the content. For example, the title was seen as opaque for people not working in the field. CoS would also like to see a more detailed promotion and implementation plan.

New Liaison to PRESSoo Review Group

Patrick Le Boeuf, a member of both our RG and the PRESSoo Review Group agreed to be appointed as our official liaison until 2017.

RDA Steering Committee Meeting, November 2015

The Chair of the RDA Steering Committee invited the FRBR RG to send a representative to the 2015 RDA Steering Committee (RSC) meeting in Edinburgh. The RSC is the body responsible for the content of RDA. Given RDA's alignment with the FRBR family of models, the RSC is already anticipating the potential impact of alignment with LRM, as well as holding off on making major changes in areas where alignment with LRM may have an impact. The RSC was particularly interested in keeping up to date on LRM development. Pat Riva, chair of the Consolidation Editorial Group, agreed to attend the meeting to represent the RG, and gave a formal presentation on FRBR-LRM on behalf of the Review Group. Pat attended the whole five day meeting as the substitute JSC representative for Canada, and provided contributions to discussions including the FRBR-LRM perspective throughout the meeting.

Pat was also invited to give a presentation on FRBR-LRM for a RDA seminar held in Ottawa, immediately following the RDA Board meetings in April 2016. The RDA seminar was organized by Library and Archives Canada and was open to the whole library community. It covered many aspects of changes coming to RDA, from governance to the impact of FRBR LRM.

Invitation to comment on the Committee on Standards report on the review of the management and representation of IFLA standards groups

The Committee on Standards (CoS) is exploring the possibility of having a direct reporting relationship between the standards groups and CoS “for the sake of visibility, financial support, evaluation / assessment of needs.” It is understood that these groups would maintain close ties with the sections that are closely related to the subject of the standard.

At the Committee on Standards’ meetings in 2015, Patrice Landry took responsibility for preparing a report on the current governance of IFLA standards groups. He was in contact with the Chairs of the FRBR Review Group, ISBD Review Group, and Permanent UNIMARC Committee to ask for our input on the roles of members, the election process, the relationship with the host section, and the work itself, whether there were annual work plans, objectives, etc. Patrice then sent us copies of his draft report for feedback on the parts of the report relevant to our RGs. It was mainly a question of providing facts or explaining processes that are not documented on the website.

In addition to changes in reporting structure, the types of recommendations are likely to be in the area of explicit documentation about membership selection, chair selection, terms of reference, and communication about annual goals or action plans. For the five year review of IFLA standards, the report may also recommend that CoS develop guidelines for the review process. There had been a suggestion in the draft report that the groups establish bibliographies at their websites. However, maintaining a bibliography can be an onerous task. Our original bibliography was closed in 2008: “Due to the increasingly large number of resources relating in some way to FRBR, the bibliography is not currently being actively updated.” This was a suggestion where we asked for reconsideration.

Translations:

FRBR

Updated Spanish translation incorporating the 2007 addenda and 2009 corrections and changes. There were also some adjustments to the vocabulary to maintain alignment with the Spanish translation of the International Cataloguing Principles. The revisions were done by Elena Escolano and Maria Violeta Bertolini. http://www.ifla.org/files/assets/cataloguing/frbr/frbr-es-with-addenda_2016.pdf

Distribution List

The frbr@infoserv.inist.fr list currently has 732 subscribers, a decrease from last year’s number (760). Since 2011/2012, there has been a steady decline in the number of subscribers. There was a peak of 850 subscribers in 2011. The list mainly receives announcements about events in the same domain. There was a flutter of intense activity in March 2016, soon after the announcement of the world-wide review of FRBR-LRM. But even in this instance, the conversations were not sustained and were often duplicated messages showing up on other lists as well.

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