



IFLA Cataloguing Section
FRBR Review Group

Report of activities 2016-2017

Review Group Meetings in the official WLIC Programme

Thanks to the Committee on Standards for spearheading this initiative to make the standards Review Groups more visible. After discussion at the business meetings during WLIC 2016, the Review Groups confirmed that they wanted information about their meetings included in the programme so that observers could easily find the meetings and attend.

IFLA Library Reference Model

In the past year, the work on the consolidated model was completed and the model was named IFLA Library Reference Model. The final draft and supporting documentation were submitted to the Committee on Standards on April 18th, 2017.

During WLIC 2016, at the second RG business meeting, the Consolidation Editorial Group presented a revised version of the model, a revision that responded to comments received during the world-wide review. The presentation focused on the changes that the CEG was suggesting and that would be discussed and finalized at the all-day meeting at the end of WLIC 2016 (August 19th). Observers were welcomed, and this meeting had a record attendance due to the widespread interest in the model as it approached completion. There were 18 observers.

Persons who indicated an interest to observe the all-day meeting at the end of WLIC 2016 were given the documents ahead of time so that they would be able to follow and engage with the discussion and decision process.

The all-day meeting at the end of WLIC 2016 was an energetic meeting with Review Group members sharing the sense that the model was almost completed. The feedback from the

world-wide review had not raised any critical issues that required remodelling. In reviewing the comments received, there were no objections to the model itself. There had been places where people had misunderstood or misinterpreted parts of the model and so explanatory texts, scope notes and examples were carefully reviewed. The RG discussed and decided on all the changes proposed by the CEG. There were also some additional suggestions, ideas for examples, etc.

Pat Riva, chair of the CEG, wrote an update article for the December issue of the Metadata Newsletter (pages 11-12) https://www.ifla.org/files/assets/classification-and-indexing/ifla_metadata_newsletter_dec2016.pdf. As mentioned in the article, a new draft that incorporated the August 19th changes was circulated to the RG during the fall of 2016 for final comments. After this step, a new clean draft was prepared and sent to the chairs of the Standing Committees of Cataloguing, Bibliography and Subject Analysis and Access in December 2016. After this step, the CEG prepared the final draft of the model, resolving the last issues, and dealing with details of formatting the tables. Documents submitted to the Committee on Standards on April 18th included: the definition of the model, the IFLA Standards approval form, a summary of changes since the world-wide review, explanations of recurring issues, and a summary of responses from the world-wide review.

On June 20th, the CEG and Chair of the Review Group received word that the standard was approved pending changes to the title. However, the title is already in usage in the modelling and metadata communities. The CEG prepared a response and we are waiting to hear the Committee on Standards decision after reading the arguments prepared in support of the existing title.

Even before official endorsement as an IFLA standard, there is a lot of interest in IFLA LRM. The RDA community has embarked on a major RDA redesign project (the 3R Project) and a significant part of the work is alignment with LRM (<http://www.rda-rsc.org/ImplementationLRMinRDA>). CEG members are receiving requests for LRM talks from many different countries. It is affirming to see the global interest in this model even before official publication.

Due to the interest in LRM, it was important to disseminate the latest version of LRM to keep the global community up-to-date on the final version, and to stop people referencing the earlier 2016 draft that is now superseded. The final draft, as submitted for approval, was posted on the

RG's website at the same time that it was submitted for approval:

<https://www.ifla.org/publications/node/11412>

FRBR₀₀

Official IFLA standard

FRBR₀₀ version 2.4 is now an official IFLA standard. The change in title that we approved at the WLIC 2016 business meeting was approved by the Committee on Standards. The standard was then endorsed by the Professional Committee in December 2016. With the intervening holidays, the FRBR Review Group did not hear the good news until early 2017.

Before FRBR₀₀ could be published on the IFLA website, the Professional Committee asked for its release to be accompanied by explanatory text in plain language. In consultation with the IFLA Professional Officer, the Chair prepared a text for the website that explains what FRBR₀₀ is, the relationship between library and museum conceptual models, and the purpose of FRBR₀₀. (current text at website <https://www.ifla.org/publications/node/11240>). With the webmaster, Agnese Galeffi, we made some changes to make FRBR₀₀ visible in the navigation menu, and a few other small changes for consistency and accuracy. Looking at the website in detail brought out the need to review the website.

Working Group on FRBR/CRM Dialogue

With FRBR₀₀ now an official IFLA standard, it is important to note that the work on FRBR₀₀ takes place primarily in this Working Group, with the Review Group approving and commenting on the work prepared by the WG. The WG has a variant name at the CIDOC CRM website, and it is useful to know the variant name because the minutes are posted on the CIDOC CRM website: FRBR-CIDOC CRM Harmonization (<http://www.cidoc-crm.org/minutes>).

It is important that the FRBR Review Group continues to provide support for this work. The FRBR Review Group is very fortunate to have three highly committed representatives on this essential Working Group. The CIDOC CRM Special Interest Group meets several times a year and always includes harmonization with FRBR₀₀ as part of its agenda. Over the past years, Patrick LeBoeuf, Maja Žumer and Pat Riva have consistently devoted hours and resources to maintaining this key relationship with the CIDOC CRM community and have carried forward the

challenging work of dialogue to develop and advance the FRBR₀₀ model. They are already engaged in the next phase of the work for this WG.

Next steps

At the most recent meeting of the Working Group on FRBR/CRM Dialogue in April 2017, new work was begun. The meeting took place in Heraklion, Crete. The meeting began with an update on the final version of LRM as submitted for approval to IFLA, and a progress report on the approval process. The WG then discussed the need to begin work on version 3 of FRBR₀₀, the version that will align with LRM. There was even talk whether the new version should properly be called LRM₀₀. The group immediately embarked on substantive work, and started looking at classes that could be deprecated, assessing how LRM allows for streamlining the current FRBR₀₀, assessing the new LRM entities and how they relate to CRM-FRBR₀₀ classes. The work on this new version was launched at this meeting, but there will be a lot of work to do this year, focusing on the October and January meetings.

RG Website

In preparation for publishing FRBR₀₀ version 2.4 as an official IFLA standard, IFLA had asked for some changes to website text. Some changes were done quickly to prevent delays in publishing FRBR₀₀. But this work showed how many parts of our website are out of date and need revising. This will be an agenda item for the WLIC 2017 business meeting.

Namespaces

For the FRBR Review Group, namespaces are a critical issue because our standards need to be accessible both as documents formatted for humans and as vocabularies in trusted namespaces that computers can reliably access and use. An ongoing concern has been the creation and maintenance of a reliable namespace infrastructure for our standards and our concern dovetails with that of other IFLA standards groups, especially the ISBD Review Group. Though not a new concern, this year there was a renewed effort to present the issue and possible solutions to the Governing Board. The GB approval is necessary because a reliable infrastructure has costs involved (both initial and ongoing). The Committee on Standards and LIDATEC prepared a proposal with input as well from the Chairs of the two Review Groups. The proposal provides explanatory background, clarifies the situation, and then lays out the risks and the options,

concluding with a recommendation. When Governing Board meets on August 18th, the intention is that this proposal will be on the agenda.

Translations

FRSAD

In March 2017, an Arabic translation of FRSAD was added to the IFLA website. The translation is by Fatema Mamdouh Zakzouk of Cairo University. The translation was completed in 2016. <https://www.ifla.org/files/assets/cataloguing/frsad/frsad-final-report-ar.pdf> There are now seven translations of FRSAD.

LRM

In December 2016, there was a request for permission to translate the draft version of IFLA LRM into German even before the model has been officially endorsed. Until LRM is endorsed, there are no official forms yet to permit translations. So it cannot be an official translation until the model is an official IFLA standard. But translation is a lengthy piece of work and the Chairs of the Review Group and of the Consolidation Editorial Group appreciated the desire to start work as soon as possible, with the understanding that it would be a working draft used for internal purposes by a committee/working group.

It is known that other groups have also worked on unofficial translations to support internal discussions of the model.

Distribution List

The frbr@infoserv.inist.fr list currently has 716 subscribers, a small decrease from last year's number (732). The net effect of activity is 16 less subscribers, but in reality there were a number of additions and deletions throughout the year. However, as noted before, since 2011/2012, there has been a steady decline in the number of subscribers, though this year is less of a change than previous years.

FRBR Review Group on Facebook

The RG has its own page on Facebook. It went live in December 2016. One of the RG members, Barbora Drobíková, a professor at the Charles University in Prague, asked her students to

analyze social networks and come up with a recommendation for the best place to have a social network profile for the FRBR Review Group. They recommended Facebook and, after consultation with the RG Chair, proceeded to set-up the page. The aim was to have a place for discussion, conversations, and also a place to post links to new documents, make announcements and post photographs. In Barbora's words:

The aim of the FB page is to promote our work and to enable to post short news about our group and especially about models and their development. The page is visible for non-FB-users too. Registered users can add comments to particular piece of news or they can add a question/comment to our page. The button "learn more" links directly to the IFLA FRBR RG web page. Our FB short username is "@ifla.frbr" to be in harmony with other IFLA sections/groups promoting their work via FB. There is a menu offering further information about our group.

The Facebook presence acts as a complement to the IFLA website presence.

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July 2017