

## **Informal Meetings of the Permanent UNIMARC Committee**

**2017 August 22 and 24, IFLA Congress, Wroclaw, Poland**

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On 2017 August 24, IFLA's Permanent UNIMARC Committee (PUC) gathered during the IFLA Congress in Wroclaw, Poland, for an informal meeting. In attendance were Ms. Saeedeh Akbari-Daryan (National Library and Archives of Iran); Ms. Nijolė Bliūdžiuvienė (Martynas Mažvydas National Library of Lithuania); Mr. Vincent Boulet (Bibliothèque nationale de France); Mr. Gordon Dunsire (Independent Consultant, Scotland, and Chair of the RDA Steering Committee); Mr. Massimo Gentili-Tedeschi (Biblioteca Nazionale Braidense and ICCU, Italy); Ms. Irena Kavčič (National and University Library, Slovenia); Ms. Françoise Leresche (Bibliothèque nationale de France); PUC Chair Ms. Gordana Mazić (IZUM, Slovenia); Mr. Clément Oury (International ISSN Centre, France); Ms. Mélanie Roche (Bibliothèque nationale de France); Ms. Mirna Willer (University of Zadar, Croatia); and Mr. Jay Weitz (OCLC, USA), PUC Vice Chair and rapporteur.

Additionally, there were two smaller informal meetings on 2017 August 22. Ms. Mazić, Mr. Gentili-Tedeschi, and Mr. Weitz met with IFLA Committee on Standards (CoS) Chair Ms. Diane Beattie (Library and Archives Canada) and IFLA Professional Support Officer Ms. Joanne Yeomans in the morning. Separately later in the day, Ms. Mazić, Mr. Gentili-Tedeschi, and Mr. Weitz met with new PUC Corresponding Member Ms. Akbari-Daryan.

This report covers all three of these meetings.

### **PUC Membership**

Ms. Akbari-Daryan, Assistant Professor of Library and Information Science, is the PUC's newest Corresponding Member, representing the National Library and Archives of Iran and the IRANMARC National Committee. Her Ph. D. was in authority work. She hopes to facilitate two-way communication between the PUC and Iran, keeping the PUC aware of the needs of Iranian UNIMARC users and helping to promote UNIMARC in Iran.

Mr. Gentili-Tedeschi expects to retire in about 1½ years and is currently training his replacement. She will attend the March 2018 PUC meeting in Rome.

### **UNIMARC in RDF Project**

It was imperative that the UNIMARC in RDF Project be completed by the time that the National Library of Portugal relinquished its support of the UNIMARC Strategic Programme. The money set aside for the project was spent on work on the UNIMARC Authorities (U/A) work done in Croatia, with definitions and scope notes registered down to levels of subfields and of vocabularies. The U/A spreadsheet was sent to Ms Mazić for PUC review before the Wroclaw meeting. U/A used the same methodology as UNIMARC Bibliographic (U/B). U/B is published in the Open Metadata Registry (OMR), but does not yet include the 2016 updates, and some of the vocabularies (coded data) which need to be done. Ms. Mazić will make the U/A and U/B spreadsheets available for PUC review using the PBWorks site. Mr. Gentili-Tedeschi will also make the PBWork site available to Ms. Willer and Mr. Dunsire. Mr. Dunsire will provide instructions on editing both U/A and U/B. For U/B, only granular URIs for tag/indicator/subfield levels are done, but another element set for the tag-level elements still needs to be done and mapped to other schemes. UNIMARC is better structured than MARC 21, so this should be easier than MARC 21. URIs for tags can be constructed because they are standardized, unique, and stable. Mr. Dunsire will produce an official paper on this construction method for general use, based on a presentation he had already done. The IFLA Governing Board is looking for funding the OMR, and when the contract with OMR is approved, the U/A and U/B updated spreadsheets will be ready for input. OMR training, especially for multilingual work, needs to be done once the contract is final. Mr. Dunsire notes that not even the Cataloguing Committee understands just how different the PUC's work is from that of other review groups. UNIMARC needs constant updating, in contrast to the periodic updates necessary for FRBR and ISBD. The PUC must carefully monitor its own UNIMARC interests as well as how they fit into the larger Cataloguing and IFLA interests.

The ISBD Review Group will check and re-send the guidelines that it sent to the CoS back in August 2016. This will also be included in the PUC Action Plan. CoS has approved the *Guidelines for Translations of the IFLA ISBD Namespace in RDF* (<https://www.ifla.org/publications/node/10835>), but never reacted to the *Guidelines for Use of ISBD as Linked Data* (<https://www.ifla.org/node/10834>). Mr. Gentili-Tedeschi will resend the latter document to the CoS and the PUC. Ms. Willer and Mr. Dunsire will have draft guidelines for use of UNIMARC as Linked Data by the time of the 2018 IFLA Congress.

### **Protocol Between PUC and RSC**

Mr. Dunsire has shared with the PUC a draft protocol between the PUC and the RDA Steering Committee (RSC) based on that between the RSC and the Library of Congress Network Development and MARC Standards Office (NDMSO). The PUC needs to review the draft, amend it as needed, and pass it on to RSC. By the time of this PUC meeting, Ms. Olga Zhlobinskaya (Boris Yeltsin Presidential Library, Russia) and Mr. Gentili-Tedeschi had already commented on the draft. Ms. Mazić will collect any other responses and incorporate them into the draft by September 30. Mr. Dunsire needs to see only the final draft.

In the meantime, the RSC would also like to know if there are any RDA issues that the PUC would like it to deal with. Some of the elements that other communities have already requested in the ALA Committee on Cataloging: Description and Access (CC:DA) meeting in June 2017 are already in UNIMARC and could serve as existing vocabularies. Some UNIMARC vocabularies, such as Projection of Cartographic Content, need definitions, which the RSC would like the PUC to provide. In cases such as Prime Meridian, UNIMARC has a vocabulary that is lacking in RDA, which can recommend its use. This would be made easier once the proposed protocol is accepted. The PUC should prioritize the Prime Meridian vocabulary and Mr. Dunsire will add it to the OMR.

### **Music Vocabularies: Medium of Performance**

The UNIMARC/IAML Medium of Performance vocabulary is now registered in the OMR. The Library of Congress Medium of Performance Thesaurus for Music (LCMPT) (<http://id.loc.gov/authorities/performanceMediums.html>) includes definitions that are lacking in the IAML vocabulary. IAML has talked about aligning the two vocabularies but work on that is just beginning and there are various issues that need to be dealt with. The RSC would like the PUC to recommend one or more Medium of Performance vocabularies. In the future may be a Medium of Performance vocabulary for choreographic content.

### **PUC Online**

The PUC Website text needs to be updated, including a link to the UNIMARC Vocabularies page already on the IFLA site. Eventually, the PUC will need UNIMARC Namespaces editor to succeed Mr. Dunsire. When the RSC/PUC protocol is approved, there will be official liaison to the RSC, who will also be listed on PUC site. Mr. Gentili-Tedeschi can upload Word documents. The PUC's Terms of Reference and other content will need to be reviewed. Mr. Weitz will do editing of the English texts. Ms. Galvão will mount everything that been dealt with through the 2017 Lisbon meeting. Ms. Akbari-Daryan will send the PUC her UNIMARC/FRAD mapping to be added to PUC site.

Regarding UNIMARC documents on the web, the CoS needs to clarify the process for and the necessity of having it endorse UNIMARC updates and changes. The CoS needs to be asked about any copyright issues for the 3rd editions of U/A and U/B and whether they may be used as the basis for online integrating resources that will keep them up-to-date. IZUM has already incorporated all U/B updates. The hope is that all future work will be shared, including work on U/A. The PUC will need to consult with the CoS and Ms. Yeomans about how to create this online resource, who its users are, how they are expected to use the resource, and the possibility of allowing open submission of UNIMARC proposals to all users online. Interaction with the OMR must also be considered along with how much data gets input into the OMR. For now, the PUC action plan should account for mounting consolidated online editions in PDF. Harmonizing U/A and U/B with the LRM also needs to be on the action plan. Ms. Mazić will distribute a draft action plan by the end of September.

### **PUC and the Committee on Standards**

In the informal meeting with CoS Chair Ms. Beattie and IFLA Professional Support Officer Ms. Yeomans, the process for future selection of PUC members was a major topic of discussion. The word "selection" rather than "election" was emphasized because of what are recognized as the PUC's needs for UNIMARC expertise, involvement, and experience and for being constantly responsive to UNIMARC users. The CoS wants to clarify

what is expected of those who get involved in the PUC, including better defining the roles of Corresponding Members. The CoS was disinclined to allow indefinite terms of service on the PUC and the possibility of four-year renewable terms for members was discussed. Beginning in 2018, the PUC “informal” business meeting will be included in the IFLA Congress program. During the PUC’s residency at the National Library of Portugal, the library provided considerable administrative assistance to the committee. IZUM has offered help for the first year of Ms. Mazić’s leadership. Ms. Yeomans is looking into the options for making available online updated versions of U/A and U/B, but in order to avoid trouble with the Saur agreement, it may be necessary to revise the titles of the documents. There may even be prospects for an online “UNIMARC Toolkit” of some sort, collecting all of the UNIMARC Guidelines and other documents in one convenient place.

### **Upcoming UNIMARC Work, Meetings, and Other Activities**

Work on the UNIMARC Guidelines for Archives is in its final stages, in hopes of finishing as quickly as possible for approval.

Because the PUC is now under the CoS, the PUC may request two meetings during the IFLA Congress, just as the review groups do. The PUC should have at least one informal meeting during IFLA in addition to its official meeting in March/April.

The 29th meeting of the PUC will take place at the ICCU in Rome, Italy, during the week of 2018 March 19-23, with the exact dates to be determined.

Ms. Akbari-Daryan has offered to organize and host a regional UNIMARC Users Group meeting that could be scheduled at her convenience. Hosting a future PUC meeting is also a possibility.

An informal PUC meeting will be held, as usual, at the 2018 IFLA Congress in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, at a time yet to be determined. The PUC will try to schedule the meeting at some point during the IFLA Congress and intends to include the time and place in the IFLA program schedule. The PUC should also consider the possibility of an open program for the 2018 Kuala Lumpur conference.