



IFLA Core Activity: IFLA-CDNL Alliance for  
Bibliographic Standards (ICABS):  
<http://www.ifla.org/VI/7/icabs.htm>

- Secretary -

### ICABS Activity Report February – July 2006

#### ICABS secretary

During the period under report the focus of the secretary has been on the coordination of the planning of the ICABS programme “The changing role of the catalogue in supporting resource discovery and delivery” during the World Library and Information Congress in Seoul, and to collect and translate the papers. Another main working field was the preparation of the ICABS evaluation that is currently underway, and the Advisory Board meeting in Ottawa in late April.

#### **Coordination**

- WLIC Seoul 2006 programme coordination
- Translations and organisational work
- Advisory Board meeting in Ottawa
- Preparation of the evaluation, Questionnaire and interpretation
- Preparation of Advisory Board meeting in Seoul

#### **Publications**

- Evaluation of IFLA-CDNL Alliance for Bibliographic Standards (ICABS)  
In SCATNews 25 (2006). – p. 8
- Oehlschläger, Susanne: ICABS at WLIC in Oslo  
In: ICBC 35 (2006) 2, p. 26

Susanne Oehlschläger  
Deutsche Nationalbibliothek  
July 2006

## **IFLA**

International Cataloguing and Bibliographic Control (ICBC) was published on a quarterly basis. During the report period two issues (Nrs 1 and 2) of this periodical laid the basis for Volume 35 (2006).

During the conference UNIMARC and Friends in March in Lisbon, a special effort was made to publicise relevant IFLA (print) publications, including ICBC and recent titles from the IFLA Series on Bibliographic Control.

An overview of current IFLA Standards was published as a brochure Sharing of Bibliographic Information and Resources; IFLA Bibliographic Standards and Interoperability that was handed out to participants; the text is also available at <http://www.ifla.org/VII/d4/pub/InteroperabilityStandards.pdf>.

One relevant title appeared in the IFLA Publications Series (Vol. 119): Networking for Digital Preservation. Current Practice in 15 National Libraries by Ingeborg Verheul. Munich: K.G. Saur, 2006. ISBN 3-598-21847-8.

In addition a substantial number of translations of existing IFLA Publications in the field of bibliographic control was published, including translations of ISBD<sup>1</sup>, and FRBR<sup>2</sup> publications in several other than the IFLA working languages (English, French, German, Russian, Spanish).

For more information about the work of IFLA please visit IFLANET (<http://www.ifla.org>)

IFLA/UNIMARC Core Activity can be found at <http://www.ifla.org/VI/8/up.htm>

Division IV: Bibliographic Control can be found at <http://www.ifla.org/VII/d4/dbc.htm>

Division VI: Division of Management and Technology at <http://www.ifla.org/VII/d6/dmt.htm>

Sjoerd Koopman  
IFLA Headquarters, The Hague  
June 2006

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<sup>1</sup> International Standard Bibliographic Description

<sup>2</sup> Functional Requirements for Bibliographic Records

## **British Library**

This report covers the period from February to July 2006.

### **FRBR maintenance and development**

The ICABS/British Library liaison with FRBR Review Group is Alan Danskin.

The survey of ILS Vendor attitudes to FRBR implementation within their systems was completed during the last period and submitted to the FRBR Review Group for comments and discussion. To date we have not received any feedback on the report. Wider circulation of the report will be discussed at the Seoul Conference.

There has been no requests for support from the various Task Groups during this period.

### **FRANAR**

The ICABS/ British Library liaison with the FRANAR Working Group is Andrew MacEwan.

Since the meeting in The Hague on 9th December 2005 to review comments submitted to the worldwide review, discussions have been ongoing through a series of conference calls.

No other calls for support have been received during this period.

Caroline Brazier, Alan Danskin, Andrew MacEwan  
The British Library  
July 2006

## **Deutsche Nationalbibliothek**

This report covers the period from **February to July 2006**.

On 29 June 2006 the "Law regarding the Deutsche Nationalbibliothek" came into force. It replaces the "Law regarding the Deutsche Bibliothek" of 1969. With the new law networked electronic publications become part of the legal deposit collection. With this expansion our library is enabled to contribute to the safeguarding of the digital cultural heritage of our country. Besides the expansion of the legal deposit, the amendments comprise changes in the composition of the library Board and the change of the name to Deutsche Nationalbibliothek (German National Library).

During the period under report the focus of the Deutsche Nationalbibliothek as the chair of the ICABS Advisory Board has been on work of the secretary to coordinate the planning of the ICABS programme "The changing role of the catalogue in supporting resource discovery and delivery" during the World Library and Information Congress in Seoul, and to collect and translate the papers. Another main working field was the preparation of the ICABS evaluation that is currently underway, and the Advisory Board meeting in Ottawa in late April. A lot of work has been done also to support the ISBD Review Group, and there is a progress for the VIAF project to be reported, too.

### **VIAF cooperative**

The goal of the VIAF project is to proof the feasibility of a "Virtual International Authority File". Two big national authority files for personal names - the "Library of Congress Name Authority Files (LCNAF)" and the "Personennamendatei (PND)" - are linked through a crosslink file, the VIAF. The VIAF provides crosswalks between the national authority files and enables users to search in the same way as in a physically unified international file.

Within ICABS the Deutsche Nationalbibliothek and the Library of Congress are responsible for the VIAF cooperative. The executing partner in this project is OCLC, a non-member of ICABS.

Since February the parties involved have been working to smooth out last difficulties with the matching and merging algorithms. On 31 July 2006 the VIAF project partners will meet at OCLC in Dublin, Ohio, to review and interpret the project results achieved so far, and to agree on how to further proceed.

During the WLIC 2006 in Seoul the project partners will present a paper "VIAF (Virtual International Authority File): Linking Die Deutsche Bibliothek and Library of Congress Name Authority Files" within the Open programme of the Cataloguing Section on Tuesday, 22 August 2006, 16.00-18.00.

### **ISBD maintenance and development**

The Deutsche Nationalbibliothek is the lead ICABS partner in supporting the work of the IFLA Cataloguing Section's ISBD Review Group in developing and maintaining the International Standards for Bibliographic Description. We also work to encourage the harmonisation of national practices to follow these standards and to promote the results of the ISBD revisions.

### **ISBD Review Group**

ICABS is represented on the ISBD Review Group by Renate Gömpel.

The Deutsche Nationalbibliothek actively supports the Review Group's Study Group on Future Directions of the ISBDs. Among other terms of reference this group is considering the use and values of an ISBD that combines into a single document provisions for the entire Family of ISBDs, in order to facilitate revision work and to abolish and further avoid inconsistencies in the ISBD stipulations. The draft of the consolidated edition of the ISBD has been published for world-wide review on IFLAnet in early July.

Like in the year before the German national library hosted a 3-day meeting of the Study Group in April 2006 in Frankfurt. These two meetings were most important for the work on the consolidation of the different ISBDs into one publication.

### **ICABS secretary**

#### **Coordination**

- WLIC Seoul 2006 programme coordination
- Translations and organisational work
- Advisory Board meeting in Ottawa
- Preparation of the evaluation, Questionnaire and interpretation
- Preparation of Advisory Board meeting in Seoul

### **Promotion for ICABS**

#### **Publications**

- Evaluation of IFLA-CDNL Alliance for Bibliographic Standards (ICABS)  
In SCATNews 25 (2006). – p. 8
- Oehlschläger, Susanne: ICABS at WLIC in Oslo  
In: ICBC 35 (2006) 2, p. 26

#### **Lectures**

- Gömpel, Renate: ICABS – Umbrella for multifaceted activities in the area of bibliographic and resource control  
UNIMARC & Friends, Lisbon, 20-21 March 2006
- Virtual International Authority File / Richard Bennett, Christel Hengel, Thomas B. Hickey, Edward T. O'Neill, Barbara B. Tillett at ALA conference in New Orleans, June 2006
- Die Zukunft der Katalogisierung  
Hessischer Bibliothekstag in Fulda, 8. Mai 2006: „Katalogisierung im Zeitalter von Google und Amazon“

Renate Gömpel  
Deutsche Nationalbibliothek, July 2006

## **Koninklijke Bibliotheek**

**Contact person:** [ingeborg.verheul@kb.nl](mailto:ingeborg.verheul@kb.nl) [R&D Division]

**Period:** February – July 2006

**Goal:** To advance understanding of issues related to long-term archiving of electronic resources, in order to improve international coordination and to steer developments in the area of digital preservation.

### **Actions:**

- 4.1 Explore the requirements/conditions for long-term archiving of electronic resources.
- 4.2 Migration & emulation: explore and promote strategies, methods and standards.

### **Report:**

To reach this goal, the Koninklijke Bibliotheek (KB) conducted a survey on the current state of affairs of digital archiving in 15 national libraries (baseline July 2005). This survey addressed both operational and R&D activities aimed at digital preservation. The main focal points were the use of standards in operational safe place environments and the state of affairs on permanent access strategies, such as migration and emulation. Apart from providing information on the status, function and organisational embedding of digital repositories in the library organisations, the survey also gives an overview of the current national and international R&D projects.

The survey concluded that digital preservation in the year 2005 is becoming increasingly integrated in the day-to-day library activities. Digital preservation is a rapidly developing discipline and although there are not many official standards for it yet, emerging best practices might develop into standards within a few years. Since 2003, considerable progress has been made in building digital repositories, or networks of interconnected computer systems. A second development is the emergence of large networks for national and international cooperation. At first, the focus was limited to the cultural heritage sector, but now the perspective is broadening, and cooperation between the cultural heritage sector and the science sector is becoming increasingly important. Although such cooperative projects or platforms often started with a focus on knowledge dissemination and knowledge sharing, it is likely that they could be used in the near future for the joint development of tools for permanent access as well.

In March 2006 the KB-ICABS survey was published in IFLA's Green Series (K.G. Saur Verlag, München), with the title *Networking for digital preservation. Current practice in 15 national libraries*. In June 2006 the online version of the publication has been made available through the websites of ICABS and PADI. See: <http://www.ifla.org/VI/7/pub/IFLAPublication-No119.pdf>. Publicity has been generated through the websites of KB, DPC and NESTOR, on several discussion lists, in (e) journals and in a national Dutch newspaper. A presentation of the research has been given on the occasion of a three day conference, organised by the IFLA PAC and the IFLA P&C Section, in the Bibliothèque nationale de France in March 2006.

The KB is partner in PLANETS (Preservation and Long-term Access through NETworked Services), a cross sectoral 3 year international EU project on developing tools for digital preservation, that started in June 2006 and will be coordinated by the British Library. It is expected that ICABS can profit of the outcomes of this project in future.

KB expects it's future focus in ICABS to remain on digital preservation, and has great interest in implementing mass digitisation practices as a topic. KB attended the ICABS meeting in Canada in April 2006. In August 2006 KB will give a presentation on ICABS at the annual CDNL Meeting at IFLA Seoul.

Ingeborg Verheul  
Koninklijke Bibliotheek  
(IV/June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2006)

## **Library of Congress**

February-July 2006

### **MARC 21 and its XML derivatives**

The Library of Congress released version 3.2 for the Metadata Object Description Standard (MODS) in June 2006 ([www.loc.gov/mods/](http://www.loc.gov/mods/)). This minor change version includes some corrections as well as additional support for data elements needed for the DLF/OCLC Registry of Digital Masters and the DLF Aquifer MODS implementation guidelines. The latter guidelines were widely reviewed in early 2006 and are found at ([www.diglib.org/aquifer/index.htm](http://www.diglib.org/aquifer/index.htm)). They led to a few changes in MODS, particularly for information about online access. A number of institutions are now looking at using the Aquifer guidelines as a standard to which records for digital resources must adhere. MODS is being widely accepted as a preferred rich descriptive metadata standard for many digital library projects, and many METS profiles are including MODS for their descriptive metadata component. Recent additions to the MODS implementation registry ([www.loc.gov/mods/registry.php](http://www.loc.gov/mods/registry.php)) are the Texas Digital Library (U.S.) and the Oxford Digital Library (U.K.). Experimental use of the Metadata Authority Description Schema (MADS) ([www.loc.gov/mads](http://www.loc.gov/mads)) has been reported, employing the XSLT style sheet on the MADS web site to convert from MARC 21 authority records to MADS.

MARCXML, which was first made available from the MARC 21 web site in 2002 ([www.loc.gov/marcxml](http://www.loc.gov/marcxml)) is very stable and used in a variety of applications that cross over to XML. It provides a lossless pathway from MARC 21 to MARC in XML and then back. ISO/DIS 25577 (called MarcXchange, and introduced by Danish Standards) for the basic underlying structure of MARCXML was issued as a DIS (Draft International Standard) for 5 month ballot in February 2006.

MARC 21 activities included development of change and enhancement proposals, posting them on the web site, and gaining consensus concerning format changes at a June 2006 meeting and via the internet. A major proposal specified techniques for converting Unicode encoding (which now contains over 100,000 characters) to the MARC-8 encoding (16,000 characters currently used for exchange among many MARC 21 systems) when needed for distribution to systems that cannot handle Unicode encoding. MARC 21 systems that can already handle Unicode use Unicode's UTF-8 encoding. Two techniques were approved: one that substitutes a designated mark for any character not found in MARC-8 (for systems that can handle only a limited character set or for special applications), and a technique that substitutes a Numeric Character Reference for characters that do not have a representation in MARC-8. The latter technique is called lossless as it preserves identification of the character that could not be converted and enables recovery of that character in appropriate situations. OCLC began to support Thai and Tamil, which are not included in the MARC-8 repertoire, for some customers in March, so these techniques are needed for sharing with non-Unicode systems.

The 2005 edition of the *MARC 21 Concise Formats* was completed and is available online at [www.loc.gov/marc/concise/](http://www.loc.gov/marc/concise/). A new edition of the *MARC Code List for Geographic Areas* was issued ([www.loc.gov/marc/geoareas/](http://www.loc.gov/marc/geoareas/)) with many new codes and updates to place names.

### **Z39.50 and SRU**

The implementors of the search protocol, Search/Retrieve via URL (SRU) ([www.loc.gov/sru](http://www.loc.gov/sru)), have developed changes and features to be included in the next version, 1.2. A meeting of SRU implementors and a workshop was held March 1-3 in The Hague, Netherlands, to begin finalization of various proposals and to investigate integrating SRU with other protocols and services (<http://www.loc.gov/standards/sru/march06-meeting/output.html>). The proposals included moving sort from an SRU parameter to a CQL (Contextual Query Language) parameter, changes to a number of CQL relations, and addition of some minor parameters. Among other issues discussed were official standardization of SRU, and the integration of SRU with other potential protocols, for example, Amazon's OpenSearch. Work is beginning on more comprehensive changes for version 2.0; these will address proximity and bibliographic indexes. The latter includes an index set based on MODS.

A paper featuring SRU will be presented on the ICABS session during the IFLA conference in Korea in August 2006. It is available at <http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla72/papers/102-McCallum-en.pdf>.

The widely used Z39.50 protocol remained stable and the source of material for SRU development.

### **Metadata and XML metadata schemes**

Since the Library of Congress established the web site for the PREMIS (Preservation Metadata Implementation Strategies) maintenance activity ([www.loc.gov/premis/](http://www.loc.gov/premis/)), the PREMIS data dictionary and accompanying schemas have gained recognition as an important standard for preservation metadata. The Society of American Archivists (SAA) is awarding the PREMIS Working Group the SAA Preservation Publication Award in August 2006.

The original convenors of the PREMIS Working Group established a PREMIS Editorial Committee to guide the future development of the standard and to put it on a more formal footing. The committee will consist of up to 10 members who are implementing the PREMIS data dictionary. A solicitation for initial membership was issued in May 2006.

The Library of Congress, as part of its PREMIS Managing Agency role, has commissioned two studies to assist with the use of PREMIS. A study of rights issues related to the preservation of digital materials, with an emphasis on PREMIS-related metadata requirements, is undergoing its final review before being made publicly available. A second one, guidelines and recommendations for implementing the PREMIS data in the context of a set of common digital preservation use cases, should be completed toward the end of the calendar year 2006.

The Library of Congress established an Implementation Registry for the PREMIS web site ([www.loc.gov/standards/premis/premis-registry.php](http://www.loc.gov/standards/premis/premis-registry.php)). Some initial registrations are the Digital Data Archive Project at the National Archives of Scotland, ExLibris' DigiTool product, MathArc at the University of Göttingen/Cornell University, and Los Alamos National Laboratories' aDOre repository. The UK Digital Curation Centre sponsored a one and one half day tutorial on the use of the PREMIS data dictionary and XML implementation in July 2006. Additional training events are being planned.

The PREMIS Implementers' Group discussion list supports questions and comments about PREMIS data elements and their XML representation. Much discussion is currently focused on how the PREMIS Data Dictionary and XML schema can be used in conjunction with METS.

A METS (Metadata Encoding and Transmission Standard) Implementors' Meeting was held in June 2006 in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, USA, as a Joint Conference on Digital Libraries (JCDL) 2006 workshop. This event was targeted at those who have already started METS-based projects, and especially for implementors responsible for software application development. Several new METS software tools were presented, including the 7train XSLT METS generation framework (California Digital Library), the METS Navigator to deliver multi-page objects (Indiana University), and the ResCarta Metadata Creation Tool (ResCarta Foundation).

The METS Editorial Board approved for registration three new METS Profiles. The Library of Congress submitted a METS profile for Recorded Events, to be used for either audio or video recordings of performances. The profile has been implemented in the LC digital library project "Library of Congress Presents: Music, Theater, and Dance". The California Digital Library submitted the CDL 7train Profile for use with the CONTENTdm application. The German project kopal (Co-operative development of a long-term digital information archive) submitted the Universal Object Format (UOF) profile.

The Editorial Board recently created a public wiki which is available from the official METS website ([www.loc.gov/mets/](http://www.loc.gov/mets/)).

### **Monitor work on Identifiers**



The Library of Congress added new postings to the *URI Resource Page* ([www.loc.gov/standards/uri/](http://www.loc.gov/standards/uri/)) in March 2006 reporting that the 'info' URI has been officially approved as a URI scheme. There have been very few new developments in the area of identifiers in the past few months - no new 'info' namespaces have been registered, nor URI schemes discussed. The Library of Congress participated in NISO roundtable which explored the issues surrounding identifiers, including their definitions, contextual framework, social aspects, and business models. Several presentations from that forum are available at [http://www.niso.org/news/events\\_workshops/ID-06-wkshp.html](http://www.niso.org/news/events_workshops/ID-06-wkshp.html).

Sally H. McCallum  
Library of Congress  
July 21, 2006

**National Library of Australia**

**ICABS Action Plan 2005-2006,**

**Progress report for July 2006**

**Goal 3: Develop strategies for bibliographic and resource control and ensure the promotion of new and recommended conventions**

**3.4 Role of the catalogue**

The report on the findings of the working group established to investigate issues associated with the role of the catalogue in providing access to our collection has been finalised and will be made public soon. A presentation on the outcomes of the investigation will be made at the ICABS session at IFLA in Seoul.

**Goal 4: Advance understanding of issues related to long-term archiving of electronic resources**

**(i) Contribute to the work program of the IIPC**

The NLA has continued to participate in Steering Committee meetings of the IIPC and to contribute to development of the Curator Tool by providing input to specifications and requirement statements. The Curator Tool project is being managed by the National Library of New Zealand and the British Library.

**(ii) Maintain information available through the PADI subject gateway**

PADI continues to be actively maintained and quarterly digests of significant new resources relating to digital archiving and preservation are produced in collaboration with the UK Digital Preservation Coalition (DPC)

**(iii) Search access to web resources collected by selective archiving as well as whole domain harvesting**

The Library is investigating technical and policy issues associated with providing public access to its archives of resources collected through whole domain harvesting. The first harvest was conducted in July 2005 and the second harvest of 500 million URLs will be carried out in August 2006. The harvests are indexed using Nutch Wax software. It is intended to provide a search interface using the new release of the Wayback Machine which will be customised for our purposes. A strategy for integrating access with PANDORA will also be determined.

**Action 4.2 Develop tools to improve preservation planning and implementation of solutions.**

**(ii) PREMIS Project**

This project is now completed and the results will be presented at a forum to be held at the National Library on August 31 (<http://www.apsr.edu.au/>). The results will be made available soon after the Forum.

**(iii) APSR**

This project is currently underway after a late start.

Pam Gatenby  
19 July 2006

## **National Library of Portugal: IFLA UNIMARC Core Activity**

March 2006 – July 2006

### **1. MAINTENANCE AND UPDATE OF UNIMARC FORMATS**

The annual meeting of the Permanent UNIMARC Committee (PUC) took place on March 22-24. Apart from the revision of the formats, corrections and suggestions for change, the major decisions taken were the following:

- An official version of Dublin Core/UNIMARC crosswalk is being worked out.
- The production of Guidelines for Digital Reproductions was considered a priority.
- A UNIMARC Registry was presented to PUC and agreed upon as being a priority to set up.
- A UNIMARC/XML standard, listing what can be generalized and what is system specific linking also taking into account the ISO proposal for exchange, will continue as a priority.
- Guidelines for Manuscripts are being prepared.
- Guidelines for Continuing Resources are completed and soon to be mounted on IFLANET.

### **2. International Conference – UNIMARC & Friends: Charting the new landscape of library standards, Lisbon, 20-21 March 2006**

The Conference took place as scheduled and gathered around 200 delegates. The possibility of bringing together current bibliographic developments on ISBD, FRBR, FRANAR, MARC along with the revision of cataloguing codes and Web based transmission standards which was the main objective of the conference turned out to be its major asset according to delegates opinion.

The Conference endorsed Goal 2 of ICABS Strategic Plan which is to “Maintain, promote and harmonise existing standards and concepts related to bibliographic and resource control”.

The first UNIMARC Users Group meeting was held after the Conference with the aim of exchanging information about the use of UNIMARC and to promote its usability in different languages and countries. Several country reports were presented and a resolution was taken on forthcoming activities with the involvement of users and meetings every two years.

### **3. IFLA Seoul 2006**

The UNIMARC Core Activity prepared a session which will be held the 21 August about Scripts, UNIMARC and UNICODE. A large panel of speakers will present the “state-of-the-art” about UNICODE and the use of UNIMARC with Arabic, Russian, Chinese and Japanese scripts. The vendors’ perspective will close the session.

Fernanda Maria Campos  
Director, IFLA UNIMARC Core Activity  
19 July 2006