RDA: Resource Description and Access

Prepared by
The Joint Steering
Committee for
Revision of AACR
2005

Work is now underway to simplify, clarify, and update the world's most used content standard for bibliographic description and access – the Anglo-American Cataloguing Rules. The title of this presentation is the working title for a new cataloging code, and we will call it RDA for short.

Revised July 8, 2005

Why are we doing this?

- Simplify
 - Encourage use as a content standard for metadata schema
 - Encourage international applicability
- Provide more consistency where appropriate
- Improve collocation
 - Work/expression level citation/relationships
 - New approach to GMDs

Why a new code?

We've stated that we don't intend for there to be a real major change like we experienced with AACR2 and "desuperimposition," –more about that in a moment. Given the complexity of applying AACR2 to materials in today's environment of analog and digital and mixed media, we see an opportunity to simplify the code and to establish it as a content standard for resource description.

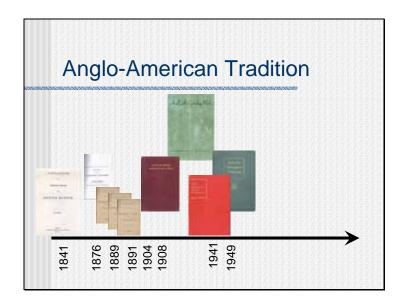
We want to respond to international communities of libraries and other information providers worldwide that have told us they'd like AACR to evolve to become an international standard. A new code will be easier to use and interpret, will be more consistent and contain less redundancy, demonstrating the commonalities of different types of content and providing supplemental rules for the aspects that are unique.

We want to address current problems with uniform titles and GMDs (general material designators), and the code will include new conceptual and procedural introductions to assist users and to link rules to the functions of catalogs, especially improving collocation in displays, building on the strong foundations of international cataloging traditions.

Why are we doing this?

- Principle-based
 - Build cataloger's judgment
 - Founded on international cataloging principles
 - Encourage applications of FRBR concepts

We want to change the approach to cataloging, to get back to more principle-based rules that build cataloger's judgment and are simple to use, provide more consistency across the various types of content and media. This standard will be based on stated principles of catalog design and internationally agreed bibliographic control principles, supporting the objectives of resource discovery: to find, identify, select, and obtain relevant resources. This encourages the application of the FRBR model (Functional Requirements for Bibliographic records – more about that in a moment),

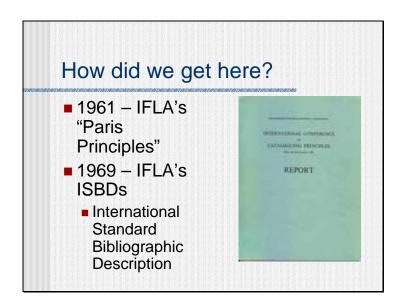


The Anglo-American Cataloguing Rules have an interesting history of development, ranging back to the 91 rules that were printed in the British Museum's catalogue in 1841 by Panizzi, then the "Keeper of the Books."

On the other side of the ocean, Charles Ammi Cutter completed his study of cataloging practices in the United States and issued his rules in 1876, that gave guidance about the objectives of cataloging (finding and collocating in particular) that still hold today. Cutter's rules went through 4 editions and were the basis for the British and American attempts to collaboratively create a set of rules.

Cutter: 1876 (1st ed.), 1889 (2nd ed.), 1891 (3rd ed.), 1904 (4th ed. Rules for a Dictionary Catalog)

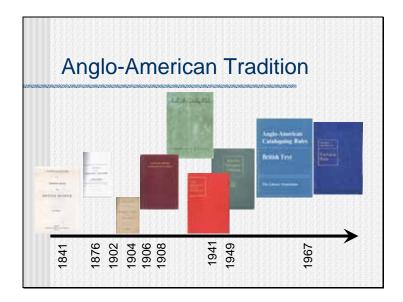
Around the turn of the previous century, the American Library Association and the Library Association in the UK worked together to devise rules but found they could not agree on every point and ended up issuing separate rules in 1902 and again in 1908. The Library of Congress was very much involved with ALA at the time and also had its own rules and later issued supplementary rules to augment the ALA rules. The British and American Library Associations, along with the Library of Congress continued to work together to develop rules, but by 1941, the American Library Association decided to publish its own updated code, so there continued to be separate codes. By 1949 the ALA rules for author and title entries were accompanied by the Library of Congress Rules for descriptive cataloging. And then during the 1950's there were cries for more principle-based rules.



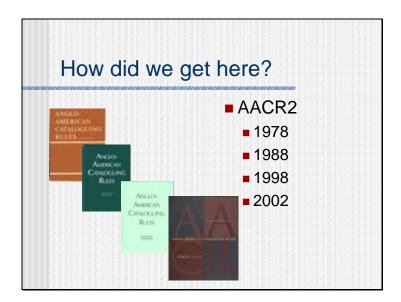
Seymour Lubetzky was commissioned to study the rules, and he developed some basic principles in the process that were later taken to IFLA for their famous conference in 1961.

The resulting "Paris Principles," as we know them today, then formed the foundation of nearly all of the major cataloguing codes used worldwide.

At the end of the 1960's, IFLA again held a meeting of experts to develop the International Standard Bibliographic Description, which also is used worldwide today for basic descriptive elements arranged in a prescribed order with prescribed punctuation.



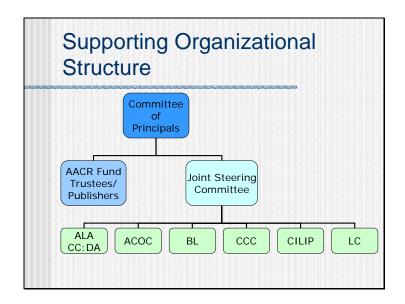
After the 1961 Paris Principles, attempts once again were made to create a unified Anglo-American Cataloguing code, but again there were enough disagreements that two "texts" were published in 1967 – one the British text and the other a "North American text." A lot of this was caused by large libraries in the United States that didn't want to change their practices for entry of some corporate names under place – imposing what was called "superimposition" of old practices on headings made under the new rules. The British took a more principled approach in their edition of the rules.



A decade later in 1978, following further agreements in 1969 on the International Standard for Bibliographic Description (ISBDs) within IFLA and the desire for the English-speaking countries to agree on rules, AACR2 was issued. It was a traumatic time of a very big change for libraries following the old "North American text." This was the move of "desuperimposition" when libraries changed from the old rules that entered corporate names under place, to enter them directly under their names when they have distinctive names. "Desuperimposition" finally changed headings to a more principled approach that was closer to the Paris Principles agreement – a very expensive prospect for libraries in the United States, but we did it. That second edition was then the first time that both sides of the Atlantic: the US/Canada and the UK shared the same rules, although indeed there were differences in some choices regarding options allowed in the rules, such as with application of the GMDs – General Material Designators.

AACR2 incorporated the ISBDs and came closer to the Paris Principles, making it even closer to other cataloguing codes used throughout the world.

Then we saw revisions to AACR2 in 1988, 1998, and 2002 – they all basically followed the same structure as AACR2 with revised rules to reflect the incremental changes over time, such as a new perspective on electronic resources and serials and integrating resources.



Before moving on, I want to briefly show you the ownership and management that oversees the development of AACR and now RDA. There is a Committee of Principals – who are the directors or their representatives from the Canadian, UK, and US professional library associations: that is, the American Library Association, the Canadian Library Association, the Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals (CILIP) as well as the British Library, the Library of Congress, and the National Library of Canada – now called Library and Archives Canada. There is also the group of publishers who manage the AACR Fund (which is the money generated by sales of AACR that supports the maintenance and development of the rules) – the publishers are at ALA, the Canadian Library Association, and CILIP. Then there is the Joint Steering Committee for Revision of the Anglo-American Cataloguing Rules comprised of representatives from the constituent organizations: the American Library Association's Association for Library Collections & Technical Services' Committee on Cataloguing: Description and Access (CC:DA), the Australian Committee on Cataloguing (ACOC), the British Library, the Canadian Committee on Cataloguing (whose representative is also from the Library and Archives Canada), CILIP, and the Library of Congress.



Here are the members of the JSC, our secretary and the editor of the new code from left to right:

Marg Stewart – CCC rep

Nathalie Schulz – the JSC secretary

Barbara Tillett – LC rep

Sally Strutt – BL rep and chair of the JSC

Hugh Taylor – CILIP

Deirdre Kiogaard – ACOC rep

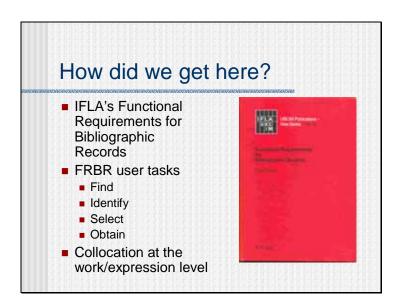
Tom Delsey – the editor, and

Jennifer Bowen – ALA rep.

1997 International Conference on the Principles and Future Development of AACR Toronto, Canada JSC invited worldwide experts Issues leading to RDA Principles Content vs. carrier Logical structure of AACR Seriality Internationalization

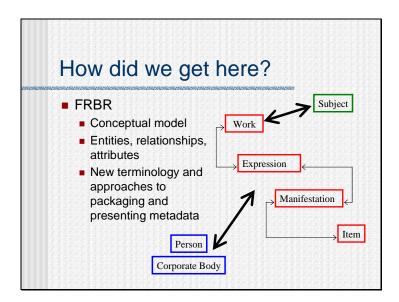
At the 1997 **International Conference on the Principles & Future Development of AACR**, held in Toronto, the Joint Steering Committee for Revision of the Anglo-American Cataloguing Rules under the auspices of the Committee of Principals invited experts from around the world to share in developing an action plan for the future of AACR.

Some of the recommendations from that meeting have guided the thinking about new directions, such as the desire to document the basic principles that underlie the rules and explorations into content versus carrier and the logical structure of AACR; and some have already been implemented, like the new views of seriality. Others are still dreams, like further internationalization of the rules for their expanded use worldwide as a content standard for bibliographic and authority records. But we want to make those dreams a reality.



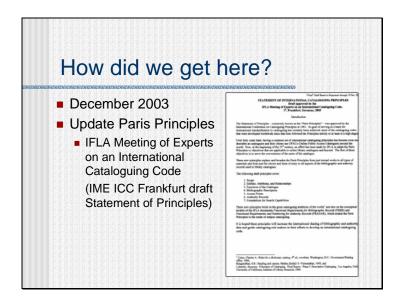
Other events in getting to where we are today include the development of a new view of the bibliographic universe.

From 1992-1996 an IFLA Study Group developed the conceptual model called "FRBR," which was published in 1998. The Functional Requirements for Bibliographic Records reinforce the basic objectives of catalogs and the importance of relationships to enable users to fulfill basic tasks with respect to the catalog – enabling them to find, identify, select, and obtain information they want. FRBR also offers us a structure to meet these basic user tasks, including ways to collocate records at the level of works and expressions, to show relationships.



The FRBR conceptual model identifies the entities, relationships, and attributes using a new terminology. Rather than being tied to any particular communication format or data structure, it instead identifies attributes that would be needed in national-level bibliographic records – which elements are mandatory and which are optional. This model opens up new possibilities for structuring the bibliographic description and access points that could potentially guide the development of rules that are more principle-based, more consistent, less redundant – and hence cost-saving and easier to apply.

For example, information we now provide redundantly in bibliographic records for names of persons and corporate bodies or names of works and expressions, might be done once through different structures – sort of like our current authority records for uniform titles and linked to the package that describes manifestations and items. We could also see making links for subject headings and classification numbers to the work and expression "records" so those attributes could then be inherited by the linked records for the associated manifestations and items – again eliminating the redundancy of putting that information in each bib record as we do now. We intend for this to be explained in RDA.



Besides FRBR, IFLA has also produced a draft statement of international cataloguing principles that is being vetted by cataloging rule makers worldwide. This new statement from December 2003 updates and reaffirms the 1961 Paris Principles, bringing in the FRBR concepts while focusing on the current environment of online catalogs and planning for future systems. It is expected that this draft statement will be finalized by 2007 after the series of regional meetings worldwide among cataloging rule makers and experts. The first meeting was in Frankfurt, Germany in 2003 and the final meeting will be in South Africa in 2007.

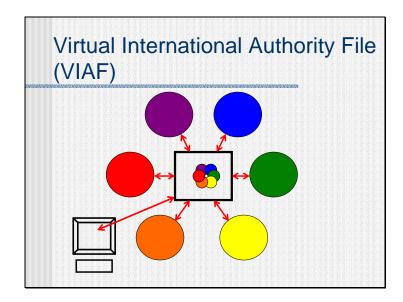
How did we get here? Communication Metadata **Standards** Standards Dublin Core MARC ■ MPEG 7 UNIMARC VRA MARC 21 EAD MODS/MADS MARCXML ISBD (also a content/display XML dtd's standard) Next generation?

What else has brought us to this point?

Our cataloging rules have provided **content** standards, that is, a focus on the contents of the data elements and how they are to be constructed in bibliographic and authority records. Those records in turn have been packaged since the late 1960's in MARC records to enable sharing or **communicating** these records worldwide in machine-readable form. Systems since the 1970's were built to use the MARC-formatted records, repackaging the information contained in those records for online displays and indexes in OPACs and integrated library systems.

We are now seeing other structures emerging in the digital world and new ways to package information that describes resources and provides access.

Our cataloguing rules need to remain independent of any communication format. They also provide a content standard for elements of bibliographic description and access that could be used by any of the emerging metadata standards, like Dublin Core. Metadata standards give us the categories of data elements to include in the record, but usually do not tell us how to structure the content of those elements or what we should use as the source for finding the content of those elements – they just give us the labels to use – like saying "title" or "date." The ISBDs also tell us what elements to include in descriptions and in what order and even go on to be content standards for what to use as the chief source for that data element and how to construct it for more consistent descriptions. Also other content standards, like "Describing Archives – A Content Standard" and "Cataloging Cultural Objects" are in the works or have recently appeared.



Another development that impacts our thinking for RDA, is the idea of a virtual international authority file. During the IFLA review of the Form and Structure of Corporate Headings, the Study Group determined that mandating specific rules that would be used worldwide for corporate names was not practical. Rather than the traditional IFLA view of Universal Bibliographic Control (UBC) where everyone in the world would use the same authorized heading for the same entity, a new view of bibliographic control emerged during the mid-1990's, recognizing the user's needs to see scripts they could read. Authority records created by the national bibliographic agencies could be linked and the various scripts and structural conventions could be preserved and used for displaying the user-preferred language/script. This picture shows one model that is being tested, and other models also need to be explored. This particular model leaves the creation and maintenance of authority records where it is now in the bibliographic agencies, and holds the most promise for scalability – to connect all the major authority files worldwide. It's virtual because there is no database with all the records, but rather links to the full records residing in the bibliographic agency files. The goal is to preserve local forms this way and to link different records that use varying cataloguing codes and yet still meet users needs. In August 2003 in Berlin, OCLC, the Library of Congress, and the Deutsche Bibliothek signed a memorandum of understanding for a project based on this model for linking their authority files for personal names. The goal is to make this information freely available to users worldwide. Great challenges are ahead but the technology now makes this test possible.

We plan to include a new Part III of RDA devoted to authority control.



So with all these events leading up to this point in history, the JSC developed a Strategic Plan for AACR in 2002 and recently revised it. The text is on the Web at the address shown here. We are working in July 2005 to further revise it.

RDA is

- A new standard for resource description and access
- Designed for the digital environment
 - Web-based product (also loose-leaf)
 - Description and access of all digital resources (and analog)
 - Resulting records usable in the digital environment (Internet, Web OPACs, etc.)

So we envision RDA as a new standard for resource description and access, designed for the digital environment.

By digital environment we mean three things:

A Web-based tool

A tool that addresses cataloguing digital and all other types of resources

And a tool that results in records that are intended for use in the digital environment – through the Internet, Web-OPACs, etc.

RDA is

- Multinational content standard providing bibliographic description and access for <u>all</u> media
- Developed for use in English language communities; it can also be used in other language communities
- Independent of the format (e.g., MARC 21) used to communicate information

The Joint Steering Committee's Strategic Plan for AACR was endorsed by the Committee of Principals and is an evolving document.

In the Statement of Purpose for AACR – now RDA, it says that the code is "a multinational content standard for providing bibliographic description and access for all media. It is independent of the format used to communicate information. While developed for use in English language communities, it can also be used in other language communities."

Purpose for RDA

- Enable users of library catalogues, etc. to find and use resources appropriate to their information needs
- Support FRBR user tasks
 - Find, identify, select, obtain
- Extend beyond FRBR user tasks, e.g.,
 - Use resources
 - Manage collections
 - Navigate systems

The plan goes on to affirm the FRBR user tasks for find, identify, select, and obtain.

So another major purpose for our code is to serve our users by organizing information and providing consistent description and access so they can get information they need.

The users are the reason we catalog at all.

Goals

- Continue to be based on principles and include attributes for all types of materials
- 2.Used worldwide, but derived from English language conventions and customs
- 3. Easy to use and interpret

So, building on those strengths, the Strategic Plan sets seven goals:

First (with 2 parts) to continue to base the rules on principles and to include elements to describe all types of materials.

Second to work towards making the code usable worldwide, while still deriving it from the English language conventions and customs, hopefully allowing for other language and national conventions when appropriate.

Third we really want the code to be easy to use and interpret.

Goals

- 4. Applicable to, and operate in, an online, Web-based environment
- Provide effective bibliographic control of all types of media (analog and digital)
- 6. Compatible with other standards for resource description and retrieval
- 7. Used beyond the library community

Fourth, the code will be an important content standard for online and Web-based environments – not just conventional library catalogs.

Fifth, the code will be for analog and digital materials

Sixth it will strive to be compatible with other standards for resource description and retrieval, such as the ISBDs

and

Seventh, our goal is that the code will be used not only by libraries but also beyond the library community, for example in the Internet environment for applications of Dublin Core metadata or for ONIX that is now used by publishers or for implementations of future systems built on the FRBR model that might be used by archives, museums, rights management organizations, publishers, and creators of digital objects.

Targets of Strategic Plan

- 1. New edition 2008
 - New Introductions
 - · Principles, functions of catalog, conceptual info.
 - Content rules, updated examples
 - Authority control
 - FRBR terms when useful
 - Simplify
 - · Reduce redundancy
 - · Increase consistency across all types of content
- 2. Reach out to other communities
- 3. Web-based product/tool

The Strategic Plan then goes on to identify 3 targets.

The first is to have a new code in 2008, designed for use in a Web-based environment and compatible with international efforts for improving cataloguing codes.

The tasks under this **first target** are to have new introductions that describe the principles upon which the rules are built, to give a description of the functions of the catalogue, and to provide conceptual information to assist catalogers in understanding the methods of procedure – building cataloger's judgment. The new code will include content rules and updated examples as needed. It will incorporate the concept of authority control and concepts from the Functional Requirements for Bibliographic Records while reducing the current redundancy in the rules and increasing the consistency in practice across all types of content.

Another task under this target is to provide workshops and training sessions to support implementation of the new edition – and both within the library community also also beyond. This ties in with the **second target** to reach out to other communities to achieve greater alignment with other standards through the Web site and doing more public relations regarding the rules for content of resource descriptions and access.

The **third target** is to provide a Web-based version of the new code in addition to a loose-leaf product. This would not be just a pdf of the text, but have more functionality.

RDA Structure (Proposed)

- General introduction
- Part I Description
- Part II Relationships
- Part III Authority control
- Appendices
 - ISBD display, OPAC display, etc.
 - Abbreviations, capitalization, numbers
- Glossary

I'd now like to give you an overview of the current thinking on the structure of this new code. This is the general outline. Both Parts I and Part 2 will include access information. A user only wanting to provide brief description could stop with Part I. Others wanting to show relationships to other works and entities could go on to Part II and we'd expect most libraries to use all 3 parts, to include authority control.

At the end are appendices about displays, abbreviations, capitalization, and numbers, as well as a glossary.

General Introduction (Proposed)

- Purpose and scope of the code
- Underlying objectives and principles
- Related standards and guidelines
- Keep brief but possibly with links to full text of the relevant principles and concept documents

For the General Introduction at the start of the new code, we propose to give background information about the purpose and scope of the code, the underlying objectives and principles, and related standards and guidelines.

We want to keep the text brief but possibly provide links to the full text or relevant principles and conceptual documents.

RDA - Part I (Proposed)

Ch. 0.Introduction

Ch. 1. General guidelines for resource description

Ch. 2. Identification of the resource

Ch. 3. Technical description

Ch. 4. Content description

Ch. 5. Sourcing information

Ch. 6. Item specific information

This is the proposed general outline for Part I.

Introduction

General guidelines for resource description

Identification of the resource

Technical description

Content description

Sourcing information

Item specific information

There have been some suggestions within the JSC that we might combine chapter 5 and 6 to focus on obtaining an item.

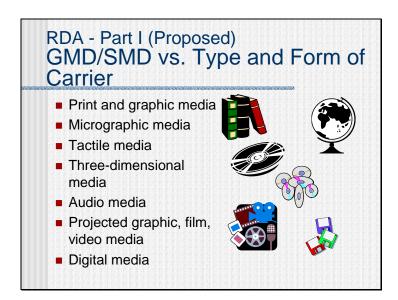
This restructuring is intended to address the problems identified with the current arrangement by class of materials. This new structure will make it clearer that there is more flexibility to describe resources that have multiple characteristics.

RDA - Part I (Proposed)

- Data elements/attributes for description of resources
 - Purpose and scope (FRBR user tasks)
 - Source for the attribute
 - How to record the attribute
 - Notes pertaining to the attribute
 - Attribute as access point
 - Controlled
 - Uncontrolled

This is all very much at the proposal stage...but

we are proposing that Part I be arranged by data elements (also called attributes) with an indication of the FRBR user tasks. There will be an indication of what the source is for the attribute, how to record the attribute including recording as notes, as well as information about using the attribute as a controlled or uncontrolled access point.

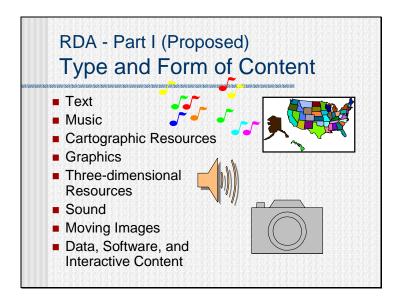


In early drafts, we explored the type and form of carrier in the sorts of terms you see here, which are largely based on the FRBR categories for carriers.

Currently we plan to have a Working Group develop a list of types and forms of content and types and forms of carriers for this content -- to suggest using these elements in lieu of the GMDs (General Material designators) and possible the SMDs (Special material designators).

This is unlike the AACR2 "Class of materials divisions" that mixed 'content classes' with some "carriers" like "books," "manuscripts," "microforms," etc.

We are suggesting these be pulled out as distinctive data elements with a special working group to look at the categories.



And here are some of the categories of types and forms of content.

A Few Words about the Review of AACR3 Part I Draft

- Structure and organization rework
- Closer connection to FRBR
- General instructions as well as supplementary and special instructions applying to specific types of content, media, or mode of issuance will be grouped together under the relevant element of the description.

Before moving on with plans for Parts 2 and 3 of RDA, let me review with you some of the issues that came from the review of the draft of AACR3 Part I. Dissatisfaction with the structure and organisation of the draft of Part I was one of the factors that led to the change in approach for the new edition. Part I of RDA will be more directly aligned with the FRBR model and will focus on the attributes of the work, expression, manifestation, and item that are used to identify the resource and to describe the technical characteristics and content of the resource. These are the data elements. The new code also will build on the FRBR user tasks: find, identify, select, and obtain – as guides for when to include an element or access point.

General instructions as well as supplementary and special instructions applying to specific types of content, media, or mode of issuance will be grouped together under the relevant element of the description. Responses made it clear the proposed structure wasn't working.

Feedback from AACR3 Part I Draft

- Focus for the description / Sources of information - need to make clearer
 - LC proposal and Editor follow-up document
- Generalization generally positive, some reservations
- General material designations agree need change, but not on proposed direction
 - Working Group on type/form of content and type/form of carrier

We also heard that the sources of information and the idea of a focus of description was not clear and the Library of Congress has submitted a rule revision proposal to offer a solution and the editor also has a follow-up proposal.

There were comments about the generalization of rules – mostly indicating that was a good direction, but there were some reservations.

Regarding the GMD proposals, it was clear that respondents wanted a change to the current GMDs but the proposed solution did not resonate well. The JSC currently plans to have a Working Group look at the type and form of content and type and form of carrier.

Feedback from AACR3 Part I Draft

- Unpublished form too book-centric
 - LC rule revision for archival/mss. needs
 - Self-describing and not self-describing
- Successively issued parts & integrating avoid separate chapters
 - Editor will place following general rule with clear scope
 - Not use Area 3 "numbering" for multipart monographs (return to use for serials only)

We also heard that the rules were too book-centric, especially with an emphasis on published versus unpublished, so we are exploring a focus on whether the resource is self-describing or not – does it have an indicate of a title or a creator or a date on it or must that information come from somewhere else? LC will be preparing a rule revision proposal to address specific guidance for manuscript and archival materials that may be needed when AACR2 Chapter 4 (Manuscripts) was made obsolete.

The draft made separate chapters for successively issued parts and integrating resources, which we also heard was not working well for some people. The editor has suggested placing rules for these types of continuing and finite resources following the general rule for the relevant data elements. The JSC also agreed with many respondents to not use area 3 (numbering) for multipart monographs, but instead to return to limiting it as we do now to serials.

Feedback from AACR3 Part I Draft

- Technical description general rules separated from specific rules for each type of content/carrier - criticism about the arrangement
 - Editor will combine with clear scope for each
 - Separate type/form of content and type/form of carrier from extent for more flexibility
- Simplification didn't go far enough
 - LC proposal (example) for publication area

For the separate rules on technical description, we heard criticism about the arrangement, and now the editor has suggested the arrangement by data element with a clear scope for each element and separating out the type and form of content from the type and form of carrier – completely separate from the extent elements to allow more flexibility in descriptions.

We also heard that the simplification didn't go far enough, and the Library of Congress prepared another rule revision proposal to give an example for the publication area as to how far we would be willing to go to simplify the rules.

Feedback from AACR3 Part I Draft

- Responding to comments
 - JSC to review "Discussion guide" (compilation of comments)
 - Where consensus Editor will incorporate into next draft
 - Where no consensus JSC will work on proposals

All of the comments were compiled into a discussion guide and that document is being reviewed by the JSC to further consolidate the recommendations. The JSC will review the recommendations and where there is consensus, the editor will incorporate those suggestions into the next draft. Where there is not consensus, the JSC will discuss further and prepare specific proposals.

Review of AACR3 Part I Draft -- process evaluation

- Process was difficult for all
 - Access to draft problematic for many
 - Time for review too short for all
 - Outreach (beyond JSC constituent groups) limited
 - "Back channels" used to reach JSC
 - Compiling comments huge task
 - Using criticism well is challenging

We learned a lot from the process we used for that initial draft of AACR3 Part I. It was a difficult process that received a lot of complaints – including from the JSC members ourselves.

We knew that access to the draft was a problem to many people, but we were asked to limit access by the publishers.

We knew the time for review was short, but given our schedule we had allowed 3 months for review of a part.

We sent the draft to other rule making bodies worldwide and to the ISSSN and Dublin Core communities and heard from them all, but we wanted to do more.

We heard of individuals and organizations that felt they wanted a more direct channel to the JSC. As it was, the work for the JSC members and the JSC secretary in compiling the comments so they could be properly conveyed for comment and action was a huge undertaking.

It was clear that some of the commenters were upset as the tone and criticisms were loud and clear. But the JSC also received many constructive suggestions and helpful comments that assisted in changing our course of action.

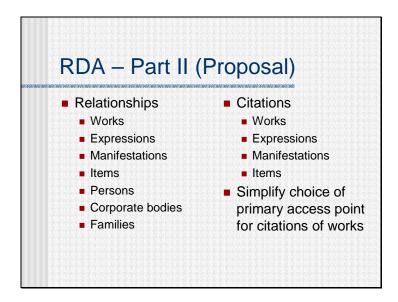
Review of AACR3 Part I Draft – process evaluation

- Process was successful
 - CC:DA alone produced voluminous and critical (insightful, thoughtful, etc.) comment
 - Editorial team--CoP, JSC, and editor—used feedback boldly and creatively to make significant course correction
 - Editorial team revising content
 - Editorial team revising process
- Thank you to everyone who participated!
- Please, stay engaged in the process.

Even though difficult, the process ended up being successful in providing insightful and thoughtful information to the JSC and the editor. None of us took the comments personally but instead used them to boldly and creatively change our course.

We want to thank everyone who contributed to this process and ask you all to stay engaged in the process as we proceed to develop a new standard.

Let me now return to the structure and organization of this new standard – I've already covered Part I on Description – which also includes some access. Access is also covered in Part II.



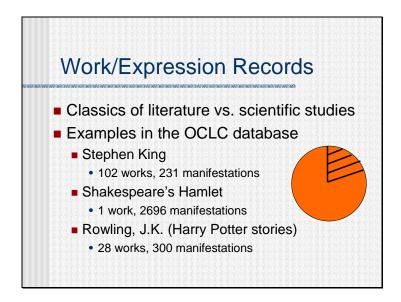
For Part II, we are proposing to address relationships – these are related works, expressions, manifestations, and items, as well as persons, corporate bodies, and families that play some role with respect to the resource being described. The idea of a 'primary access point' is being discussed to replace the term "main entry heading," but the concept remains the same – to give primary emphasis to the creator of the **work** contained in the manifestation being cataloged. The principle of authorship is still fundamental to citation and remains an important device to order displays, either as the primary alphabetical ordering for a set of retrieved records or as a secondary ordering device, say under a subject topic.

The rule of 3 was re-examined by the JSC several years ago and has had wide discussion, and it is likely that there will continue to be the option to retain such a rule for cost-saving reasons, yet we recognize the value of enabling the end-user to retrieve all the works of an author even if that author is the 4th or 5th or whatever in a jointly created work.

RDA - Part II (Proposal)

- Review AACR2 Ch. 21 special rules
 - Musical
 - Art
 - Legal
 - Religious
 - Academic
- JSC proposals to eliminate, simplify, etc.

The JSC has assigned itself the task to review the special rules for works of music, art, legal works, religious works, and certain academic dissertations to see if we can simplify or generalize those rules and what remains that still needs to be addressed. It's an opportunity to see what rule revisions we need in this area.



For citations of works and expressions, we know those would be most helpful for certain types of materials or for certain subject areas – for example we know that publishing practice in literature tends to create many editions and translations of works and many manifestations of those editions over time. This contrasts with the scientific or engineering fields where a work tends to appear in only one edition and one manifestation.

OCLC has done some initial research to see how many of their records are involved in relationships with works, expressions, and manifestations. They have found that less than 20% of all their records represent works with more than a single manifestation. This slide shows you some examples.

So we will probably find that the single manifestation-level bibliographic record is all that we need for the vast majority of records that we create. But we will want to provide the additional work/expression-level information when we have multiple manifestations so we can collocate these records in our catalog displays. Should we do this through links to authority records for works/expressions? If we did we could also save on redundant subject cataloging – do it once for the work/expression in the authority records to which all the various manifestations could be linked.

RDA Part III (Proposal)

- Authority control
 - Purpose and scope
 - Authorized forms
 - Variant forms

We propose that Part 3 will cover authority control to describe controlled access for the precision of searching. We expect this part to cover both authorized forms of names and the variant forms that could be used as references or in clusters for alternative display forms. It will also cover the construction of authorized names for persons, corporate bodies, families (which could also be considered a type of corporate body), and citations for works and expressions.

Appendices (Proposal)

- ISBD and other display standards
- Abbreviations
- Capitalization
- Numbers
- Glossary
 - Possibly hypertext links from text to glossary terms

We currently plan for several appendices and a Glossary. You will notice that the display standards are now in an appendix, rather than being covered in the body of the rules. This is to allow the rules to operate within a variety of displays, such as those now used in OPACs.

RDA Timeline (Proposal)

- July 2005: Prospectus
- Oct. 2005-April 2006: Completion of draft of Part I, and constituency review
- May-Sept. 2006: Completion of draft of Part II, and constituency review
- Oct. 2006-Apr. 2007: Completion of draft of Part III, and constituency review
- May-Sept. 2007: Completion of General Introduction, Appendices, and Glossary
- 2008: Publication

So now we come to the proposed timeline for getting from today to RDA as you see here...

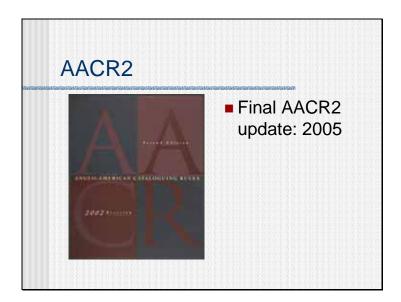
Some people say this is ambitious, but others say "why will it take you so long?" Given the need to consult with the constituents and other rule making bodies worldwide, I personally feel it's very ambitious.

Actually, this timing coincides nicely with the IFLA schedule to complete the worldwide regional meetings on the new Statement of International Cataloguing Principles by 2007. IFLA expects to have completed the consultations with all of the world's rule making bodies following the 2006 meeting in Asia, and then will consult with the African cataloging experts in 2007, but the Principles should be in pretty much final shape by 2006 when we finalize the Introductions – where we will place the principles – in Nov. 2006.

Next JSC meeting

October 10-13, 2005 in London, England

The next meeting of the JSC is scheduled for this coming October in London, hosted by the British Library. We intend to continue meeting formally twice a year – in the spring and autumn, with a lot of email in between.



In October 2004, the JSC met in Cambridge, England and agreed on the final update to AACR2. That 2005 update is the last of the updates that we envision.

During the period between 2005 and the publication of RDA, we will continue to collect rule revision proposals, and those will be reviewed by the editorial team for consideration as additions to RDA towards the end of the publication process.

The greater part of the JSC work will reverse our normal operations, in that the majority of the draft rule revisions will be coming from the editorial team and go out from JSC to the constituents for comments and information gathering. However, the decisions will be up to the editorial team.

We don't anticipate the major changes as we saw with AACR2 and "desuperimposition" or any need to convert old records into RDA records, and instead we would hope there would be the opportunity for even great interoperability with other communities by providing a content standard we can all use.

JSC Public Web Site Addition http://www.collectionscanada.ca/jsc/index.html

The JSC intends to provide updates on our progress and to put more information on our Web site. Here's the Web address, and I encourage you to check that site and stay involved in the discussions and the review of drafts that will be coming through the constituents.

Summary

Authority control

Access points Citations

Data elements

Simplification Consistency

Principles FRBR

Content standard

So, between now and 2008 we have a lot of work to do to create RDA, Resource Description and Access.

It will continue the tradition of AACR2 as a content standard, built on stated international principles and the conceptual model of FRBR, but with more consistency and a simplification to make it easier to build cataloger's judgment. We'll take the cataloger through the various data elements to include in the description, describing the purpose and scope of each element and where to look for that element and how to record it. And we'll be looking at access points, citations, and authority control.



The resulting Resource Description and Access should simplify, clarify, and update the world's most-used content standard for resource description and access.

There is a lot to do, and your ideas and participation will be most welcome.



Thank you very much for your attention.