

To: Joint Steering Committee for Development of RDA

From: Bill Leonard, CCC representative

Subject: RDA models for authority data

CCC thanks the Technical Working Group for the discussion of models for authority data. Two members of CCC are also closely involved in the development of the provisional FRBR LRM and have provided this response.

A general comment from the Chair of the FRBR Review Group, also the CCC Chair, which applies to all of the proposals that mention the FRBR LRM, is that the model still has to go through world-wide review as part of the approval process. The model is likely to, but not guaranteed to, stay the same. Care should be taken to not base decisions upon the LRM, just yet.

Recommendation 1

Yes, this sounds like the correct direction for RDA.

Recommendation 2

Agree.

We note that in the final paragraph of recommendation 2, (paragraph 2, page 6) the user task uses the ICP term “navigate.” The provisional FRBR LRM uses the term “explore” for this the user task.

Recommendation 3

Agree with having greater granularity by defining the individual components of a name but we have reservations about using “family name” for surname. The new “family name” element will need to be differentiated from the “name of family” element. In many cultures, an individuals surname might not be the same as the “name of family” with which they are associated. In the interests of internationalization, care must be taken in the design of the structure and naming of these components to be as inclusive and useful as possible.

Translations teams may also be challenged in finding distinct terms in their languages. For instance, family name and name of family both translate to *nom de famille* in French.

Recommendation 4

Agree that the traditional understanding of an authority must change to become a cluster of data that describes the entity, as opposed to a container for the authorized access point. We agree that data will continue to be required for the “name-control” function, especially to support the possibility of machine generation of access points on-the-fly.

Recommendation 5

Agree. Moving access point instructions into local application profiles may facilitate broader implementation of RDA.

Recommendation 6

Agree. We look to the potential of VIAF to enable the clustering of library legacy data with the nomens used by various communities.