

RSC Operations in 2021: A Return to “Normal”

Kathy Glennan

Chair, RDA Steering Committee

Head, Cataloging & Metadata Services

University of Maryland Libraries



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Resource Description & Access

Today's Topics

- 2021 highlights from the RSC Action Plan
- RSC meetings
 - Schedule
 - Agendas
- RDA change proposal process
 - Fast tracks
 - Discussion papers
 - Proposals

RSC Plans for 2021

- [RSC Action Plan 2021-2023](#): Highlights
 - Continue review of the Resources tab and development of Community resources and Community vocabularies
 - Resolve pseudo-element issues [primarily original RDA 6.28-6.31]
 - Review performance aggregates (amalgamation instructions) and initiate cleanup
 - Begin BIBFRAME mapping
 - Establish new Working Groups:
 - Extent
 - Place/jurisdiction
 - Names of corporate bodies in more than one language
 - Religious content
 - Be responsive to user feedback

Quarterly Meeting Schedule

- Asynchronous meetings
 - January 11-14, 2021
 - April 12-15, 2021
 - July 12-15, 2021
 - Deadline for submitting agenda documents:
~3 weeks before the meeting starts
- In person (?) meeting
 - October 11-15, 2021
 - Note: dates not firm; may change based on travel restrictions, a changed meeting location, or need to shift to a virtual meeting
 - Deadline for submitting agenda documents:
~3 weeks before the meeting starts

RSC Meeting Agendas

- Asynchronous meeting agendas may include
 - Brief reports from members on their activities since the last meeting
 - Including information sharing from the regions
 - Review and approval of documents developed since the last meeting
 - Discussion papers framing future work
 - Proposals
 - Examples: January 2021 agenda included
 - Review/approval of rolling 3-year Action Plan
 - Review/approval of updated RSC Operations documents
 - Recommendations for moving forward on Pseudo-elements
 - Discussion of next steps with Community resources

RSC Meeting Agendas

- In-person meeting agendas include
 - Formal reports from members, working groups, and liaisons to outside groups
 - Discussion papers and change proposals that would benefit from a more focused discussion
 - Laying the groundwork for the next iteration of the rolling 3-year Action plan
 - Status review/update of action items assigned to RSC members
- If the “in-person” meeting needs to be held virtually
 - Meeting length will expand from 1 to 2 weeks
 - Meeting style will blend synchronous and asynchronous approaches

RDA Change Proposal Process

- Still in a test-and-adjust phase
- Guidance to communities
 - Detailed process in *Policies and Procedures for Updating RDA Content* ([RSC/Operations/4](#))
 - Formatting information in *Guidelines for Proposals, Discussion Papers, and Responses to Them* ([RSC/Operations/5](#))
- Three possibilities
 - Fast track
 - Discussion paper
 - Proposal
- Steps
 - Initial paper
 - RSC discussion and decision
 - Implementation, when applicable

Fast Track Proposals

- Suggestions for improving consistency in wording, additions to vocabularies, and other changes without wider impact
 - Capable of inclusion in RDA without negative impact on its users
 - Must be technically compatible with RDA
 - Can confirm with RSC Technical Working Group
- May be submitted anytime to RSC Chair and RSC Secretary
- Originate with
 - RSC members
 - Via working groups, regions, personal observations, etc.
 - Users
 - Primarily via the “Submit Feedback” link in the Toolkit

Fast Track Proposals

- Normally discussed in the order received
- Short decision-making time frame: 2 weeks
 - Currently only considering one (or one grouping) at a time
- Not publicly posted on RSC website, no formal responses
- Decisions made by RSC voting members
 - Regional representatives may consult with their regions at their discretion
 - Choices: Accept / Revise / Refer to the proposal process / Reject
 - Simple majority required to pass
- Will be implemented in future Toolkit release
 - May not be the “next” one based on timing
- No substantive differences from pre-3R process

Fast Track Proposals

- Approved so far this year
 - Editorial consistency – Elements
 - Changed “that reflects” → “reflecting” in definitions for 4 categorization elements
 - Clarified definitions for *date of capture, polarity, and bibliographic format*
 - Revised 5 “letterer agent” elements for consistency and clarity
 - Clarity – Guidance chapter
 - Modified two paragraphs in Fictitious and non-human appellations chapter

Discussion Papers

- Raise topics for RSC consideration to suggest a need for investigation of issues related to RDA development, to identify issues related to other rule-making bodies, etc.
 - Done for complex proposed changes before going through the formal proposal process
 - Especially useful when more than one approach/solution is possible
 - Same as “briefing papers”, used near the end of the 3R Project
- May be submitted anytime to the RSC Chair and RSC Secretary
 - Will be scheduled for an upcoming RSC meeting
 - This may not be the “next” meeting, based on the RSC’s workload and/or the complexity of the topic

Discussion Papers

- Originate with RSC members, RDA regional groups, or RDA users (via the Wider Community Engagement Officer)
 - RSC may request such discussion papers
 - Before submission, proposers consult the RSC Technical Working Group to confirm that recommendations are technically compatible with RDA
- Posted publicly on RSC website, with information about when it will be discussed
- RSC members may consult with each other before the official RSC meeting
 - These discussions will not be captured formally

Discussion Papers

- Before the RSC meeting
 - Regional representatives consult with the bodies they represent (NARDAC, EURIG, ORDAC)
 - Each region develops its own process for collecting feedback
 - For example, NARDAC will seek feedback from ALA, CCC, and LC
 - All regional bodies expected to respond in some way
 - Looking to minimize the amount of effort and time frame for this step
 - Any formal response posted publicly on the RSC website
 - Need to have a response to each question in the paper

Discussion Papers

- Based on discussion, may be
 - Referred back to the proposer/proposing group for more development or investigation based on the RSC discussion; may include developing a formal proposal
 - Deferred to a later date
 - Rejected
- Outcome of decisions will be in the meeting minutes
 - And shared with the proposing group as appropriate

Discussion Papers

- Differences from the pre-3R era
 - Accepted anytime
 - Could be considered at any of the quarterly RSC meetings, not just the in-person meeting
 - Consultation among RSC members permitted in advance of the meeting
 - Development of a log to indicate briefly the agreement, disagreement, or general comments for discussion in advance of the meeting

Proposals

- Formal recommendations to change, enhance, or delete RDA content
- No requirement for a change proposal to start out as a discussion paper
 - But that step is recommended for complex topics
- May be submitted anytime to the RSC Chair and RSC Secretary
 - Will be scheduled for an upcoming RSC meeting
 - This may not be the “next” meeting, based on the RSC’s workload and/or the complexity of the topic

Proposals

- Originate with RSC members, RDA regional groups, or RDA users (via the Wider Community Engagement Officer)
 - RSC may request such proposals
 - Before submission, proposers consult the RSC Technical Working Group to confirm that recommendations are technically compatible with RDA
- Posted publicly on RSC website, with information about when it will be discussed
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Proposals

- Before the RSC meeting
 - Regional representatives consult with the bodies they represent (NARDAC, EURIG, ORDAC)
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 - All regional bodies expected to respond in some way
 - Looking to minimize the amount of effort and time frame for this step
 - Formal responses posted publicly on the RSC website
 - Must contain explicit statement of acceptance/non-acceptance
 - Need to have a response to each recommendation in the proposal

Proposals

- During RSC meeting
 - May be withdrawn by the proposer
 - Otherwise will have discussion and vote
 - Choices: Accept / Revise / Refer for more work / Reject
 - Simple majority needed to pass
- Outcome of decisions will be in the meeting minutes
 - And shared with the proposing group as appropriate
- Will be implemented in future Toolkit release
 - May not be the “next” one based on complexity of making the agreed-upon changes

Proposals

- Changes from pre-3R procedures
 - Accepted anytime
 - Could be considered at any of the quarterly RSC meetings, not just the in-person meeting
 - Consultation among RSC members permitted in advance of the meeting
 - Development of a log to indicate briefly the agreement, disagreement, or general comments for discussion in advance of the meeting
 - Looking to minimize efforts from regional representatives
 - No need for a formal response that simply says, “We agree.”

In the Works

- More fast track proposals
 - Coming at a steady pace
- Formal proposals
 - NARDAC's Curator agent proposal
 - Undergoing review by RSC Technical Working Group before being sent on for RSC consideration
 - May be on RSC's July agenda
 - Renaming an element?

More Information

- RSC Action Plan 2021-2023
 - <http://rda-rsc.org/sites/all/files/RSC-Chair-2021-1.pdf>
- RSC Meeting Calendar for 2021
 - <http://rda-rsc.org/node/648>
- RSC Agendas
 - <http://rda-rsc.org/RSCmeetingagendas>
- RSC Operations documents:
 - <http://rda-rsc.org/node/608>
 - [RSC/Operations/4 -- Policy and Procedures for Updating RDA Content](#)
 - [RSC/Operations/5 -- Guidelines for Proposals, Discussion Papers, and Responses to Them](#)



Questions?

Email me:
RSCChair@rdatoolkit.org

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Resource Description & Access