



## From AACR2 to RDA: An Evolution

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### Naming the New Code: RDA

- RDA – an international standard
- Took “Anglo-American” out of title
  - Even AACR2 used internationally
    - Translated into 25 different languages
    - Used in 45 countries outside the U.S.
- Took “Cataloguing” out of title
  - “Resource description” better understood by metadata communities
  - Will still include basic principles of bibliographic description

### Why New Cataloging Rules?

- Feeling that continued revision of AACR2 not sufficient to address issues
  - Evolving formats, including items that belong to more than one class of material
  - Limitations with existing GMDs and SMDs
  - Integrating resources
  - Separation of “content” and “carrier” concepts
- Integrate FRBR principles

### RDA – Big Picture Concepts

- Designed for the digital world
- Founded on AACR
- Informed by FRBR and FRAR
- Consistent, flexible and extensible framework
- Compatible with international principles, models and standards
- Useable outside the library community

### Why not AACR3?

- Reviewers of AACR3 Part I (2004-05) identified areas for improvement:
  - Proposed structure of rules – too awkward
  - More metadata-friendly; less library jargon
  - More connection to FRBR
  - Modify the connection of the rules to ISBD
  - Changes need to be significant enough to merit a new cataloging code, but records still need to be compatible with AACR2

### RDA will...

- Serve as a new *content standard* for description and access
- Function best as an interactive, online tool
- Improve instructions for non-print resources
- Separate rules for recording and presentation of data elements
- Eliminate redundancy
- Incorporate rules for authority control

## RDA Achievements To Date

- Editor: Tom Delsey
- Project manager: Marjorie Bloss
- Prospectus and FAQ available online
- Draft of Part I publicly available; opportunity for anyone to comment
- RDA-L, a discussion forum
- RDA Forums at ALA meetings
- Outreach group established

## RDA Organization

- Part I – Resource Description
  - Functional objectives and principles
- Part II – Relationships
  - Persons, families and corporate bodies
  - Citations for related works
  - Instructions for particular types of works
- Part III – Access Point Control
  - Formulating access points
  - Recording data used in access point control

## RDA Stakeholders

- Catalogers -- and --
- Library administrators
- Cataloging educators
- Public service librarians
- System developers
- Metadata communities
- MARC format developers
- National and international programs
  - (PCC, ISSN, IFLA, etc.)

## RDA Will Also Include

- General Introduction
- Appendices for:
  - Capitalization
  - Abbreviations
  - Initial articles
  - Presentation of descriptive data and access point control data
- Glossary
- Index

## Caveat

- RDA Part I is a draft document, under consideration by the JSC constituencies right now
- CC:DA will submit substantial comments about Part I
- JSC will meet in April to review comments from all of the constituencies – so specifics may change

## RDA Part I - Chapters

- 0. Introduction
- 1. General guidelines for resource description
- 2. Identification of the resource
- 3. Technical description
- 4. Content description
- 5. Information on terms of availability
- 6. Item-specific information

## RDA Part I – Guideline Structure

- Data elements/attributes for description of resources
  - Purpose and scope
    - FRBR user tasks: find, identify, select, obtain
  - Source for the attribute
  - How to record the attribute
  - Notes pertaining to the attribute

## RDA Part III – Access Point Control

- General guidelines
- Authorized forms
  - Persons, Families, Corporate bodies, Places
  - Citations (“uniform titles”) for works, expressions
- Variant forms
  - Used as references
  - Possibility for alternative displays

## RDA Part I – Chapter 2 Example

- 2.7 Publisher, distributor, etc.
  - 2.7.0 Basic instructions on recording names of publishers, distributors, etc.
  - 2.7.1 Name of publisher
  - 2.7.2 Name of distributor
  - 2.7.3 Name of manufacturer
  - 2.7.4 Notes on publisher, distributor, etc.

## RDA Timeline

- Oct. 2005-Apr. 2006:
  - Draft of Part I; constituency review
- May-Sept. 2006:
  - Draft of Part II; constituency review
- Oct. 2006-Apr. 2007:
  - Draft of Part III; constituency review
- May-Sept. 2007:
  - General Introduction, Appendices & Glossary
- 2008: Publication

## RDA Part II – Relationships

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Relationships           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>□ Works</li> <li>□ Expressions</li> <li>□ Manifestations</li> <li>□ Items</li> <li>□ Persons</li> <li>□ Corporate bodies</li> <li>□ Families</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Citations           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>□ Works</li> <li>□ Expressions</li> <li>□ Manifestations</li> <li>□ Items</li> </ul> </li> <li>■ Simplify choice of primary access point for citations of works</li> </ul> |
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## RDA Constituency Review

- Timeline constraints
  - Draft available to JSC first, then posted on JSC website
  - Constituent bodies prepare comprehensive response in time to meet JSC deadline
  - JSC deadline set about one month prior to their next meeting

### RDA Constituency Review

- Workload constraints
  - JSC decisions that will not be revisited
    - ISBD in appendix; Organization of Part I
  - CC:DA asked to identify “big issues”
    - What guidelines are difficult to apply?
    - Which rules generate unacceptable outcomes?
  - Most proposals to change AACR2 practice will remain unaddressed until RDA published
  - RDA will not be perfect when first published!

### AACR2 vs. RDA

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Two parts                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>□ Description</li> <li>□ Headings, Uniform Titles, and References</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Three parts                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>□ Resource Description</li> <li>□ Relationships</li> <li>□ Access Point Control</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
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### RDA – MLA’s Role

- Subcommittee on Descriptive Cataloging
  - Provides ongoing feedback to CC:DA about how proposals impact the music community
    - Informed by input from Subcommittee members, BCC members, and MLA members in general
    - Attempt cataloging using the new rules to see how they work
  - Keeps MLA informed about issues

### AACR2 vs. RDA

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Integrated with ISBD</li> <li>■ Based on 1961 Paris Principles</li> <li>■ Part I organized by class of material</li> <li>■ First cataloging code to integrate all media</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ ISBD optional; just one of display options</li> <li>■ Based on FRBR &amp; FRAR models</li> <li>■ Part I organized by data element</li> <li>■ Potential to add general subject access rules as well</li> </ul>
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### RDA – MLA’s Role

- Subcommittee on Descriptive Cataloging
  - Formulates MLA’s official positions on RDA for CC:DA. In 2005 these included:
    - Simplifying AACR2’s Chapter 21
    - Comments on sound recording rules (AACR2 21.23)
    - Response to proposal to eliminate the musical presentation statement
    - Response to proposed changes to the music definitions in the Glossary

### AACR2 vs. RDA

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Created for card catalogs</li> <li>■ Used by library community</li> <li>■ Evolved into an electronic product</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Created for integrated library systems</li> <li>■ Goal to be used by various communities: library, metadata, etc.</li> <li>■ Envisioned as an electronic product</li> </ul>
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### AACR2 vs. RDA

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Catalog an "item"</li> <li>■ Heading</li> <li>■ Main entry</li> <li>■ Added entry</li> <li>■ Uniform title</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Catalog a "resource"</li> <li>■ Access point</li> <li>■ Primary access point</li> <li>■ Secondary access point</li> <li>■ Citation access point...                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>□ For a work</li> <li>□ For an expression</li> <li>□ For a manifestation</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
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### AACR2 vs. RDA

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Repeated rules from one chapter to the next                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>□ Rules not always consistent</li> </ul> </li> <li>■ GMD/SMD construction gives information about nature of resource</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Organization by data element removes redundancy                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>□ Eliminates consistency problem</li> </ul> </li> <li>■ GMD/SMD structure revisited to expand possibilities; still under review</li> </ul>
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### AACR2 vs. RDA

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ 3 levels of description                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>□ Minimum</li> <li>□ Expanded</li> <li>□ Comprehensive</li> </ul> </li> <li>■ Statement of responsibility required</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Mandatory elements                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>□ Given in list by data element</li> <li>□ Reflect attributes of work, expression &amp; manifestation</li> </ul> </li> <li>■ Statement of responsibility optional                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>□ Reduces redundancy</li> <li>□ Compatible with other metadata schema</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
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### AACR2 vs. RDA

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Notes in a separate section within each Part I chapter</li> <li>■ Preferred sources of information based on class of material</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Rules for notes included with each Part I attribute</li> <li>■ Preferred sources of information apply to all materials; rules <i>may</i> consider "the entire resource" as the preferred source</li> </ul>
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### RDA – Mandatory Elements

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Title proper</li> <li>■ Earlier/later variations in the title proper</li> <li>■ Statement of responsibility</li> <li>■ Edition statement</li> <li>■ Numbering</li> <li>■ Publisher, distributor, etc. (1<sup>st</sup> one)</li> <li>■ Date of publication, distribution, etc.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Title proper of series</li> <li>■ Numbering within series</li> <li>■ Resource identifier</li> <li>■ Form of carrier</li> <li>■ Extent</li> <li>■ Scale of cartographic content</li> <li>■ Coordinates of cartographic content</li> </ul>
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### AACR2 vs. RDA

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Use of Latin abbreviations [sic], [i.e.], [S.l.]...</li> <li>■ A mixture of principle- and case-based rules</li> <li>■ Rule of three often invoked</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Elimination of Latin abbreviations                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>□ Rules <i>may</i> remove all abbreviations unless used in the resource</li> </ul> </li> <li>■ Goal to include only principle-based rules</li> <li>■ Rule of three likely eliminated</li> </ul>
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## AACR2 vs. RDA

- A few specialist manuals, such as *Cartographic Materials: A Manual of Interpretation for AACR2*
- LC Rule Interpretations
- Potential for many specialist manuals
- LC will create new guidelines for use with RDA

## Thanks To...

- Members of the Subcommittee on Descriptive Cataloging, the Bibliographic Control Committee and other MLA members who have participated in this process so far
- Jennifer Bowen, the ALA representative to the JSC, for generously sharing her January 2006 RDA Forum presentation

## RDA – Issues in Tension

- Transcription vs. accuracy
  - Where to record corrections to data elements
- Use of abbreviations
  - When is this appropriate & where?
- Generalization/simplification of rules vs. special needs based on “class of material”
- Creating rules that accommodate electronically supplied data
- Print vs. electronic version of rules

## Questions?

## RDA – More Information

- Resources at the JSC website:
  - [www.collectionscanada.ca/jsc/rda.html](http://www.collectionscanada.ca/jsc/rda.html)
    - Includes Draft rules, FAQ, Prospectus, etc.
- Resources at the CC:DA website
  - <http://www.libraries.psu.edu/tas/jca/ccda/>
    - Includes announcements, CC:DA position papers
- Other ALA resources
  - Semiannual articles in the *ALCTS Newsletter Online* (available from links at: [www.ala.org/alcts](http://www.ala.org/alcts))