To: Joint Steering Committee for Development of RDA
From: Alan Danskin, British Library Representative
Subject: Terms of rank, honour or office: Revision of RDA 9.4.1 and 9.19.1[1]

Intention

To expand the scope of RDA 9.4.1 to include terms indicative of rank, honour or office, for consistency with FRAD 4.1, FRBR 4.6.3. and AACR2 22.19B1., and, if they appear with a name, to allow their addition to the name in an authorized access point, if necessary, to distinguish one access point from another. This proposal and JSC/BL/4 support our policy of not creating undifferentiated records.

The British Library has been creating RDA authority records for LC/NAF since 2011. Our experience has highlighted some situations where the capacity to differentiate persons is not constrained by the data available, but by restrictions on the attributes that may be recorded in an authorised access point.

Discrete attributes cannot be recorded in an undifferentiated record, as it is not clear to which of the identities they would apply. Consequently, these attributes would not be recorded, or they would be lost whenever a record becomes undifferentiated. BL is in favour of making all authorised access points for persons unique and the proposals described below are intended to support this with minimal change to RDA.

Summary

RDA 9.4.1 and 9.19.1.2 include only some of the cases included by FRAD and FRBR as part of the element *Title of person*. RDA defines the element *Title of person* as "a word or phrase indicative of royalty, nobility, or ecclesiastical rank or office, or a term of address for a person of religious vocation"; whereas FRAD and FRBR define the element *Title of person* more widely as "a word or phrase indicative of rank, office, nobility, honour, etc".

This proposal includes terms indicating academic office (e.g. Prof., Professor), terms of respect for clergy (e.g. Rev., Rt. Rev.), terms

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[1] This proposal replaces 6JSC BL 1, which was withdrawn.

indicating military rank (e.g. Gen., Capt.), and terms of honour that are not always noble titles (e.g. Sir, Lady).

This proposal excludes terms of address that simply indicate gender or marital status (Mr., Mrs.), which are treated elsewhere in RDA as integral parts of the name (9.2.2.9.3, 9.2.2.9.4).

This proposal also excludes post-nominal letters that indicate academic distinctions, membership of bodies, etc. (e.g. BA, FCILIP).

The effect of this proposal is to align RDA more closely with FRAD and FRBR by including terms indicative of rank, honour or office, that were previously available in AACR2, in order to distinguish one access point from another. It will increase the scope for disambiguation, where an alternative term is not available (for example a person bears the title "Prof." but their field of activity is not known), and also where persons of the same name share the same occupation (for example the current NACO headings Sharma, S.K., Major and Sharma, S.K., Colonel).

FRAD and FRBR elements

FRAD 4.1 Attributes of a person

Title of person   Rank, office, nobility, honour, etc., associated with the person [FRBR]

Includes titles of rank or office (e.g. Major, Premier, Governor General)

Includes titles of royalty and nobility, ecclesiatical titles, courtesy titles and titles of honour (e.g. Queen, Duke, Pope, Sir, Dame)

Includes secular or religious information elements (e.g. Mrs., Swami, Professor)

FRBR 4.6 Attributes of a person

4.6.3 Title of person   The title of a person is a word or phrase indicative of rank, office, nobility, honour, etc. (e.g. Major, Premier, Duke, etc.), or a term of address (Sir, Mrs., etc.) associated with the person

Changes to RDA instructions

Change 1

Expand the scope of "Title of the person" by appending the phrase, "…or another Term indicative of rank, honour or office", and clarify usage as a CORE element

0.6.4

[in first list giving CORE elements]

Title of the person (a word or phrase indicative of royalty, nobility, ecclesiastical rank or office, a term of address for a person of religious vocation)

[in second list giving CORE IF elements]

Title of the person (another term indicative of rank, honour or office)

8.3

[in first list giving CORE elements]

Title of the person (a word or phrase indicative of royalty, nobility, ecclesiastical rank or office, a term of address for a person of religious vocation)

[in second list giving CORE IF elements]

Title of the person (another term indicative of rank, honour or office)

9.4

CORE ELEMENT

Title of the person is a core element when it is a word or phrase indicative of royalty, nobility, ecclesiastical rank or office, a term of address for a person of religious vocation. Any other term indicative of rank, honour or office is a core element when needed to distinguish a person from another person with the same name.

9.4.1.1 Scope

"Scope: <u>Title of the person</u> is a word or phrase indicative of royalty, nobility, or ecclesiastical rank or office, or a term of address for a person of religious vocation."

Change to:

"Scope: <u>Title of the person</u> is a word or phrase indicative of royalty, nobility, ecclesiastical rank or office, a term of address for a person of religious vocation, <mark><u>or another term indicative of rank, honour or office.</u></mark>

<mark><u>Title of the person excludes</u> terms of address that simply indicate gender or marital status (Mr., Mrs.)."</mark>

Change 2

Add new instructions at 9.4.1.9 and 9.19.1.7 for Other Term of Rank, Honour or Office..

<mark>**9.4.1.9 Other Term of Rank, Honour or Office**</mark>

<mark><u>Record other titles of the person indicative of rank, honour or office, if the terms appear with the name. Record the term in the language in which it was conferred or in the language used in the country in which the person resides.</u></mark>

<mark><u>EXAMPLE</u></mark>

<mark><u>Captain</u></mark>
<mark><u>Rev.</u></mark>
<mark><u>Sir</u></mark>

<mark>**9.19.1.7 Other Term of Rank, Honour or Office**</mark> [2]

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[2] In considering the order of precedence, JSC may wish to take into account LCPS for 9.19.1.1, which includes the following:

"If an addition is needed to differentiate the authorized access point for one person from the authorized access point for another person, apply cataloger judgment when choosing to add one of the following (not listed in priority order) to the authorized access point being established: period of activity of the person, fuller form of name, and/or profession or occupation."

If none of the elements specified under 9.19.1.3 (date of birth and/or death), 9.19.1.4 (fuller form of name), 9.19.1.5 (period of activity of the person) or 9.19.1.6 (profession or occupation) is available to distinguish one access point from another, add a term indicative of rank, honour or office, if the term appears with the name (see RDA 9.4.1.9).

EXAMPLE

Wood, John, Captain
"Captain" a term indicative of rank, added to disambiguate the authorised access point,

Young, Thomas, Rev.
"Rev." the term of address for a minister of the church, added to disambiguate the authorised access point,

Optional Addition

Add a term indicative of rank, honour or office even if there is no need to distinguish between access points.

Appleby, Robert, Sir[4]
"Sir" the term of address for a knight, added to help identify the person.

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[4] Note that "Sir" is a term of address and not a noble title, whether used by a knight or by a baronet.

Change 3

Change to Record Syntaxes RDA   E.1.1.

Create entry for <mark>Other term of rank, honour or office</mark>, after Other persons of religious vocation, showing a comma in second column, and a link to 9.4 Title of the person in the third column.

RDA   E.1.2.2

"[...] Precede a title of royalty or religious rank, or a term of address for a person of religious vocation by a comma and a space."

Change to:

"[...] Precede a title of royalty or religious rank, or a term of address for a person of religious vocation, <mark>or other term indicative of rank, honour or office</mark> by a comma and a space."

Tools

RDA – MARC and MARC-RDA mappings are not affected

Resources

AACR2 – 22.19B1 should link to renumbered <mark>9.19.1.7</mark> as well as current link to 9.2.2.9.5

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Changes to RDA instructions:

9.4.1.1 Scope

"Scope: <u>Title of the person</u> is a word or phrase indicative of royalty, nobility, or ecclesiastical rank or office, or a term of address for a person of religious vocation."

Change to:

"Scope: <u>Title of the person</u> is a word or phrase indicative of royalty, nobility, ecclesiastical rank or office, a term of address for a person of religious vocation, or another term indicative of rank, honour or office.

Title of the person excludes terms of address that simply indicate gender or marital status (Mr., Mrs.)."

Add new instructions:

9.4.1.9 Other Term of Rank, Honour or Office

Record other titles of the person indicative of rank, honour or office

> EXAMPLE
>
> Captain
> Rev.
> Professor
> Sir

9.19.1.7 Other Term of Rank, Honour or Office

If none of the elements specified under 9.19.1.3 (date of birth and/or death), 9.19.1.4 (fuller form of name), 9.19.1.5 (period of activity of the person) or 9.19.1.6 (profession or occupation) is available to distinguish one access point from another, add a term indicative of rank, honour or office, if the term appears with the name (see RDA 9.4.1.9).

> <u>EXAMPLE</u>
>
> Wood, John, Captain

"Captain" a term indicative of rank, added to disambiguate the authorised access point

      Young, Thomas, Rev.

"Rev." the term of address for a minister of the church, added to disambiguate the authorised access point

Optional Addition

Add a term indicative of rank, honour or office even if there is no need to distinguish between access points.

      Appleby, Robert, Sir[5]

"Sir" the term of address for a knight, added to help identify the person

Change to Record Syntaxes

RDA   E.1.1

Create entry for Other term of rank, honour or office, after Other persons of religious vocation, showing a comma in second column, and a link to 9.4 Title of the person in the third column.

RDA   E.1.2.2

"[...] Precede a title of royalty or religious rank, or a term of address for a person of religious vocation by a comma and a space."

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[5] Note that "Sir" is a term of address and not a noble title, whether used by a knight or by a baronet.