To: Joint Steering Committee for Development of RDA

From: Alan Danskin, British Library Representative

Subject: Revision to RDA 2.4.1.8 (Noun Phrase Occurring with a
Statement of Responsibility)

The BL thanks LC for its proposed revision. In our internal discussions
there was support for the proposed changes. The visual layout of the
proposal was welcomed, although we wonder whether the examples will
be so clear cut without them.

However, we are concerned that changes of this kind look backwards.
We are not convinced that it matters in which sub-element the
information is recorded, so long as it is recorded accurately. This
information is recorded primarily to support identification of the
resource. We are concerned to avoid more complex instructions than are
needed to satisfy the FRBR use cases.

British Library's Comments on Recommendations:

1) To revise 2.4.1.8 to include language about sequence, layout, or
   typography and function performed by the person, family or
   corporate body named in the statement of responsibility;

   It is obvious that any such interpretation must be subjective. We
   agree with ALA that the statement about "function" may be
   confusing, however we do not agree with ALA's proposed alternative.

   We believe a simpler instruction would be sufficient:

Treat a noun or noun phrase as part of the statement of responsibility if the sequence,
layout, or typography on the source of information indicates the noun phrase is
intended to be part of the statement of responsibility.

In case of doubt, treat the noun or noun phrase as part of the statement of responsibility.

2) To add new examples and delete an existing example;

We agree with the proposed examples. However we prefer ALA's suggestion to replace Georges Barrère example.

3) To add a reference from 2.4.1.8 to 2.3.1.5.
   We agree.