

To: Joint Steering Committee for Development of RDA
FROM: Alan Danskin, BL Representative
SUBJECT: Issues deferred until after the first release of RDA: BL recommendations

Introduction

The British Library has reviewed "Issues deferred until after the first release of RDA" (6JSC/Sec/1). The British Library thanks Nathalie Schultz for her work in compiling and maintaining this list over several years.

Where other constituencies have indicated an interest in taking an issue forward and developing a proposal the British Library will defer to them.

General Issues

Cataloguer judgment

Further refinement of the instructions is unlikely to result in unambiguous resolution of the following issues which are therefore best left to cataloguer's judgment.

- Names of persons families and corporate bodies (2.3.1.5)
- Introductory Words (2.3.1.6)

Priority No further action

Initial Articles

BL recommends that the omission of initial articles is treated holistically. Any proposals should cover all instructions which require initial articles to be omitted. These instructions are listed at C.1:

- 6.2.1.7 omission of initial articles from titles of works
- 9.2.2.25 omission of initial articles from characterizing word or phrase used as the name of a person
- 9.2.2.26 omission of initial articles from phrase naming another work by the person
- 11.2.2.8 omission of initial articles from names of corporate bodies

This issue has obvious implications for the internationalization of RDA and for translations of RDA into inflected languages; the omission of initial articles also touches on the principle of representation. The BL is concerned

that any proposed solution should seek to avoid the requirement for substantial back file amendment.

Priority Medium

Data about data

The British Library acknowledges and agrees with the suggestion from ALA that some big issues, such as “data about data” need to be discussed by JSC before proposals can be developed. An approach needs to be agreed on both the methodology and the scope for such a discussion.

BL would be prepared to contribute to a working group on this issue. The BL has identified the following issues as being related to this general problem.

- Chapter 2 Changes over Time
- 2.2.4 Use of Square Brackets
- Date of signing of a treaty
- 7.25.5.3 Recording Additional Scale Information
- 9.2.2.1.8 Word or phrase included in the name
- 9.2.3.9 Language & Script for Alternative Linguistic form of name
- Chapter 16 Access points to represent places
- Dates associated with an element

Priority High

Specific Instructions

Chapter 1

Change from single unit to multipart monograph

BL can see no advantage in this and does not regard it as a priority.

Priority No further action.

1.7.7 Transcription of letters or words intended to be read more than once

BL believes that the current instructions are sufficient.

RDA1.7.7 instructs that letters or words which appear once, but are intended to be read more than once should be repeated. This is consistent with the principle of representation and should also be consistent with user

expectations. Omission of repeated words or letters may result in nonsensical entries.

RDA allows cataloguers to provide variant titles. The general exception under 1.7.1 allows for literal transcription using automated means.

Priority: No further action

Chapter 2

Transcription

BL would like to see some rationalization of the “take what you see approach”, particularly around the imprint. BL does not plan to prepare a proposal on this issue, but will be willing to contribute to discussion.

Priority Medium

Description of a multipart monograph or serial

BL does not intend to prepare a proposal and sees no justification for this change.

Priority No further action

Changes over time

BL does not intend to prepare a proposal. The issue is related to the general question of data about data.

2.2.2 Preferred source of information and collective title

BL defers to Music Library Association and the Online Audio-visual Catalogers.

2.3.1.4 Inaccuracies in the title of a serial or integrating resource

BL's view is that the exception under 2.3.1.4 is justified by the nature of the resources. This is consistent with 1.1.5.1. in consolidated ISBD May 2010.

Priority: No further action

2.3.2.5 Use of full form of serial title over an acronym or initialism

This issue has been resolve and can be closed.

Priority: No further action.

Other title information for moving image resources

BL does not intend to prepare a proposal.

Priority Low

Devised titles for music

BL view is that general instruction is sufficient.

Priority: No further action

Designation of edition

BL acknowledges the benefit of simplification and notes that there is a relationship with ISBD.

Priority Medium.

Use of "issues or parts of a serial

BL does not intend to make a proposal

Priority Low

Use of "new series" and "second series

BL does not intend to make a proposal

Priority Low

Chapter 3

Plates

BL will not make a proposal.

Priority Medium

Recording extent of three-dimensional forms

It is not evident that the publication of FRSAR will facilitate the resolution of this issue, but this is an evident gap BL recommends issue should be discussed further by JSC.

BL will not make a proposal.

Priority Medium

Base material and applied material for sound recordings

BL Sound Archive regards this as high priority and has offered to prepare a proposal.

Priority High

Production method for sound recordings

BL will not make a proposal.

Priority Low

Production method for sound recordings

BL will not make a proposal.

Priority Low

Resolution of video images

BL will not make a proposal.

Priority Low

Encoding format

RDA should seek to take advantage of linking to the UDFR, (BL is a member of the governing body, but The National Archives have been leading on technical issues for UK). The service will go live in 2011, so this is high priority.

BL would be prepared to make a proposal, if no other constituency wishes to do so..

Priority High

Zoom factor/Enlargement ratio

BL will not make a proposal.

Priority Low

Chapter 4

Missing Elements

BL will not make a proposal.

Priority Medium

URLs

This issue was raised by DNB and JSC needs to respond. BL prepared to contribute to any discussion.

Priority High

RDA Chapter 5

Other style manuals

BL agrees this is necessary for internationalization.

Chair will make a proposal.

Priority Medium

Chapter 6

Conventional Collective Titles

BL interested in hearing more detailed proposal.

Priority medium

Form of Work

It seems anomalous that there is no vocabulary associated with this element. Discussion of scope and re-use of existing sources would be valuable before a proposal is prepared.

Priority medium.

Place of Origin of the Work

Further discussion regarding the purpose of this element may be useful.

Priority medium

Content Type

RDA should be extensible and responsive to change. Chair will follow up with ONIX.

Priority High

Musical works

BL thanks ALA/MLA for offer to prepare a proposal.

Priority

Laws, etc.," "Treaties, etc.," and "Protocols, etc."

BL does not intend to make a proposal

Priority Low

Bible

BL does not intend to make a proposal. BL is concerned about the retrospective work this would generate.

Priority Low

Bible –Apocrypha

BL notes ALA's intention to refer this issues to specialist groups.

Priority Low

Bible –Year

BL believes generalization of these instructions would be desirable and notes ALA's intention to refer to specialist groups.

Priority medium

Other distinguishing characteristics of the expression of a religious work

BL believes generalization of these instructions would be desirable and notes ALA's intention to refer to specialist groups.

Priority medium

Bible Version

Retention of the rule of three does not appear to be justified. BL notes ALA's intention to refer this issue to specialist groups.

Priority Medium

When Composer and Librettist are the same

BL notes MLA will develop a proposal.

Priority Medium

Use of "Lyrics" and "Texts"

BL notes MLA will develop a proposal.

Priority Medium

Reports of one court

BL notes ALA has referred to specialist group for action.

Priority Low

Date of signing of a treaty

This is related to the issue of Data about Data and should be discussed by JSC.

Priority High

Expressions of religious works

BL is in favour of generalizing instructions where possible and welcomes ALA's referral of this issue to specialist groups.

Priority Medium

Catholic liturgical works

BL does not intend to prepare a proposal.

Priority Low.

Chapter 7

Nature of the content

This issue seems likely to cause confusion and should be discussed before a proposal is prepared.

Priority High

Nature of the content

BL would be prepared to put forward a proposal.

Priority High

Type of illustrations

BL does not intend to put forward a proposal.

Priority Low

Illustrative Content

BL does not intend to put forward a proposal.

Priority Low

Additional scale information

This falls into the category of data about data.

Priority High

Other details of cartographic content

BL does not intend to put forward a proposal.

Priority Low

Chapter 8

Other style manuals

BL agrees this is necessary for internationalization.

Chair will make a proposal.

Priority Medium

Spacing of initials and acronyms

BL sees no urgency in addressing this and is concerned that the retrospective change would more than outweigh benefits of increased consistency.

Priority Low

Chapter 9

Change of Name

The BL believes that any proposal for simplification of these instructions must take into account the more complex reasons and personal sensitivities relating to changes of personal names

Priority Medium

First part of the name is the surname

BL does not intend to make a proposal.

Priority Medium

Surname as first element

BL has been working on automation of authority control processes in the Names project. Unambiguous identification of components of the name is valuable for machine matching.

BL would be prepared to develop a proposal.

Priority High

Name that consists of a phrase/Additions to names

BL notes that ALA will develop a proposal.

Priority Medium

Persons known by a surname only (9.2.2.9.3)

BL sees no need to pursue this further. The instruction makes provision for entry in both inverted and direct orders.

Priority : No further action

Initial articles in phrases used as the names of persons

The British Library is concerned about the impact on retrospective alignment. See general issues.

Word or phrase included in the name

This is data about data.

Language and script for Alternative linguistic form of name

See general issue on data about data.

Other variant name

BL does not intend to develop a proposal.

Priority Medium

Recording of month and day in date of birth.

BL does not intend to develop a proposal.

Priority Low

Other persons of religious vocation/Saints

Discuss whether this could be part of broader review of components on name.

Priority Medium

Field of Activity and Profession/Occupation

BL does not intend to develop a proposal.

Priority Medium

Chapter 10

Family names not based on surnames

There is overlap with the proposal to define the components of personal names in Chapter 9. The BL does not intend to cover all of these possibilities, but our proposal will be developed to be extensible. Collaboration with IFLA Names of Persons could be explored.

Priority Low

Estate or house names to distinguish names of families

BL does not intend to develop a proposal.

Priority Low

Controlled list of values for Type of family

BL does not intend to develop a proposal.

Priority Low

Chapter 11

Separate instructions for government bodies and other corporate bodies

BL welcomes ALA's decision to prepare a proposal.

Priority High

Events

This issue needs further JSC discussion.

Priority Medium

Ancient and international bodies

The caption might be misread, but the scope is clear. BL does not intend to develop a proposal

Priority Low

Autocephalous Patriarchates, Archdiocese, etc.

BL does not intend to develop a proposal

Priority Low

Initial articles

See general issues.

Citations of honours

BL does not intend to develop a proposal

Priority Low

Heads of state and Heads of government

BL welcomes ALA's decision to prepare a proposal.

Terms indicating incorporation (11.2.2.10)

BL does not intend to develop a proposal

Low priority.

Transliterated names for corporate bodies

BL does not intend to develop a proposal

Low priority.

Subordinate bodies

BL notes that LC may take this forward.

Low priority

Joint Committees

BL does not intend to develop a proposal

Low priority

Ruling executive bodies

BL does not intend to develop a proposal

Low priority

Heads of state and Heads of government

BL does not intend to develop a proposal

Low priority

Subcommittees of the United States Congress

BL would not presume to develop a proposal

Low priority

Qualifiers for courts

BL does not intend to develop a proposal

Low priority

Armed forces

BL does not intend to develop a proposal

Low priority

Change of name of jurisdiction

BL does not intend to develop a proposal

Low priority

RDA Chapter 16

Access points to represent places

JSC needs to discuss this as part of a more general process of defining the scope for future development.

Priority High

Additional uses for place names

BL does not intend to develop a proposal

Priority High

Places in Australia, Canada, Malaysia, the United States, the U.S.S.R., or Yugoslavia

BL does not intend to develop a proposal

Priority Medium

Identifiers for places

BL does not intend to develop a proposal

Priority High

RDA Chapter 19

Corporate bodies as creators

BL does not intend to develop a proposal

Priority High

Jurisdiction governed and Issuing agency

BL does not intend to develop a proposal

Priority Low

Appendices

Appendix A – Capitalization

Appendix A conflicts with principle of representation.

BL does not intend to develop a proposal

Priority Medium

Unusual capitalization

Dependency with previous issue.

Priority Low.

Appendix B – Abbreviations

May be left to other language communities to make proposals.

Priority Medium

B.11 Names of Certain Countries, States, Provinces, Territories, etc.

BL does not intend to develop a proposal

Priority Medium

Appendix C – Initial articles

Additions

BL does not intend to develop a proposal

Priority Medium

Dialects

BL does not intend to develop a proposal

Priority Low

Appendix F – Additional instructions on names of persons

Chair to progress with IFLA

Priority High

Appendix G – Titles of Nobility, terms of rank

Related to Appendix F issue and might be handled concurrently

Priority Medium

Appendix H – Dates in the Christian calendar

BL does not intend to develop a proposal

Priority Medium

Appendix J - Relationship designators: Relationships between works, expressions, manifestations, and items

JSC needs to discuss further.

BL does not intend to develop a proposal

Priority Medium

Appendix K – Relationship designators: Relationships between persons, families, and corporate bodies

JSC needs to discuss further.

BL does not intend to develop a proposal

Priority Medium

RDA Glossary

BL does not intend to develop a proposal

Priority Medium

Multiple Instructions

Instructions on sources of information

BL does not intend to make a proposal.

Priority Low

Repetition of text in instructions

BL does not intend to make a proposal.

Priority Low

Repetition of element name

BL does not intend to make a proposal.

Priority Low

Non-Latin Script examples

BL does not intend to make a proposal. JSC should be open to suggestions for additional examples and could look at involving other rule makers.

Priority Medium

Use of ISO standards

This is related to the more general issue of addressing issues raised by other rule makers. JSC should discuss.

Priority Medium

Finding of objects

BL does not intend to make a proposal.

Priority Medium

Definition of "expression"

BL does not intend to make a proposal.

Priority Medium

Access points for manifestations and items

BL does not intend to make a proposal.

Priority Medium

Dates associated with an event

MARC 21 has provided content designation to enable start and end periods to be recorded. It will seem anomalous that RDA does not explicitly allow this. This falls under the category of data about data and also to the issue of Changes over time.

Legal works (various chapters)

BL does not intend to make a proposal. This is not a significant issue for us.

Priority Low

Simplification of special rules in AACR2 Chapters 22-26

BL does not intend to make a proposal. Simplification would be beneficial, but it is unlikely to provide many quick wins.

Priority Low

Gap analysis with encoding standards

JSC needs to discuss relationship of RDA with MARC and other encoding standards.

Priority High

Archival cataloguing and Museum practice

Discussion of how this may be progressed would be valuable.

Priority Medium

Review Chair follow-ups to 5JSC/RDA/Full draft

Identify issues raised by other rule makers, which JSC designated as not for first release, to provide the basis for discussion.

Priority Medium

IEEE LOM

Chair

Priority Low

Complete examples

BL will make available any suitable examples developed for training and implementation. The provision of examples in other display formats is dependent on availability of suitable mappings. At present there is a MODS mapping, but no mappings to MADS or to Dublin Core.

Priority Medium