

# A deeper dive into application profiles and policy statements

Gordon Dunsire, RDA Technical Team Liaison Officer, and James  
Hennelly, Director, ALA Digital Reference  
Presented at A Deeper Dive Into RDA, ALA Midwinter  
January 28, 2019, Seattle, USA

R | D | A  
Resource Description & Access

# Application profile

A specification of the metadata that is used in an application

A specification may include the entities, elements, and vocabulary encoding schemes that are used, and the mandatory and repeatable status of elements

May also include the preferred recording method

# Utility of profile

## Front-end to RDA Toolkit

Tell me what elements, etc. to use

## Data input form

cf preconference workshop, RIMMF

## Data validation

Metadata conformance

## Data extraction

What to select from external metadata

# Layered (nested) profile

**Coherent description of an information resource**

**Resource description entity**  
Minimum description of a resource entity

A coherent description following requirements  
A minimum requirements resource

**Effective description**

Effective description:  
general and specialized elements

Minimum description: appellation elements resource entity

Coherent description: "primary" relationship elements resource entity

# Profile inheritance

Effective description:  
specialized elements

Effective description:  
general (common) elements

Minimum description: appellation elements

Coherent description: “primary”  
relationship elements

# Toolkit options

Each (optional) recording method and instruction option has a separate IRI and ID that can be referenced by an application profile

Functional overlap: profile can specify element vocabulary encoding scheme (VES) or string encoding scheme (SES); option allows RDA or other VES, and specifies SES for constructing access points and super-elements

# Specifying a VES

## Recording a structured description

### OPTION

Record a term from the following RDA vocabulary encoding scheme.

Profile: give option IRI, or just state RDA VES


### OPTION

Record a term from another suitable vocabulary encoding scheme.

Profile: link option + state VES, or just state VES

# String encoding schemes

## CONDITION

A value of Person: **preferred name of person**  consists of a surname preceded by other parts of the name, such as given names.

## OPTION

Record the surname and follow it by a comma and the parts of the name that precede it.

**String Encoding Scheme**



# Conditions

## Describing a diachronic work

### CONDITION

A work is a diachronic work.

### OPTION

Record values of elements that are associated with most parts, issues, or iterations of a diachronic work.

Condition may be subsumed by an application profile for serials and series

# Standard conditions

A work is a ...

Diachronic work

Musical work

Official communication

...

A manifestation is a ...

Aggregate

Part or iteration of a diachronic work

...

Condition databank?

☞ Relate to specialized application profiles?

☞ Basis of specialized manuals?

# Application profile management

Community-led

Application-led

Synchronization with RDA development

Publish within Toolkit (behind paywall)

Publish outside Toolkit (in front of paywall)

# Policy Statements Planning Group

PS writers from British Library,  
Deutsche Nationalbibliothek,  
and Library of Congress

RSC Secretary and RSC Technical Team  
Liaison Officer

Toolkit Director

# Goals of PS Planning Group

Set requirements for both PS file and right rail display in RDA pages

Determine proper mark-up and functionality of PSs

Establish guidelines for PS placement and content

# The “More Bang” Script

Create shell documents for all current PS

Duplicate RDA file directory for each PS

PS placeholders at

- Headers
- Subheaders
- Options

# Questions, comments