

To: RDA Steering Committee
From: Anne Welsh, RSC Secretary
Subject: FT2025-4 – Fast track proposal – Definition of “preceded by expression” and “succeeded by expression”

Abstract

The text below sets out the decisions taken by the RDA Steering Committee during its meeting, 14-17 July 2025 (RSC/Minutes/521-537¹ Item 526.2). The fast track proposal was prepared by the Technical Team Liaison Officer to correct the definitions of the elements **preceded by expression** and **succeeded by expression** to align with the definitions of **preceded by work** and **succeeded by work**.

Background

This issue was identified by a member of the Translations Team in the course of translating the glossary definitions.

Issue

In the original Toolkit, the definitions for the relationship designators **preceded by (work)** and **preceded by (expression)** were aligned to the relationship designators **succeeded by (work)** and **succeeded by (expression)**.

preceded by (work): A work that precedes, that is, is earlier in time or before in a narrative, etc., the succeeding work.

preceded by (expression): An expression of a work that precedes, that is, is earlier in time or before in narrative, etc., the succeeding expression.

succeeded by (work): A work that succeeds, that is, is later in time or after in a narrative, etc., the preceding work.

succeeded by (expression): An expression of a work that succeeds, that is, is later in time or after in a narrative, etc., the preceding expression.

In the official Toolkit, the definition of the elements **preceded by work** and **succeeded by work** were changed, while the definitions for **preceded by expression** and **succeeded by expression** were not.

preceded by work

A work whose chronological coverage is before that of another work.

¹ Owing to the timeline to the next Toolkit release, this Fast Track document was prepared alongside the Minutes and published slightly ahead of them. You can browse for the Minute at <https://www.rdatoolkit.org/rsc/RSCminutes> or run a phrase search for RSC/Minutes/521-537 at <https://alair.ala.org/home>.

preceded by expression

An expression of a work that precedes, that is, is earlier in time or before in narrative, etc., a succeeding expression.

succeeded by work

A work whose chronological coverage is after that of another work.

succeeded by expression

An expression of a work that succeeds, that is, is later in time or after in a narrative, etc., a preceding expression.

Impact Statement

Aligning the definitions of work and expression would improve consistency in RDA.

Decisions

Voting members approved this Fast Track proposal unanimously. The following changes will be implemented as soon as practicable.

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FT2025-4-1

In the glossary definition for **preceded by expression**, change the following:

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An expression of a work ~~that precedes, that is, is earlier in time or before in narrative, etc., a succeeding~~ whose chronological coverage is before that of another expression.

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An expression of a work whose chronological coverage is before that of another expression

FT2025-4-2

In the glossary definition for **succeeded by expression**, change the following:

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An expression of a work ~~that succeeds, that is, is later in time or after in narrative, etc., a~~
~~preceding~~ whose chronological coverage is after that of another expression.

Clean copy

An expression of a work whose chronological coverage is after that of another expression