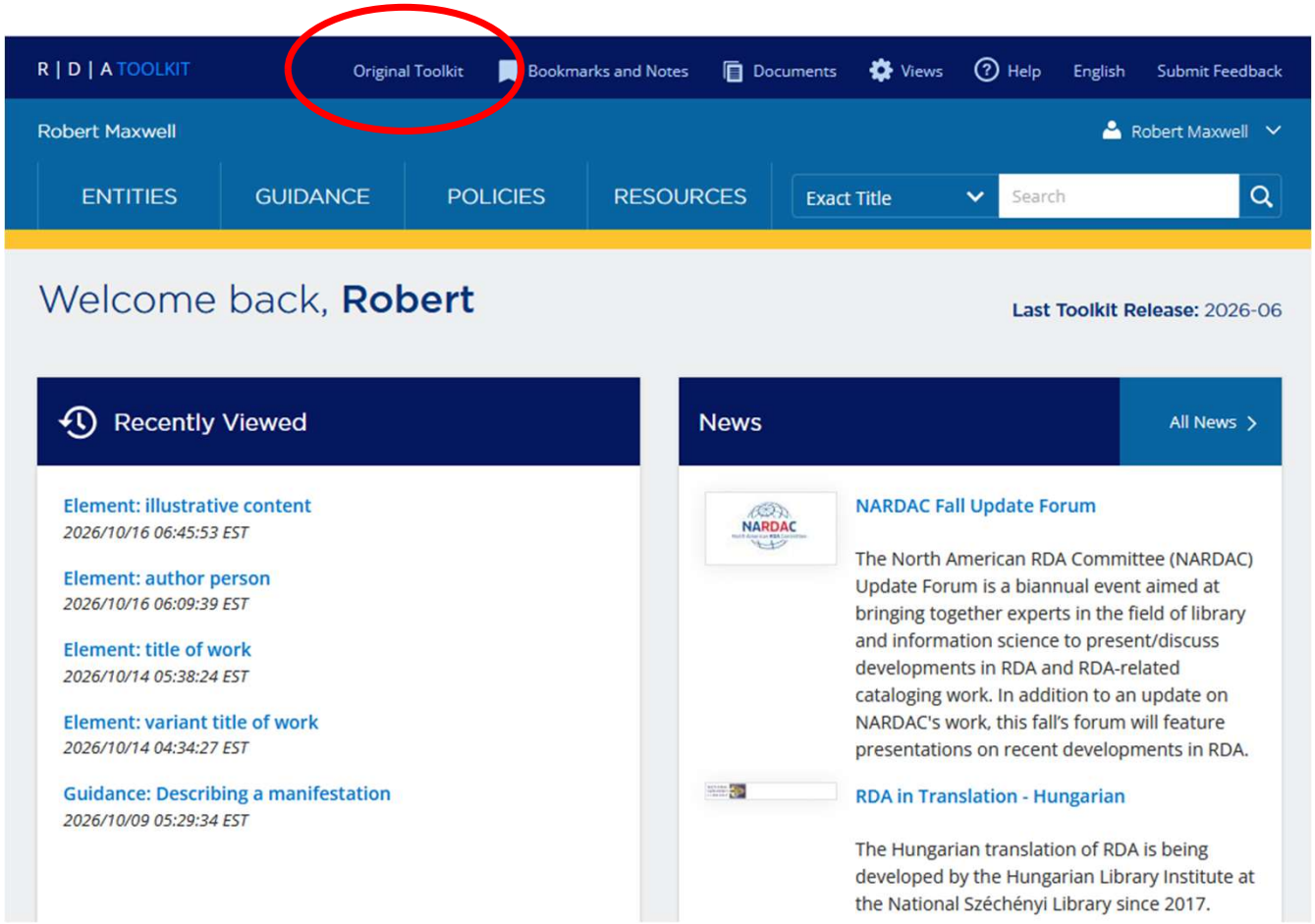
Official RDA and You: What to Expect after the Countdown Clock Ends

Robert L. Maxwell

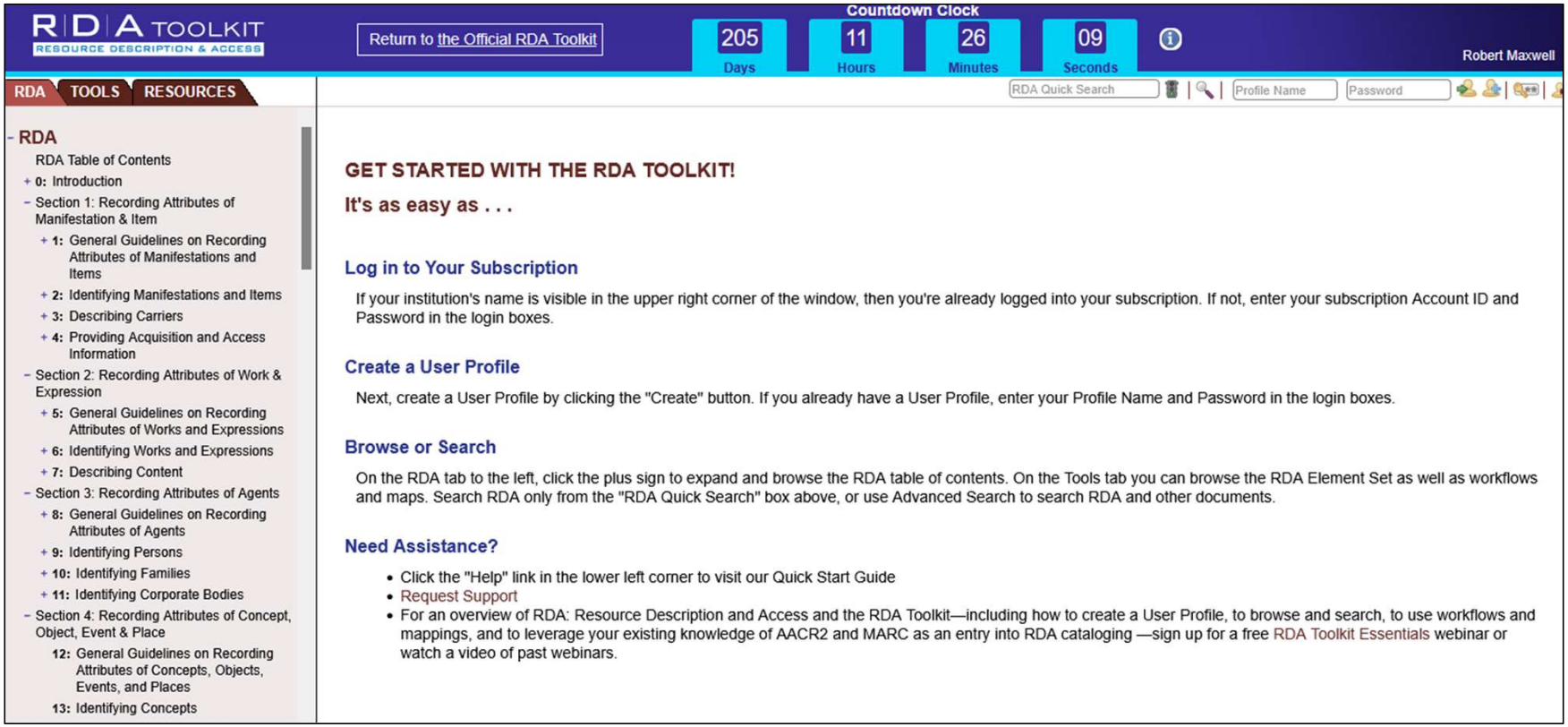
NOTSL Virtual Fall Meeting “It’s Official: Implementing RDA … again”

October 23, 2026

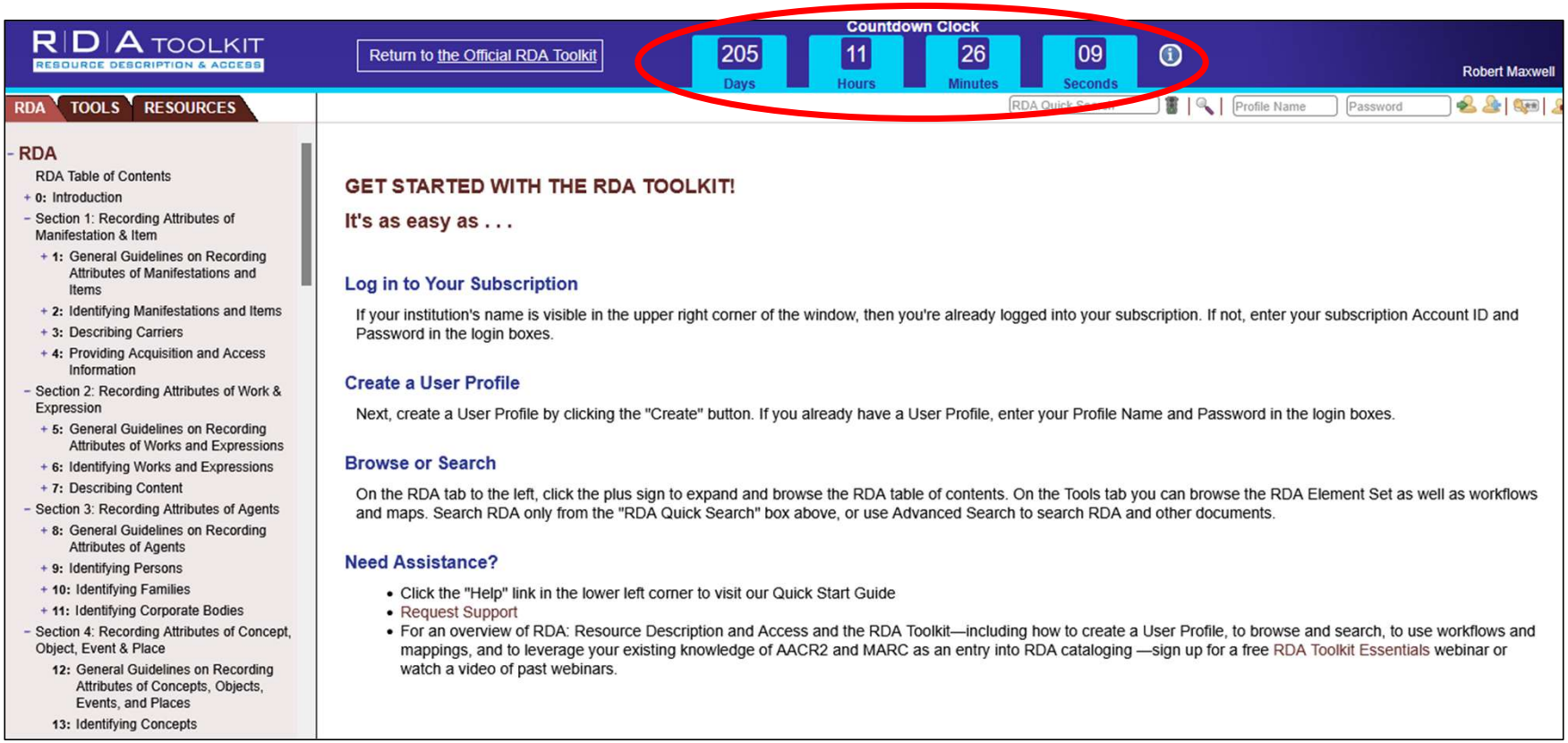
Official RDA



Original RDA

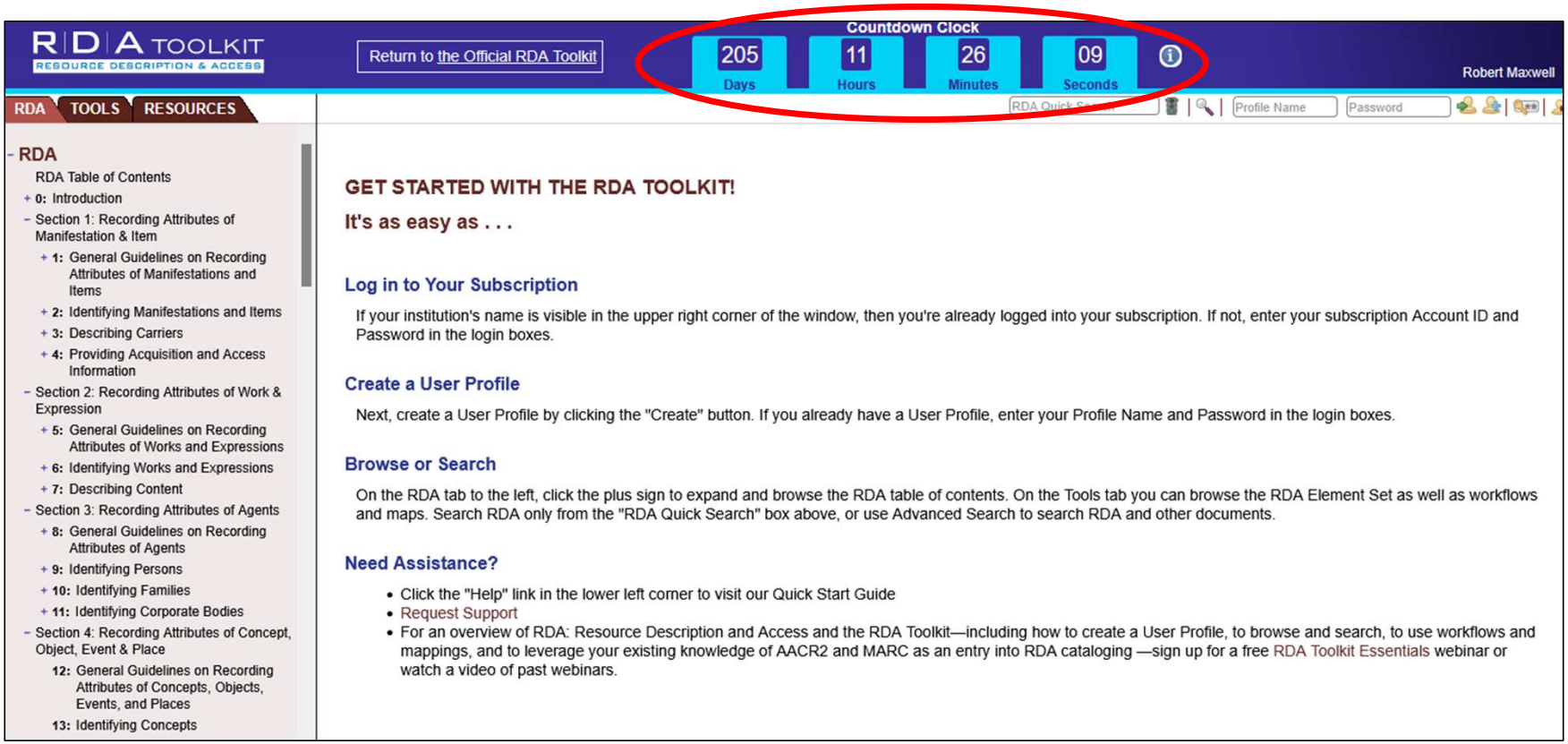


Countdown clock—what???




THE NATIONAL DEBT
$40,950,151,126,108
PETER G.
PETERSON
FOUNDATION

Countdown clock—what???



The Countdown Clock

- The Countdown Clock started in May.
- It will end at 12:01 am UTC -10 (Hawaii-Aleutian time zone) on May 11, 2027.
- When the clock runs down to zero the Original Toolkit will be removed from the Web.
- Click the icon next to the clock for more information.



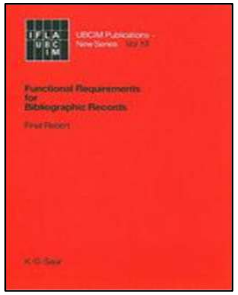
What happens to Original RDA?

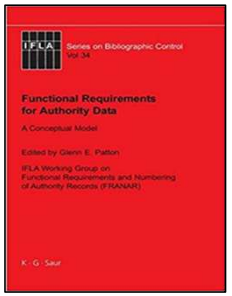
- PDF versions of Original RDA will still be available in the Official Toolkit.
- But searching will be limited.
- The webpages of Original RDA Toolkit will be moved to the ALA Institutional Repository, managed by the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.
- Personalizations (e.g bookmarks, locally-shared or private workflow and map documents) will **not** be archived.

Why did they have to create “Official RDA”?

- RDA aligns with international standards
  - Original RDA was based on the IFLA’s FRBR suite of models

- Functional Requirements for Bibliographic Records (FRBR) (1998)
- Functional Requirements for Authority Data (FRAD) (2009)
- Functional Requirements for Subject Authority Data (FRSAD) (2019)







Why did they have to create “Official RDA”?

- RDA aligns with international standards
  - The three FRBR documents were consolidated by IFLA into a new conceptual model, the IFLA Library Reference Model, or LRM, in 2017



Why did they have to create “Official RDA”?

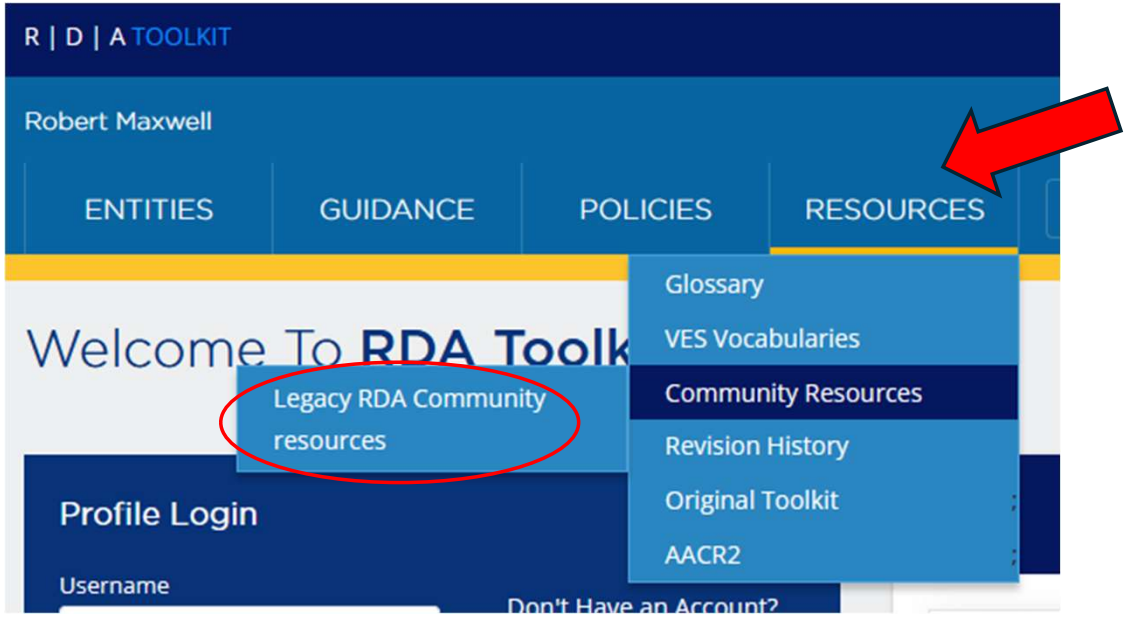
- RDA aligns with international standards
  - LRM retained much of the FRBR model—
    - Work, Expression, Manifestation, Item
  - But introduced new entities
    - Agent (with subcategories Person and Collective Agent)
    - Nomen
    - Place
    - Timespan
  - There were also other changes to the model
  - RDA needed to incorporate these changes

Why did they have to create “Official RDA”?

- The development of Linked Data models
  - Original RDA already looked forward to linked data, but its structure didn’t lend itself to application
  - Official RDA’s structure is explicitly set up to fit the elements into linked data modelling
  - We’ll talk more about this later

Why did they have to create “Official RDA”?

- Internationalization
  - RDA has always aspired to be an internationally-accepted standard
  - But it retained much of the Anglo-American cataloging practices from AACR2, many of which are not shared by other cataloging communities
  - Much of the development of Official RDA has involved pruning away these local practices and replacing them with more general options
  - Legacy rules and guidelines will remain available for use by communities that need them in the Resources tab but will not be considered part of the official guidelines



Why did they have to create “Official RDA”?

- Given all this, it was decided fairly early that a whole new organization was needed.
- Efforts were made to retain as much of Original RDA’s outcomes as possible, but the wording and organization will be unfamiliar until we get used to it.
- Most of our practices won’t need to change under Official RDA, but some will, which we’ll touch on briefly later.

When will we be implementing Official RDA?

- Individual libraries and communities can make their own decisions
- Some have already implemented:
  - Among others--
    - New Zealand
    - German-speaking countries
    - The rare materials community's DCRMR (*Descriptive Cataloging of Rare Materials RDA Edition*) is entirely based on Official RDA, so even though it's possible they don't realize it, rare book catalogers have implemented Official RDA

When will we be implementing Official RDA?

- Many North American libraries will follow the lead of the Program for Cooperative Cataloging (PCC)
- PCC has announced a “rolling implementation” of Official RDA between 2024 and 2027
- So far PCC has not announced a hard implementation date for any programs (e.g. NACO, BIBCO, CONSER)
- It is mainly waiting for training materials to be ready
- Presumably all this will happen before May 12, 2027, the final day Original RDA will be at the Toolkit website in its current form

When will we be implementing Official RDA?

- So how does this apply to you and me, the catalogers in the trenches?
- I invite you to familiarize yourselves with Official RDA, have a look, see if what you are used to doing will change
  - Today we will be talking about now to navigate Official RDA so you can do that
- Also, take advantage of any other training you learn about
  - PCC, in particular, is preparing extensive training
  - but many other organizations are also offering training and introductions: for example,
    - this very brief presentation sponsored by NOTSL
    - ALA
    - State library associations

Navigating the Official RDA Toolkit

- Accessing the RDA Toolkit

  https://access.rdatoolkit.org/

  or

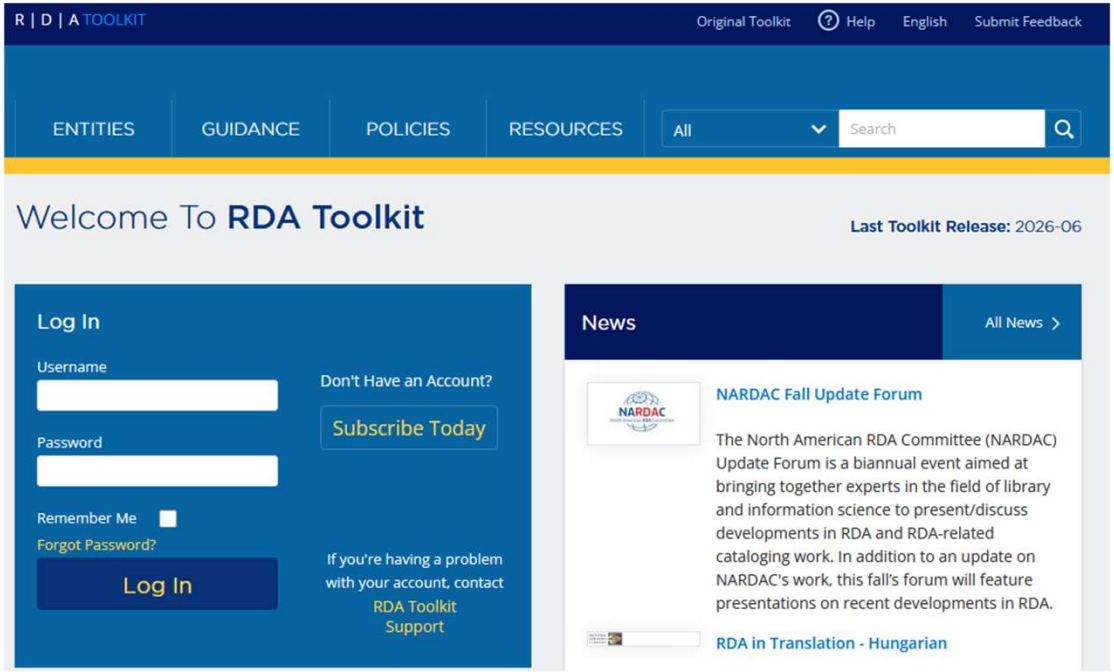
  From the toolkit homepage https://www.rdatoolkit.org/ click on



Navigating the Official RDA Toolkit

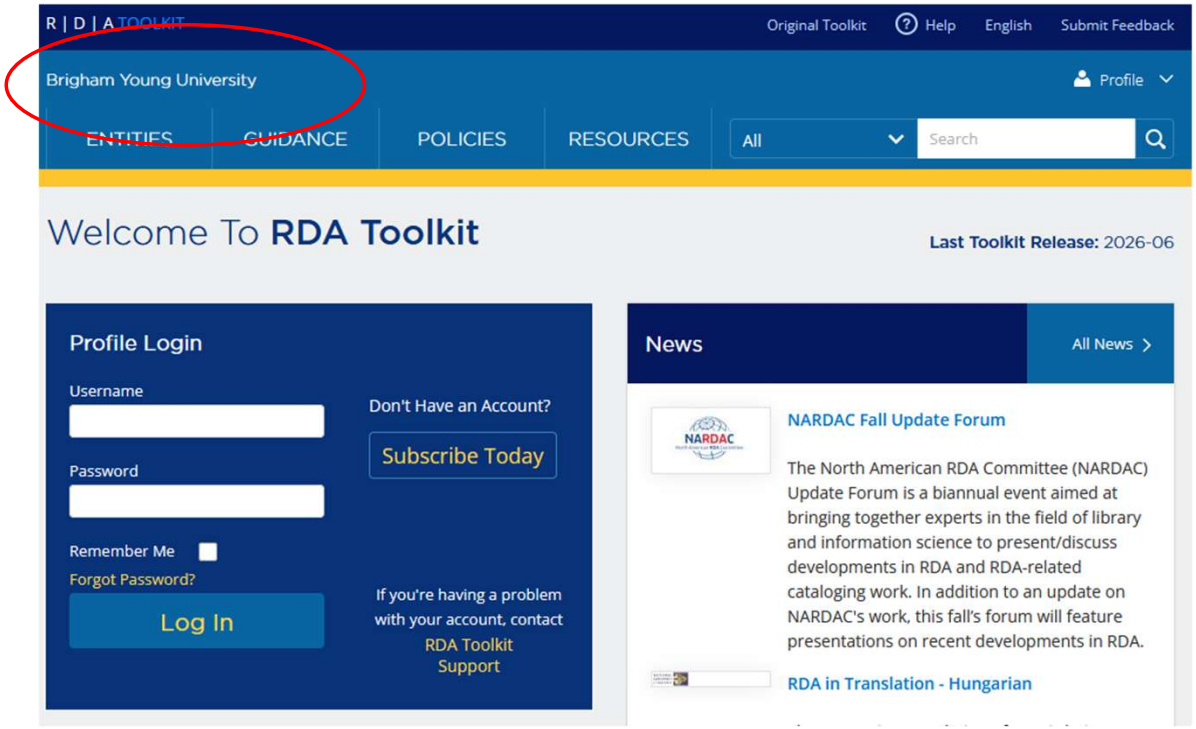
- Once there, in put your username and password (your institution may have an IP authentication procedure)

- If you do not have access to your institution's authentication information, use
  - Username: Maxwell
  - Password: rmt2026



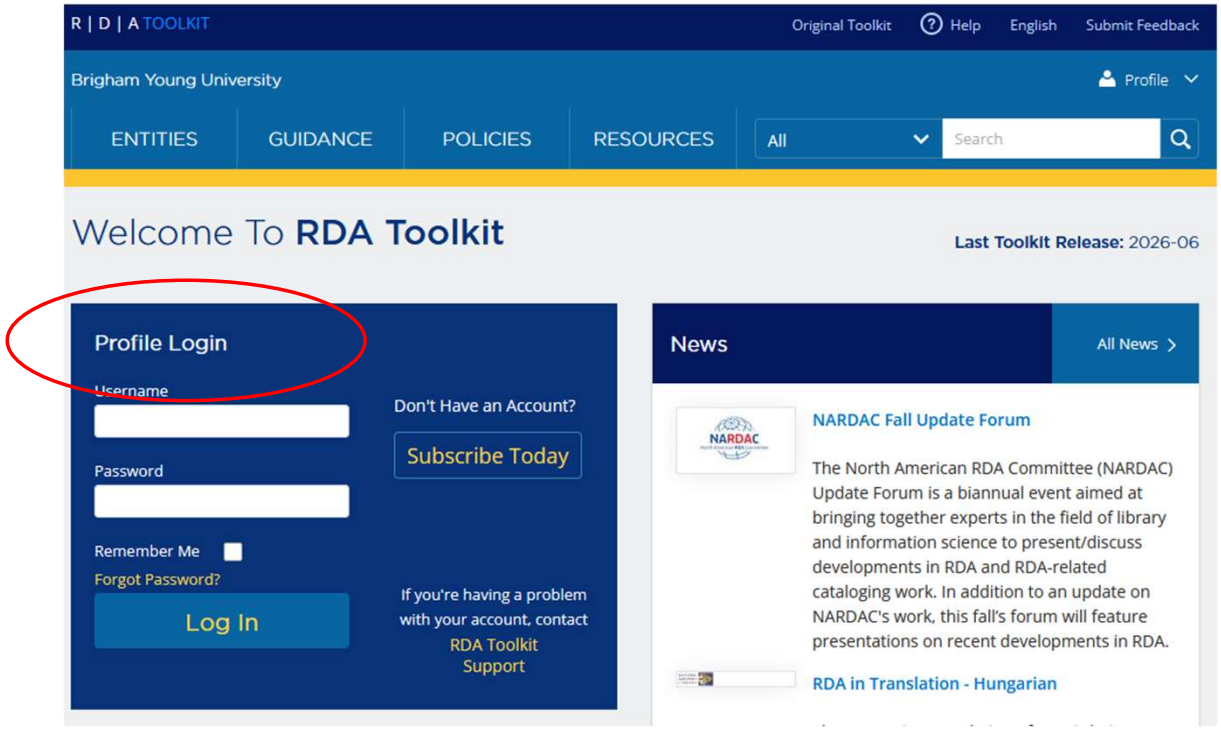
Navigating the Official RDA Toolkit

- After logging in, your institution's name should appear in the upper left hand corner of the light blue bar



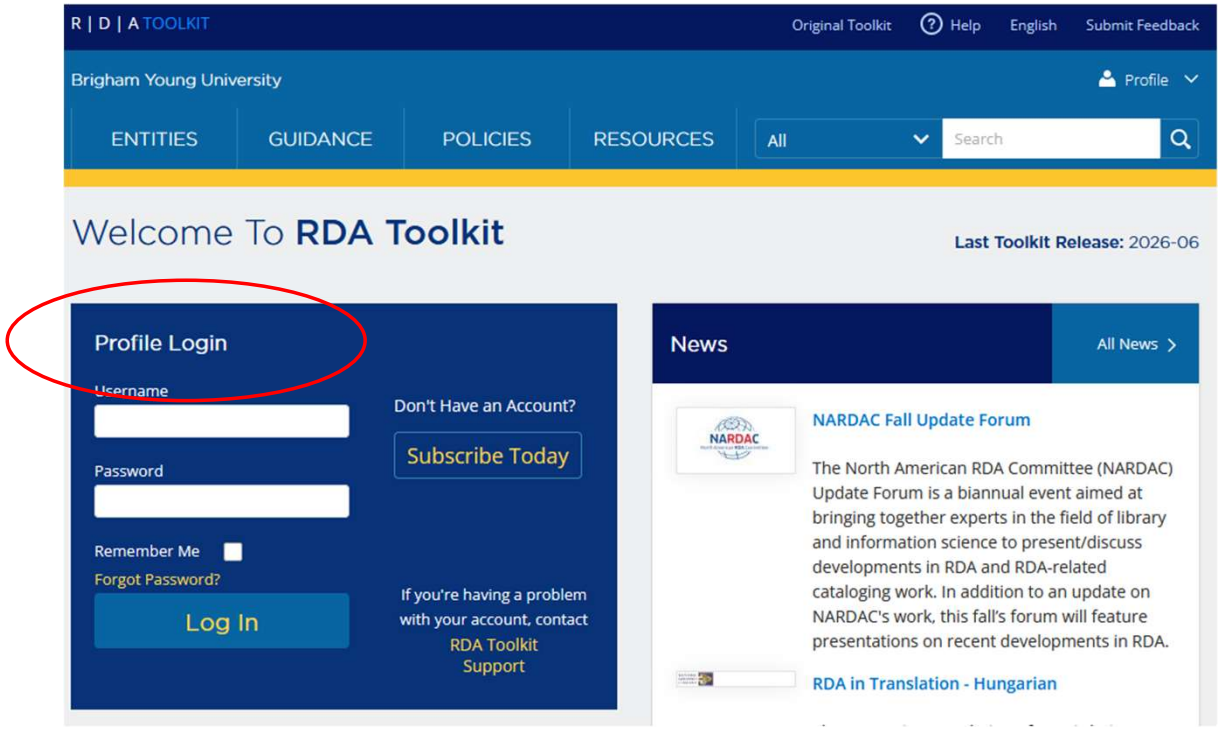
Navigating the Official RDA Toolkit

- If you have created a profile, you can now login with your profile



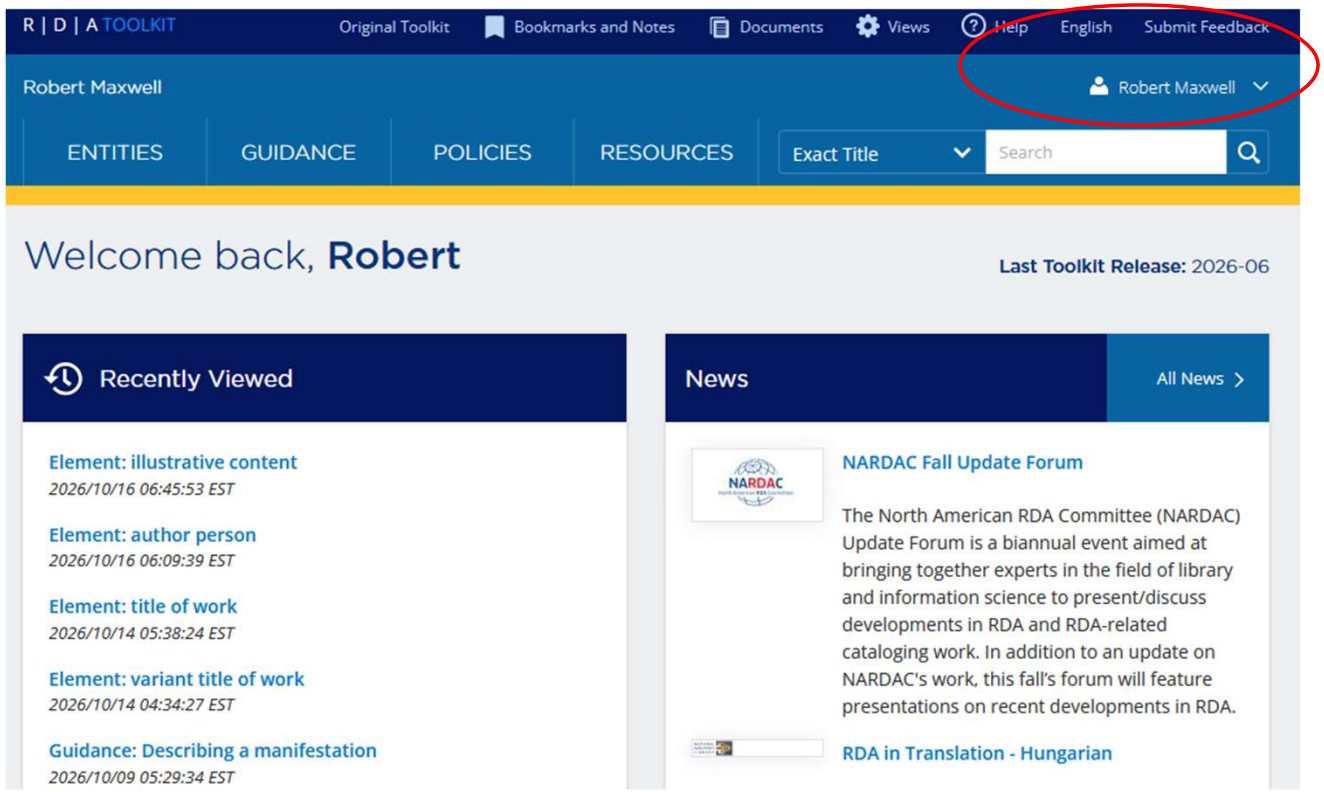
Navigating the Official RDA Toolkit

- If you have created a profile, you can now login with your profile



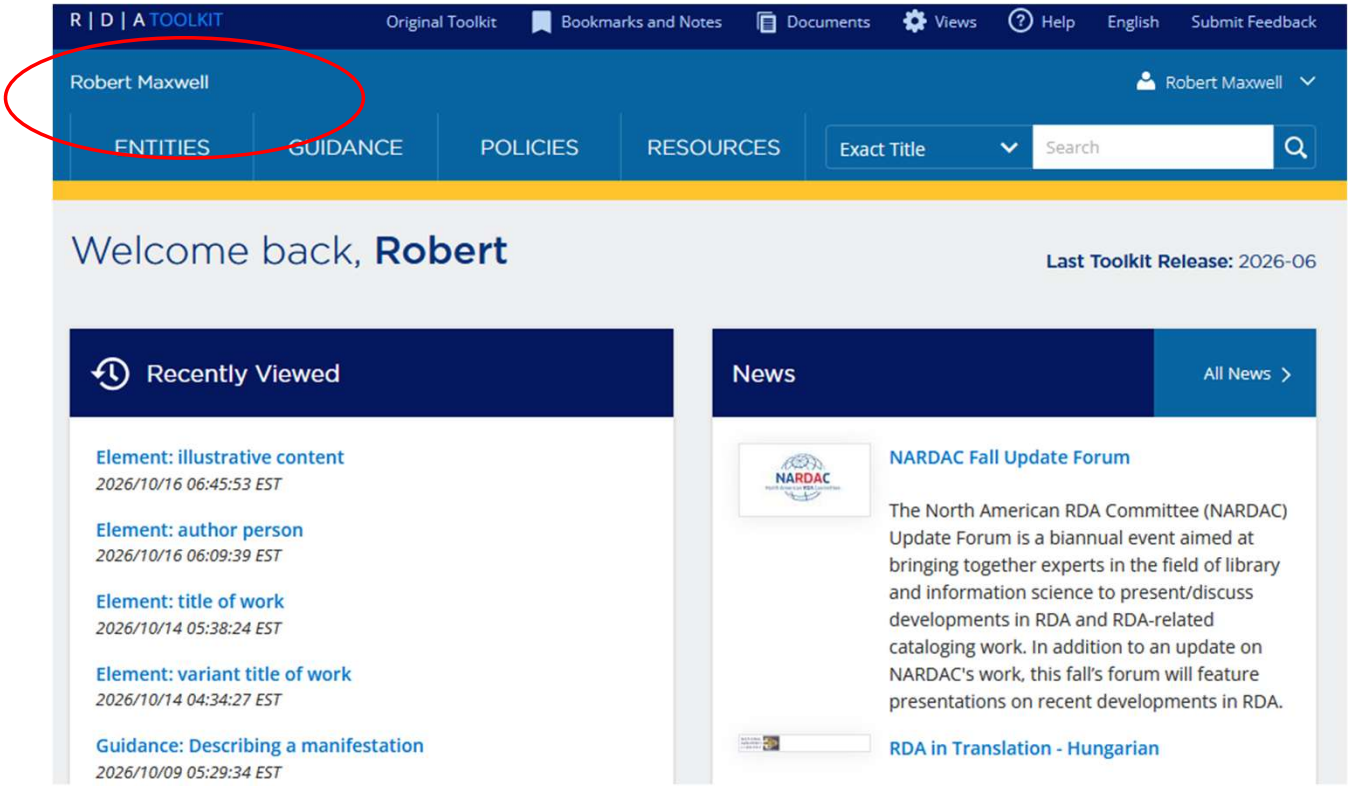
Navigating the Official RDA Toolkit

- Your profile name will appear at the upper right
- The screen will show you what you've viewed recently
- Certain settings that you've chosen will appear (e.g. the type of search)



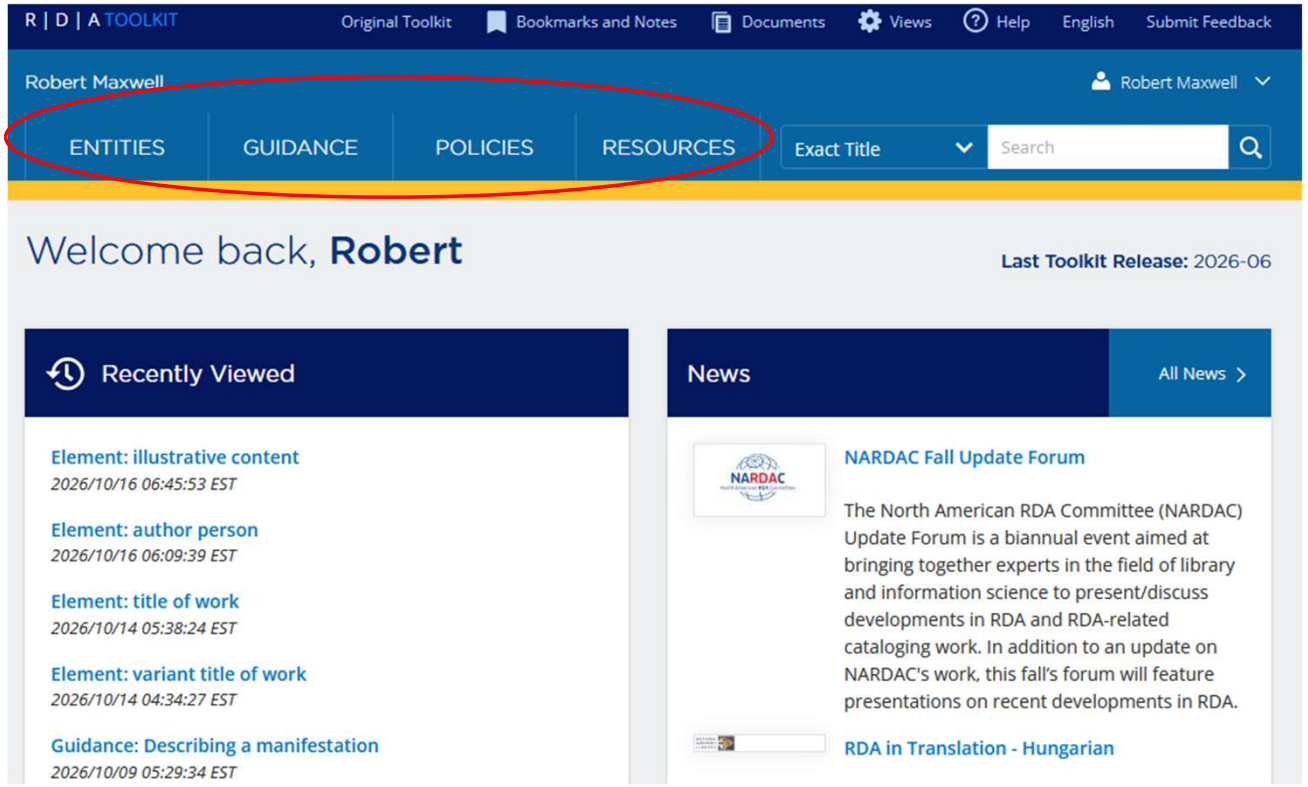
Navigating the Official RDA Toolkit

- I've logged in here using a personal RDA Toolkit account I have. For most of you your institution's name will appear here.



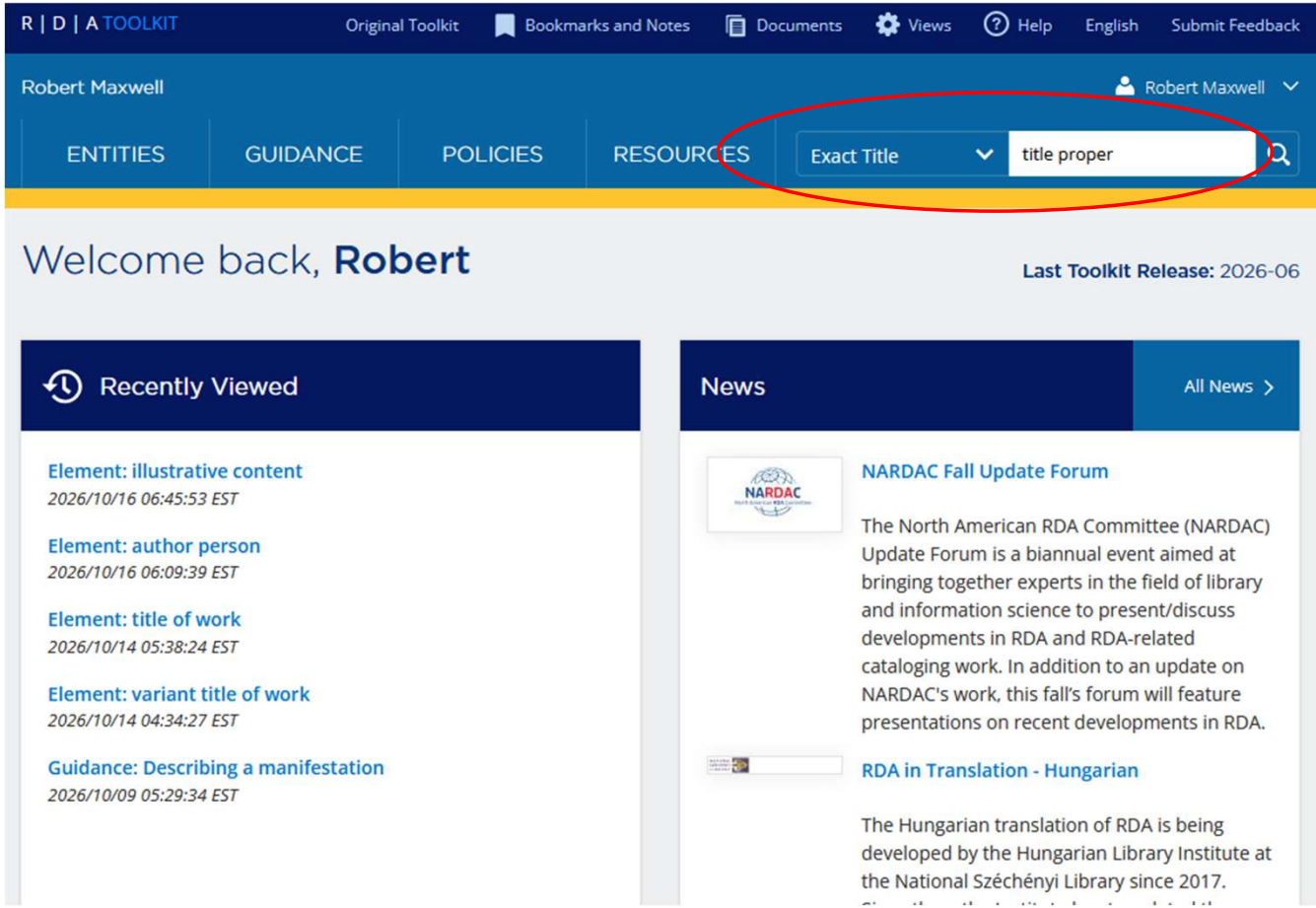
Navigating the Official RDA Toolkit: Content tabs

- The content tabs show the structure of Official RDA.
- Under Entities you will find all the RDA entities, based on LRM
- Guidance has chapters on broad topics
- Policies contain all the institutional policies that have been added to the Toolkit
- Resources includes various resources outside the instructions, such as a glossary and AACR2. It also includes “community resources”



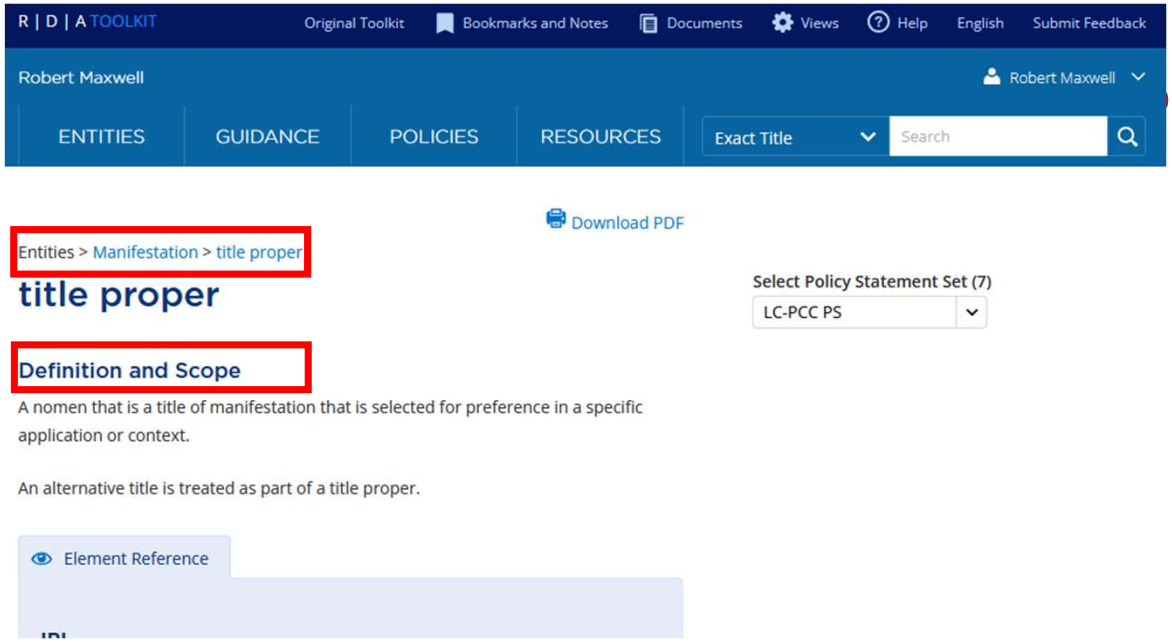
Navigating the Official RDA Toolkit: Search

- There are several types of searches in the dropdown:
  - All
  - RDA only
  - Policies
  - Exact title
  - Glossary
  - Contributed documents
  - Saved searches



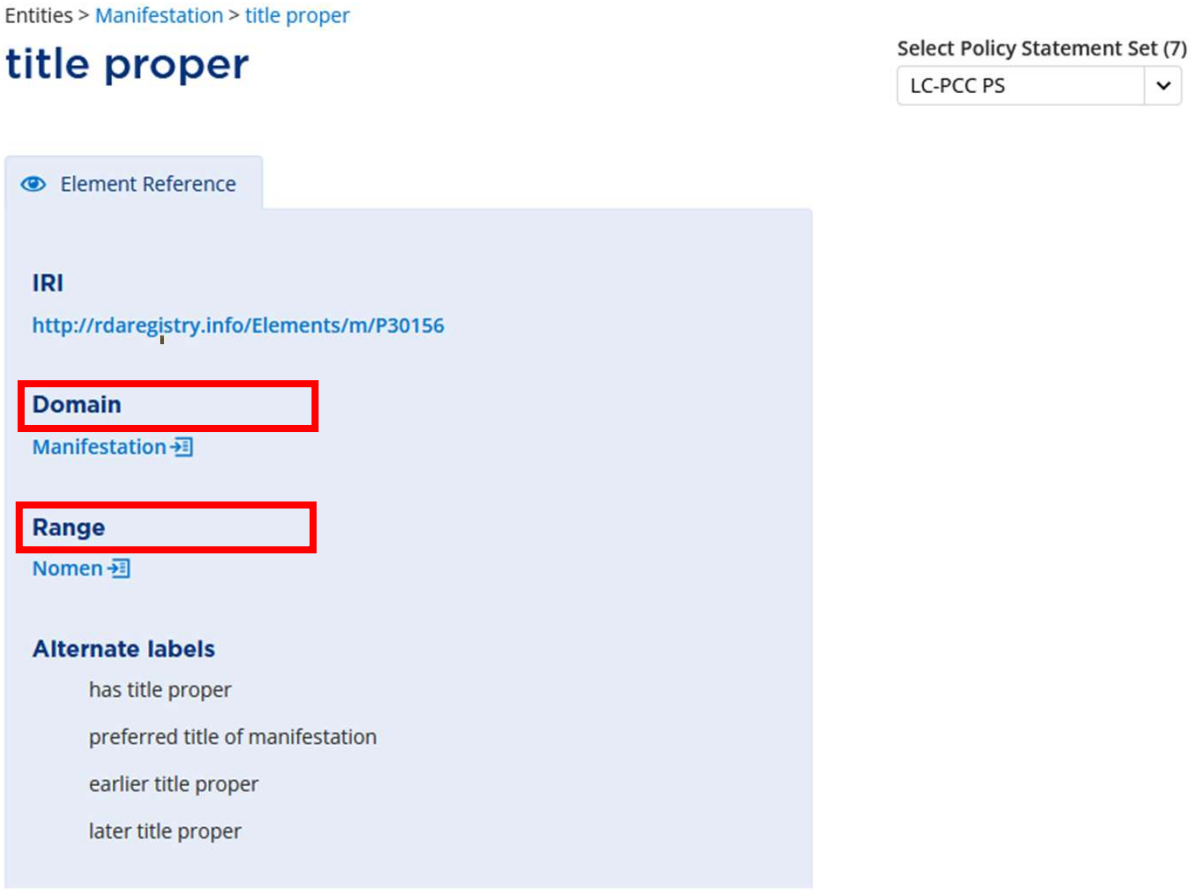
Navigating the Official RDA Toolkit: Element page

- Breadcrumbs – tell you where you are in the Toolkit
- We are in the “Manifestation” entity section, at the “title proper” element.
- Definition and scope defines the element



Navigating the Official RDA Toolkit: Element page

- Open “element reference”
- Domain = the entity this element can be used to describe (here, manifestation)
- Range = the entity this element can be related to
- In the Official RDA model, an element can be related to only one entity (if any)



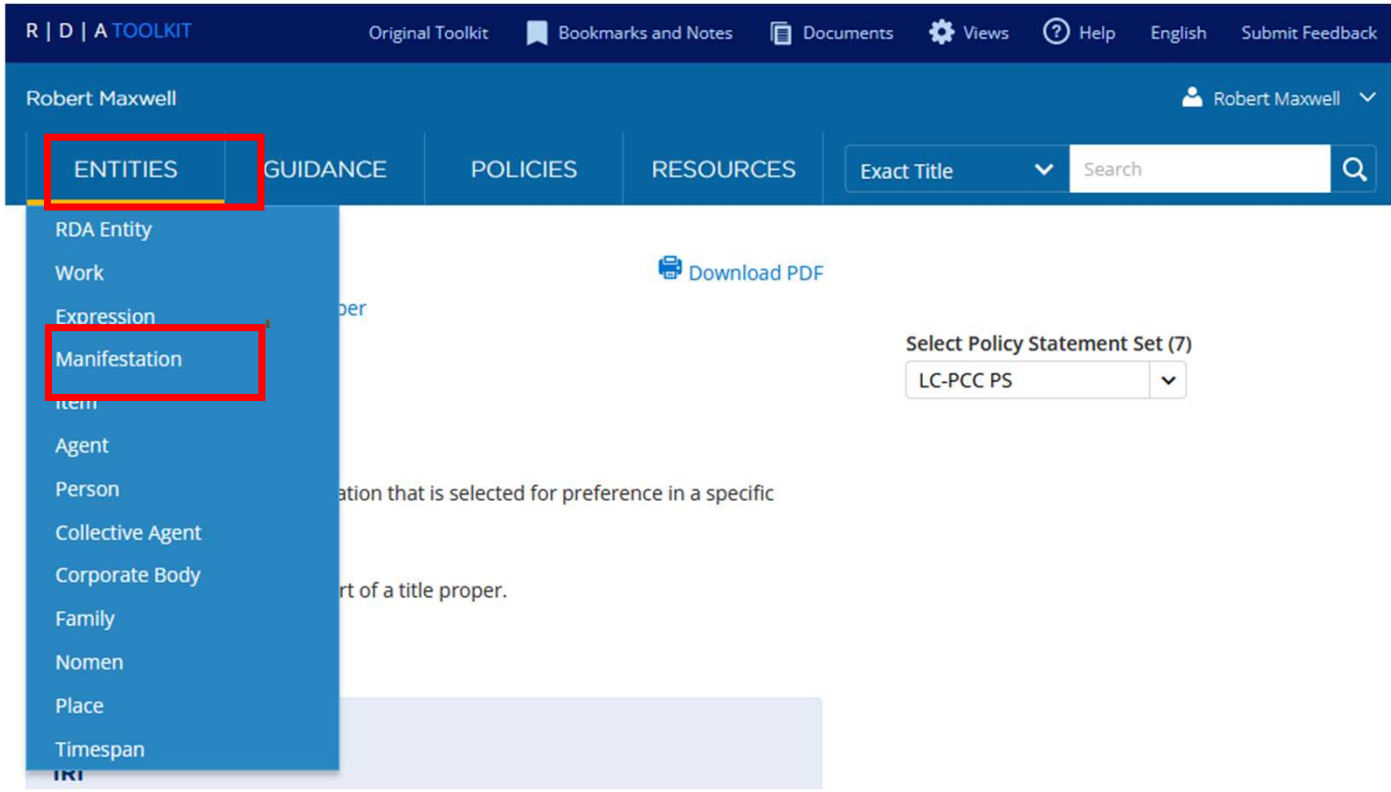
Navigating the Official RDA Toolkit: Element page

- MARC 21 mapping
- Tells MARC 21 fields this element can be recorded in.
- In this case, bibliographic field 245, subfield $a
- If there were any authority fields title proper could be recorded in, that would appear here as well



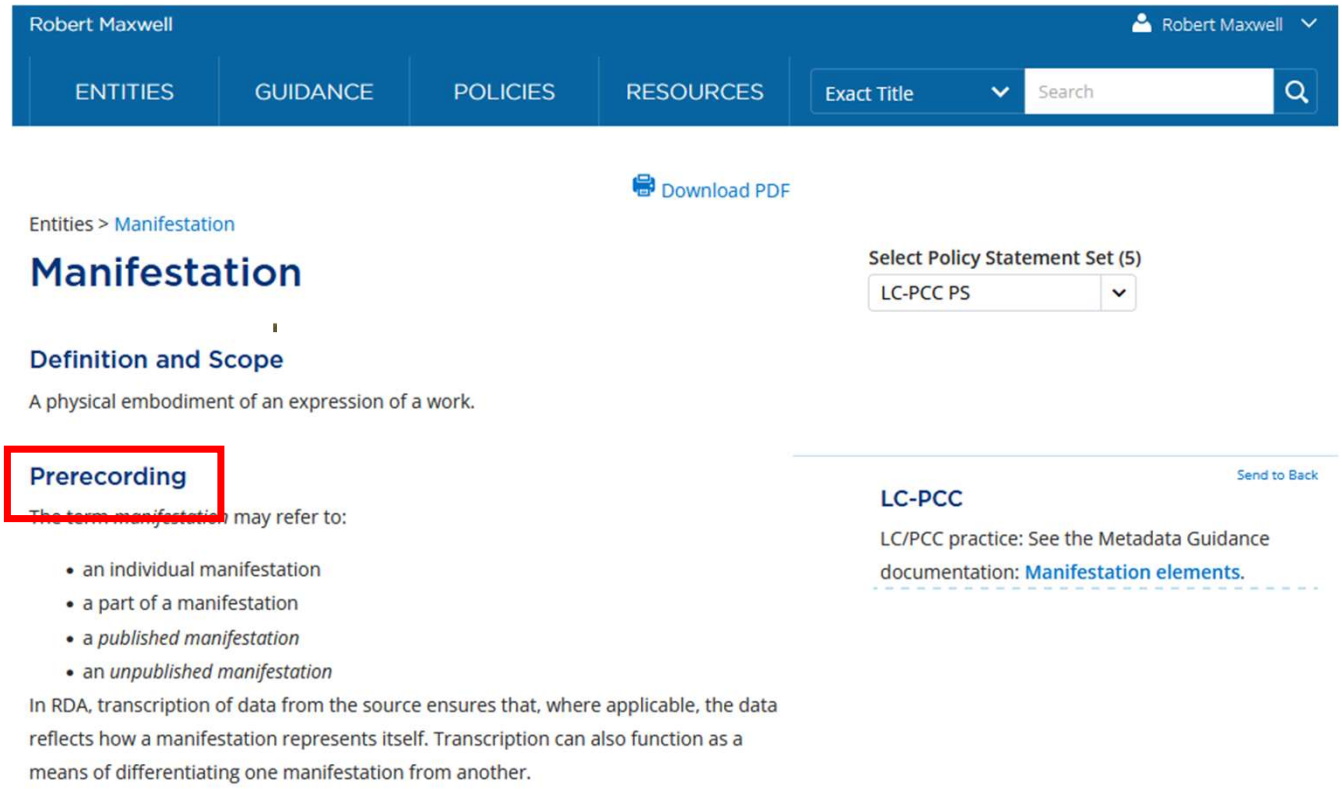
Navigating the Official RDA Toolkit: Entity page

- Go back to the top and hover over “entities”
- Choose Manifestation



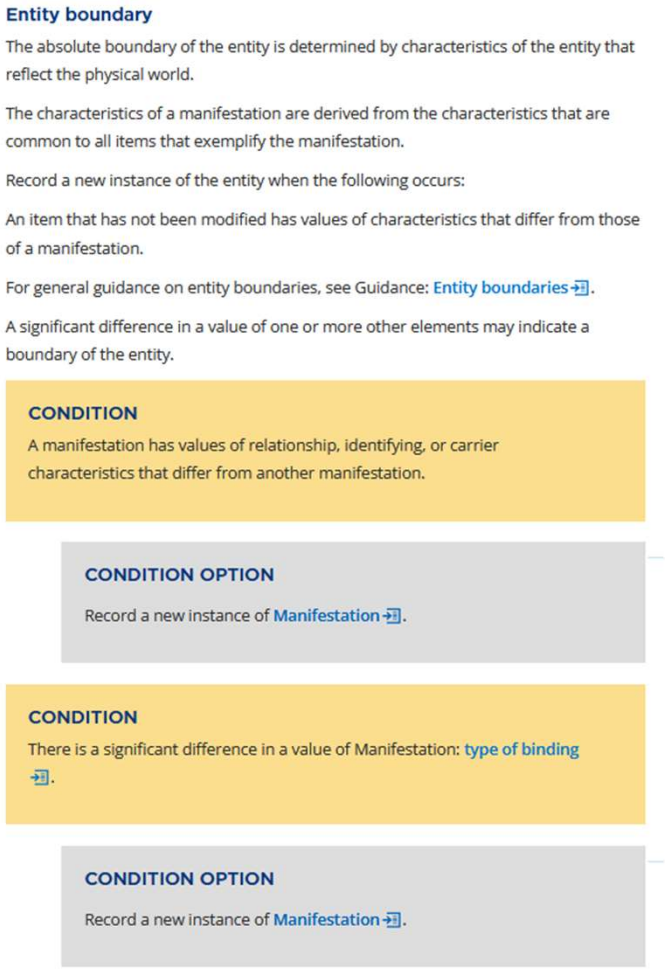
Navigating the Official RDA Toolkit: Entity page

- Just as with the element page you can see breadcrumbs above the name of the page and a definition and scope
- Includes a prerecording section



Navigating the Official RDA Toolkit: Entity page

- Skipping quite a lot, scroll down to Entity boundary
- Entity boundary helps determine if you have a new entity or are dealing with an entity that's already been described.
- For example, the first condition and option tell us that if there is a difference in carrier (e.g. print vs. microform), we different manifestation



Entity boundary

The absolute boundary of the entity is determined by characteristics of the entity that reflect the physical world.

The characteristics of a manifestation are derived from the characteristics that are common to all items that exemplify the manifestation.

Record a new instance of the entity when the following occurs:

An item that has not been modified has values of characteristics that differ from those of a manifestation.

For general guidance on entity boundaries, see Guidance: Entity boundaries.

A significant difference in a value of one or more other elements may indicate a boundary of the entity.

CONDITION

A manifestation has values of relationship, identifying, or carrier characteristics that differ from another manifestation.

CONDITION OPTION

Record a new instance of Manifestation.

CONDITION

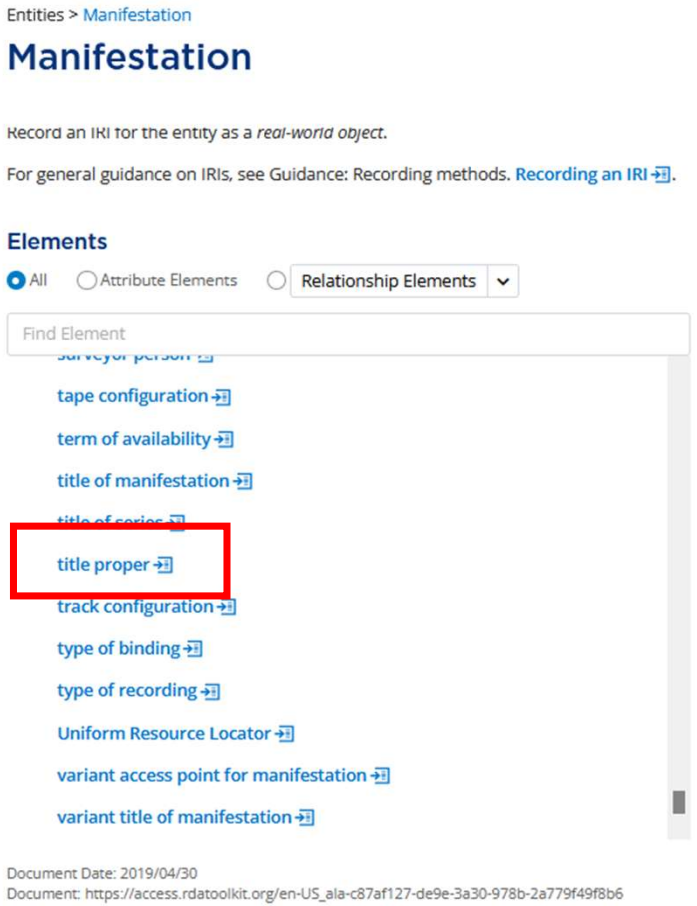
There is a significant difference in a value of Manifestation: type of binding.

CONDITION OPTION

Record a new instance of Manifestation.

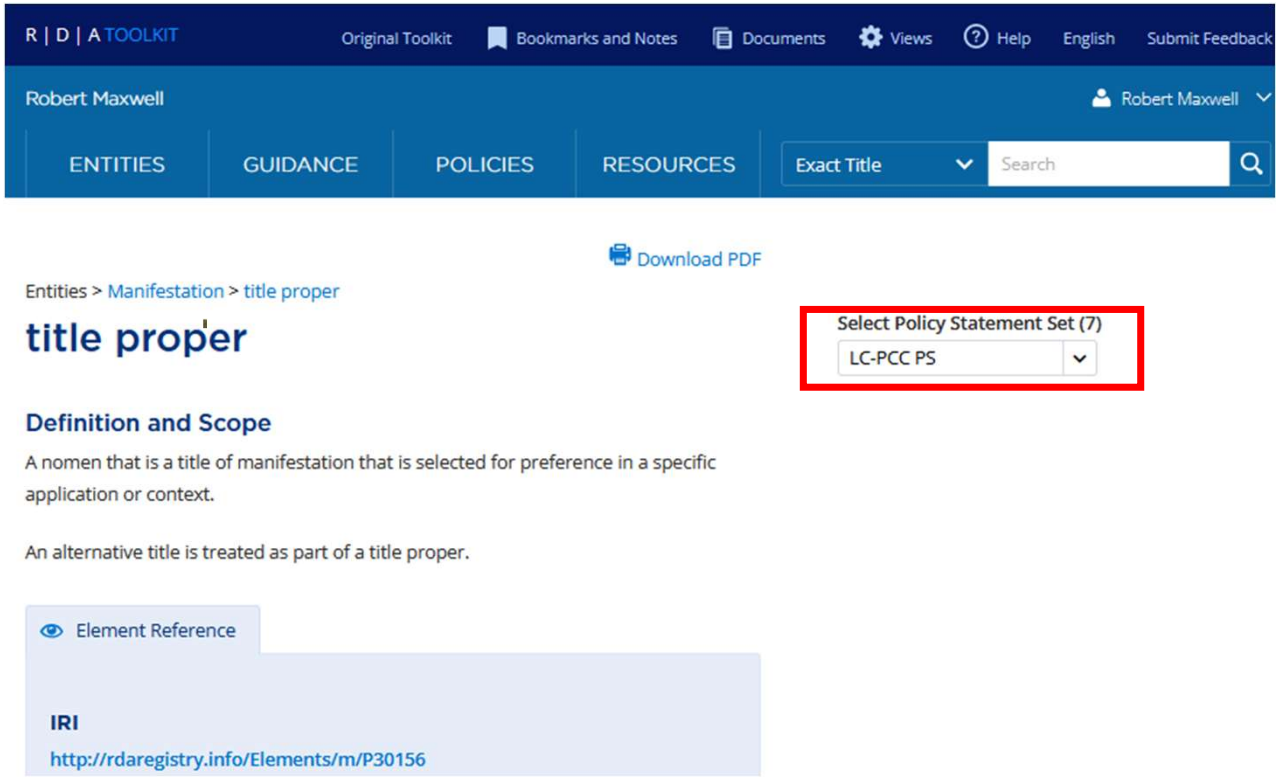
Navigating the Official RDA Toolkit: Entity page

- Again, skipping quite a lot, scroll down to Elements
- This is a list of all the RDA elements that can be used to describe a manifestation
- An alternate way to approach search—you can scroll down and find “title proper” to get to the same place as we were before



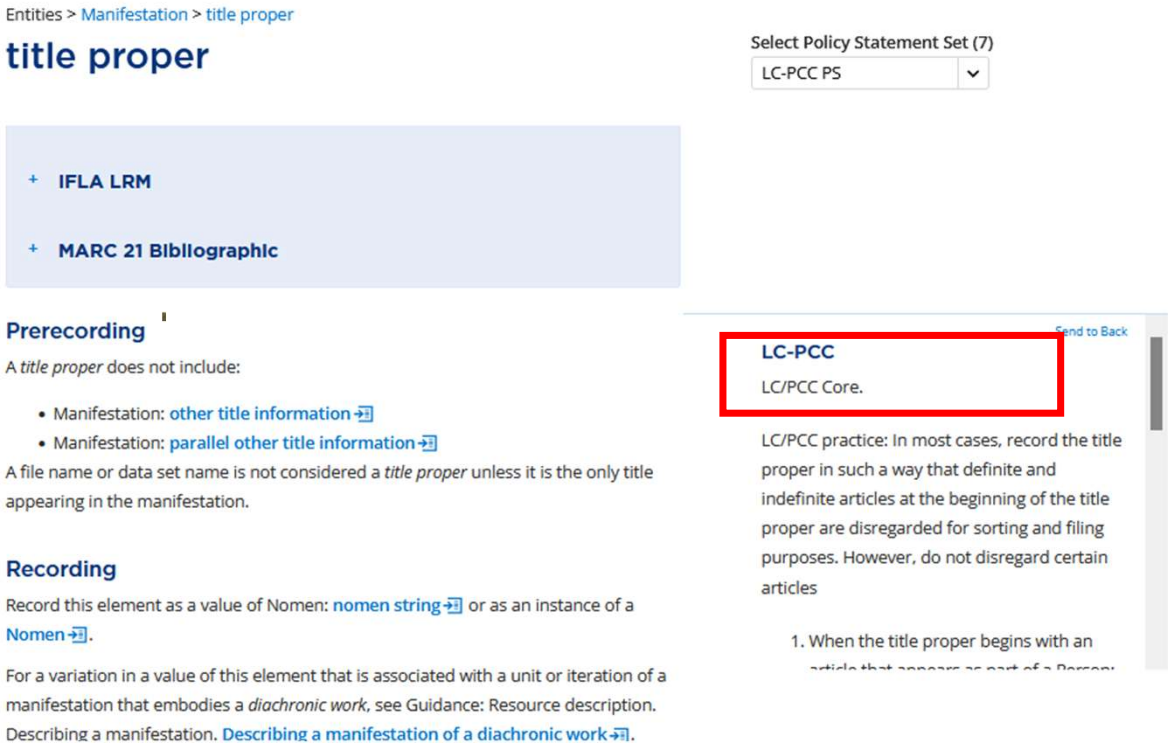
Navigating the Official RDA Toolkit: Policy statements

- At the top of the page click the dropdown under “Select policy statement set” and choose “LC-PCC PS”
- The policy statements appear on both the entity and element pages
- This can be set to always appear in this way if you have a profile.



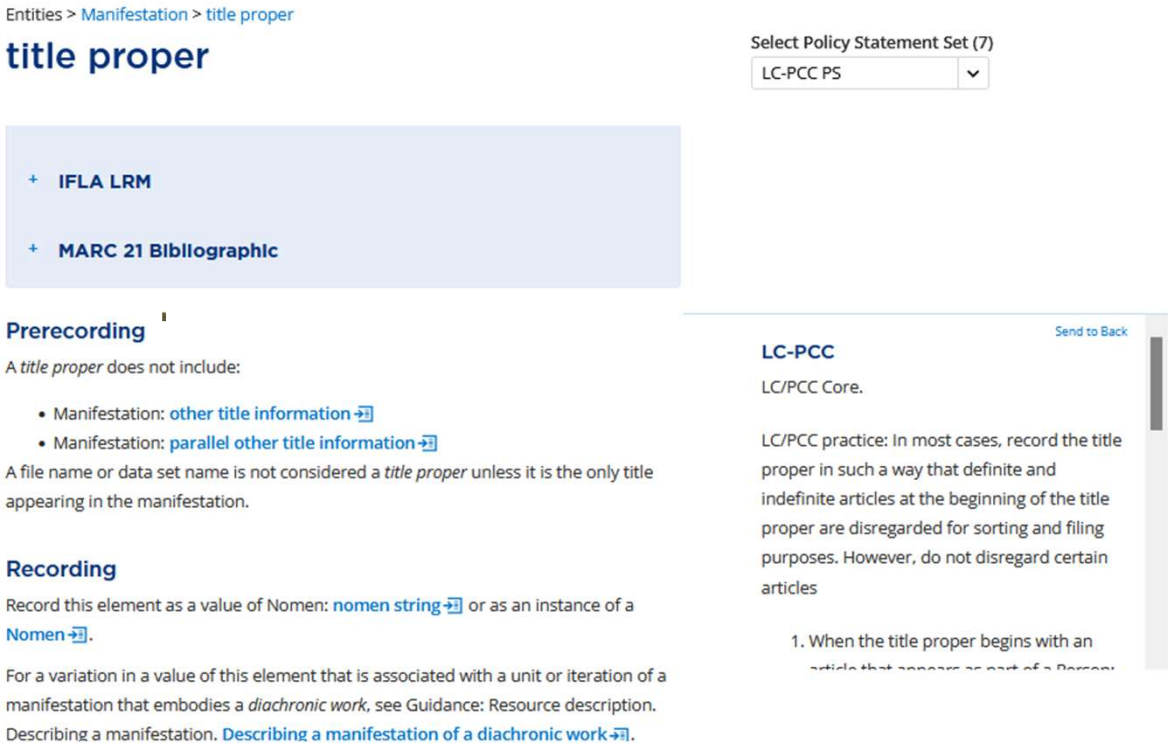
Navigating the Official RDA Toolkit: Policy statements

- Scroll down a bit to Prerecording
- The policy statement adjacent to it says “LC/PCC Core”
- This means required if applicable and readily available
- So when we create a record for a manifestation we are required to record a title proper



Navigating the Official RDA Toolkit

- We will come back later to look at title proper in more detail at the end during the practical exercise.



Major changes in practice

New terminology

Aggregate = a manifestation that contains multiple expressions (a.k.a. compilation)

Data provenance = information about where the metadata came from

Diachronic work = a work that is planned to be embodied over time (vs. static work)

Domain = the RDA entity an element describes

Metadata description set = one or more statements describing an RDA entity

Nomen = a label for an RDA entity (e.g. name, title, access point, etc.)

Range = the RDA entity that an element can be related to

Major changes in practice

New terminology

Recording methods =

- Unstructured description
  (a recording method that is an uncontrolled description not following any particular rules, e.g., a transcription of text)
- Structured description
  (a recording method that follows rules for structure, or draws on a controlled vocabulary)
- Identifier
- IRI

Representative expression attribute = an expression attribute closely associated with a work (e.g. a language, or intended audience)

Static work = a work embodied in a manifestation resulting from a single act of publication (vs. diachronic work)

String encoding scheme (SES) = the rules for putting together a set of elements (e.g. for an access point)

Vocabulary encoding scheme (VES) = a list of controlled values for an element (e.g. for content type); also includes lists such as values from an authority file such as the LC/NACO Authority File

WEM lock = a condition where a work can exist in only one expression and one manifestation (we'll come to this later)

Major changes in practice: WEM lock

- In official RDA a diachronic work can be realized by one and only one expression and be embodied by one and only one manifestation. This is known as the "WEM lock"
- Numerous situations that were considered expressions of the same diachronic work (e.g. translations, different formats) under original RDA will, under official RDA, be considered separate works. PCC *will* apply this to *serials* (diachronic works with no predetermined conclusion).
- Contrary to RDA, PCC will not apply the WEM lock to *multipart monographs* (diachronic works with a predetermined conclusion)
  - Author series, such as Tolkien's *Lord of the Rings*
  - These will continue to be treated as they have in the past, that is, they can have different expressions—translations, audio versions, etc.—and still be considered the same work.

Major changes: new entities

Agent = an entity capable of deliberate action (e.g. a creator)

Collective agent = a gathering or organization of two or more persons capable of acting as a unit

Nomen = a label for an RDA entity (e.g. name, title)

Place = an extent of space (this is not entirely new but more fully worked out in Official RDA)

Timespan = a finite period of time

Major changes: changes to entities

Person = an agent who is an individual human being who lives or is assumed to have lived

Official RDA change: the new definition excludes fictitious characters and non-human entities such as named animals

PCC practice: The person entity will continue to include fictitious and non-human entities. We will continue to describe these in the NAF, and they will continue to be used in bibliographic records as creator and contributor agents if appropriate, e.g.:

- Lost treasure of the emerald eye / by Geronimo Stilton [a fictitous mouse]
- Keiko, a real animal actor in *Free Willy*

Major changes: changes to entities

Corporate body and Family: no major changes to the definition, *but*

In PCC practice Corporate body and Family can be composed of fictitious persons, i.e. fictitious corporate bodies and families can be treated as agents and will be described in the NAF

Note: this change in practice has not been implemented yet.

Major changes: new elements

Access point for item

Access point for manifestation

These exist as elements in Official RDA. They will not be immediately implemented

Extension plan = the intention to extend the content of a work or not

PCC will not record this element yet

Manifestation statement = A (more or less) exact transcription from a manifestation, e.g. of a complete title page

MARC bibliographic 881

Preferred title of expression

Expression in Original RDA did not have a ‘preferred’ form available for the basis for its authorized access point. This changes with Official RDA, but PCC will continue to base the authorized access point for expressions on the authorized access point for the associated work (including the title)

Representative expression elements

Work level elements that record aspects of expression closely associated with the work, e.g., language

Major change: relationship labels

In original RDA we have been using the name of the relationship designator from the appendices as its label, e.g.,

130 0# $a Free Willy (Motion picture)

245 10 $a Free Willy / $c Warner Bros. presents, in association with Le Studio Canal+, Regency Enterprises and Alcor Films, a Donner [and] Shuler-Donner production ; directed by Simon Wincer ; produced by Jennie Lew Tugend, Lauren Shuler-Donner ; screenplay by Keith A. Walker, Corey Blechman.

700 0# $a Keiko, $d approximately 1976-2003, $e actor.

performer: An agent contributing to an expression of a work by performing music, acting, dancing, speaking, etc., often in a musical or dramatic presentation, etc.
Reciprocal relationship: performer of.

actor: A performer contributing to an expression of a work by acting as a cast member or player in a musical or dramatic presentation, etc.
Reciprocal relationship: actor of.

Major change: relationship labels

In Official RDA, all the relationships have become elements, with their own names, many of which are not user-friendly, e.g.

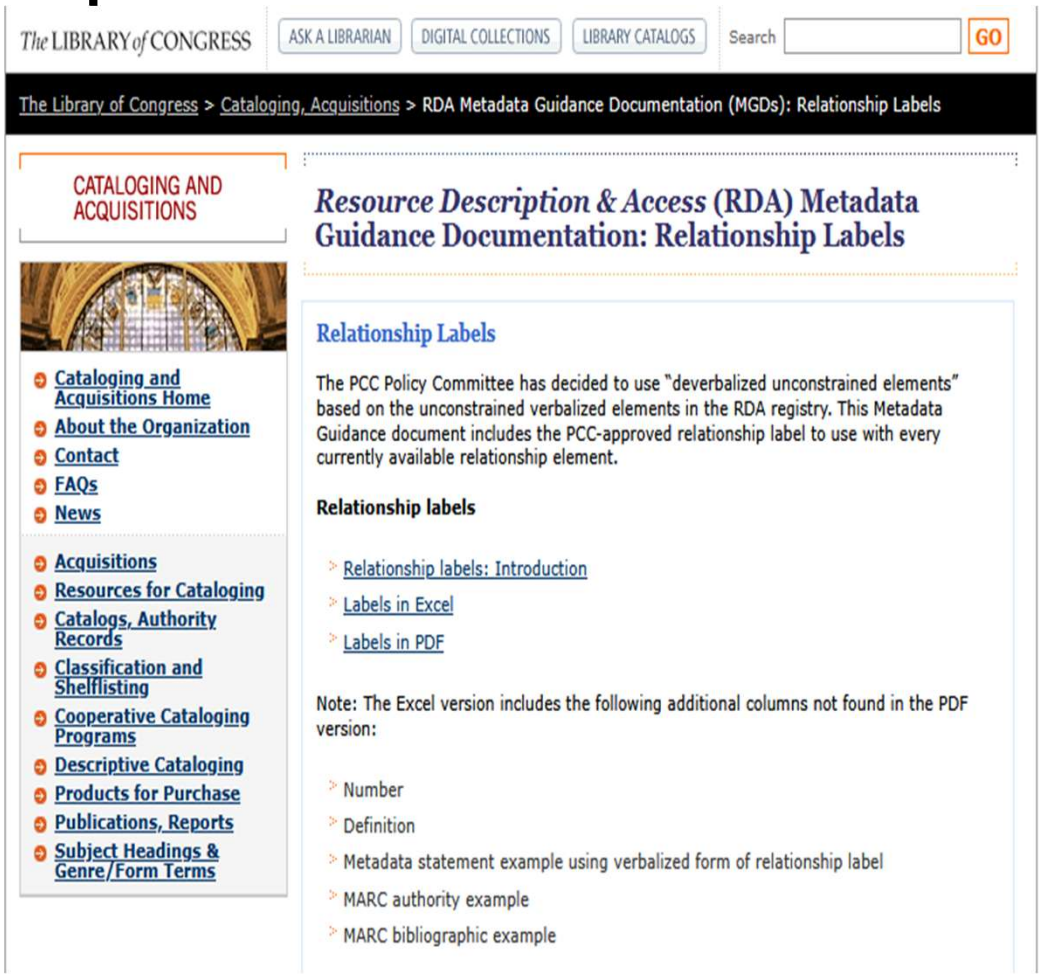
- author family
- compiler corporate body of
- contributor person
- contributor corporate body of still image

Major change: relationship labels

PCC has compiled a list of user-friendly versions of all of these

https://www.loc.gov/aba/rda/mgd/relationshipLabels/index.html

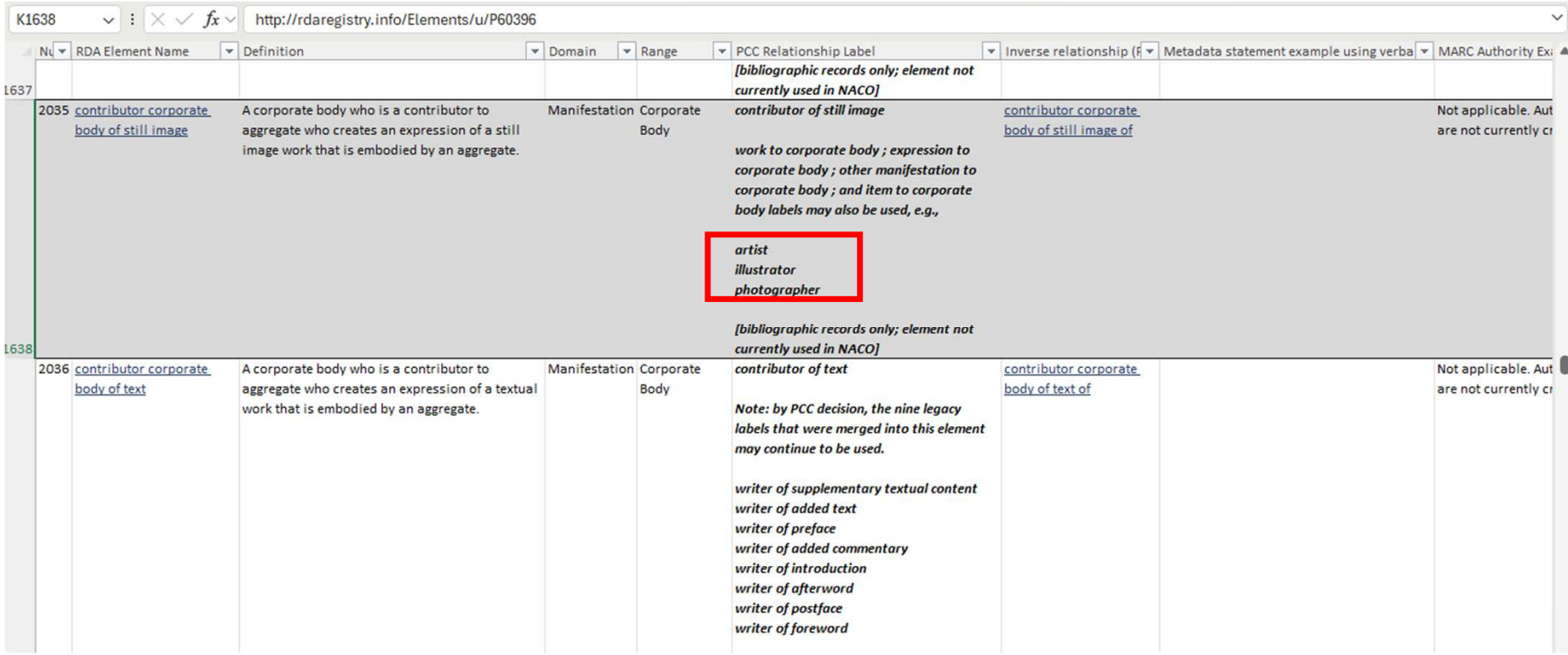
Choose “Labels in Excel” or “Labels in PDF”



Major change: relationship labels

Use a form from the “PCC Relationship Label” column, e.g.

contributor corporate body of still image = “illustrator” (or a few other options)



K1638 | http://rdaregistry.info/Elements/u/P60396

	Nu	RDA Element Name	Definition	Domain	Range	PCC Relationship Label	Inverse relationship (F	Metadata statement example using verba	MARC Authority Ex
1637						*[bibliographic records only; element not currently used in NACO]*			
	2035	contributor corporate body of still image	A corporate body who is a contributor to aggregate who creates an expression of a still image work that is embodied by an aggregate.	Manifestation	Corporate Body	***contributor of still image*** ***work to corporate body ; expression to corporate body ; other manifestation to corporate body ; and item to corporate body labels may also be used, e.g.,*** ***artist*** ***illustrator*** ***photographer*** ***[bibliographic records only; element not currently used in NACO]***	contributor corporate body of still image of		Not applicable. Aut are not currently cr
1638									
	2036	contributor corporate body of text	A corporate body who is a contributor to aggregate who creates an expression of a textual work that is embodied by an aggregate.	Manifestation	Corporate Body	***contributor of text*** ***Note: by PCC decision, the nine legacy labels that were merged into this element may continue to be used.*** ***writer of supplementary textual content*** ***writer of added text*** ***writer of preface*** ***writer of added commentary*** ***writer of introduction*** ***writer of afterword*** ***writer of postface*** ***writer of foreword***	contributor corporate body of text of		Not applicable. Aut are not currently cr

Major change: changes in domain

Illustrative content – was an expression element, now a manifestation element

Intended audience – was a work element, now an expression element

ISSN – was a manifestation element, now a work element

Key – was a work element, now an expression element

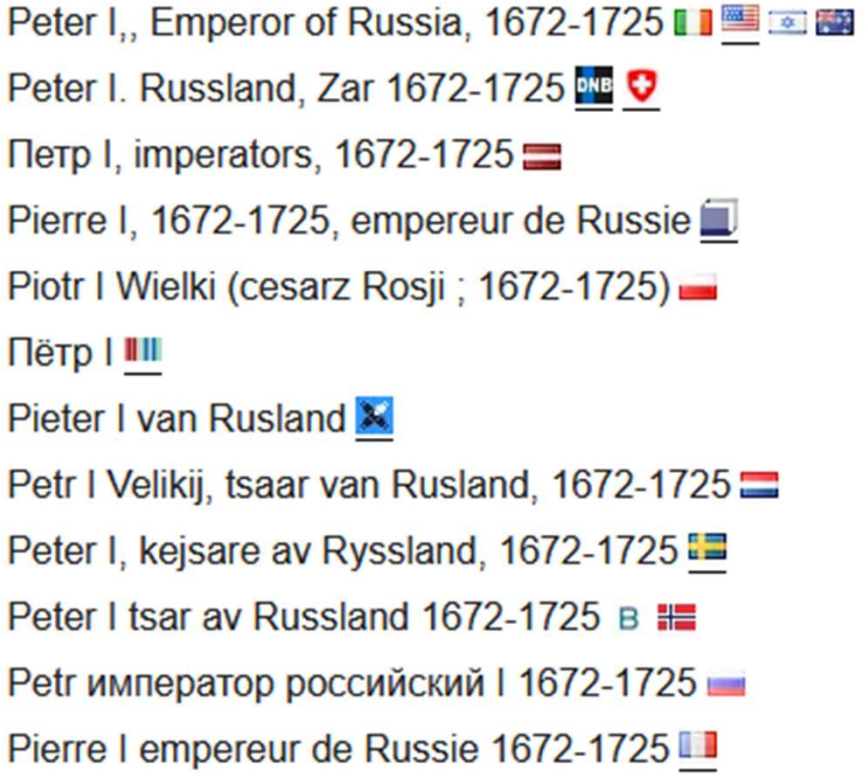
Medium of performance – was a work element, now an expression element

Sound content – was an expression element, now a manifestation element

Major change: String encoding schemes removed from RDA

String encoding schemes (rules for structuring data, e.g., for an authorized access point) are being removed from Official RDA and moved to the Community Resources section.

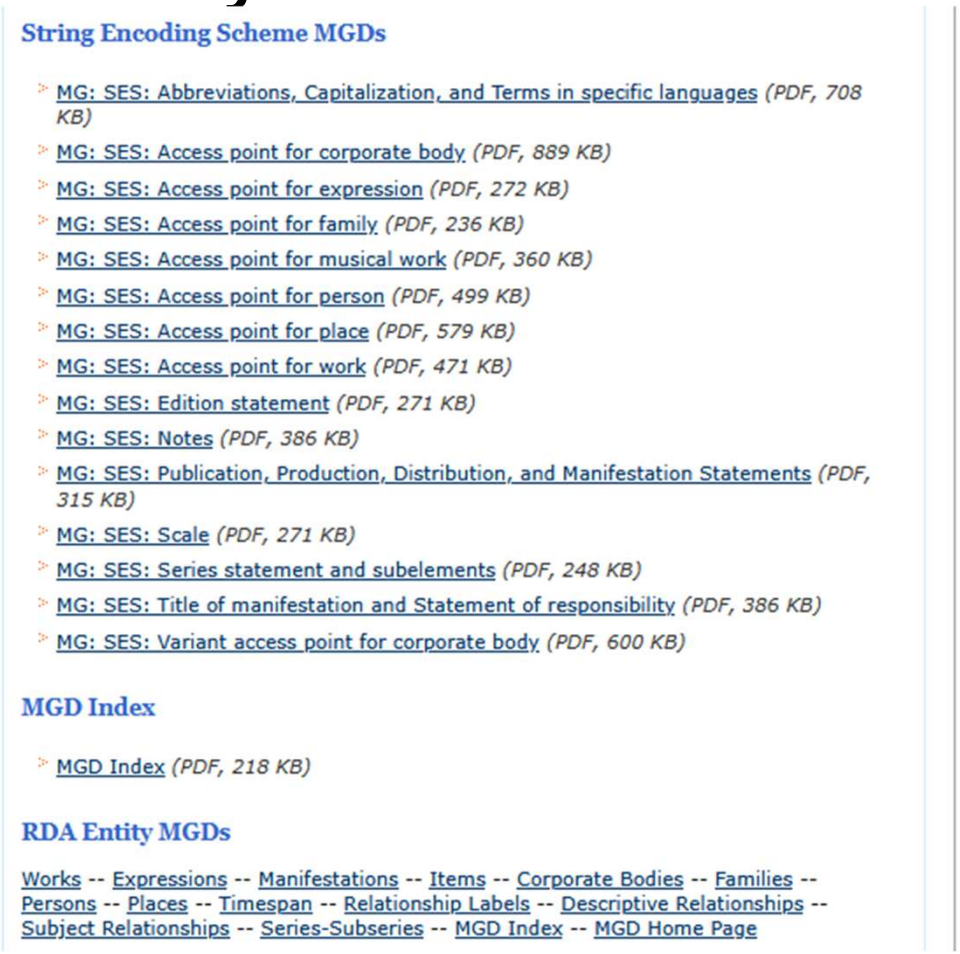
This is because different cataloging communities use different SESs (e.g., see the various forms for access points in the Virtual International Authority File [VIAF] for a person—for example, all the different ways of forming access points for Peter I)



Major change: String encoding schemes in PCC practice will be governed by MGDs

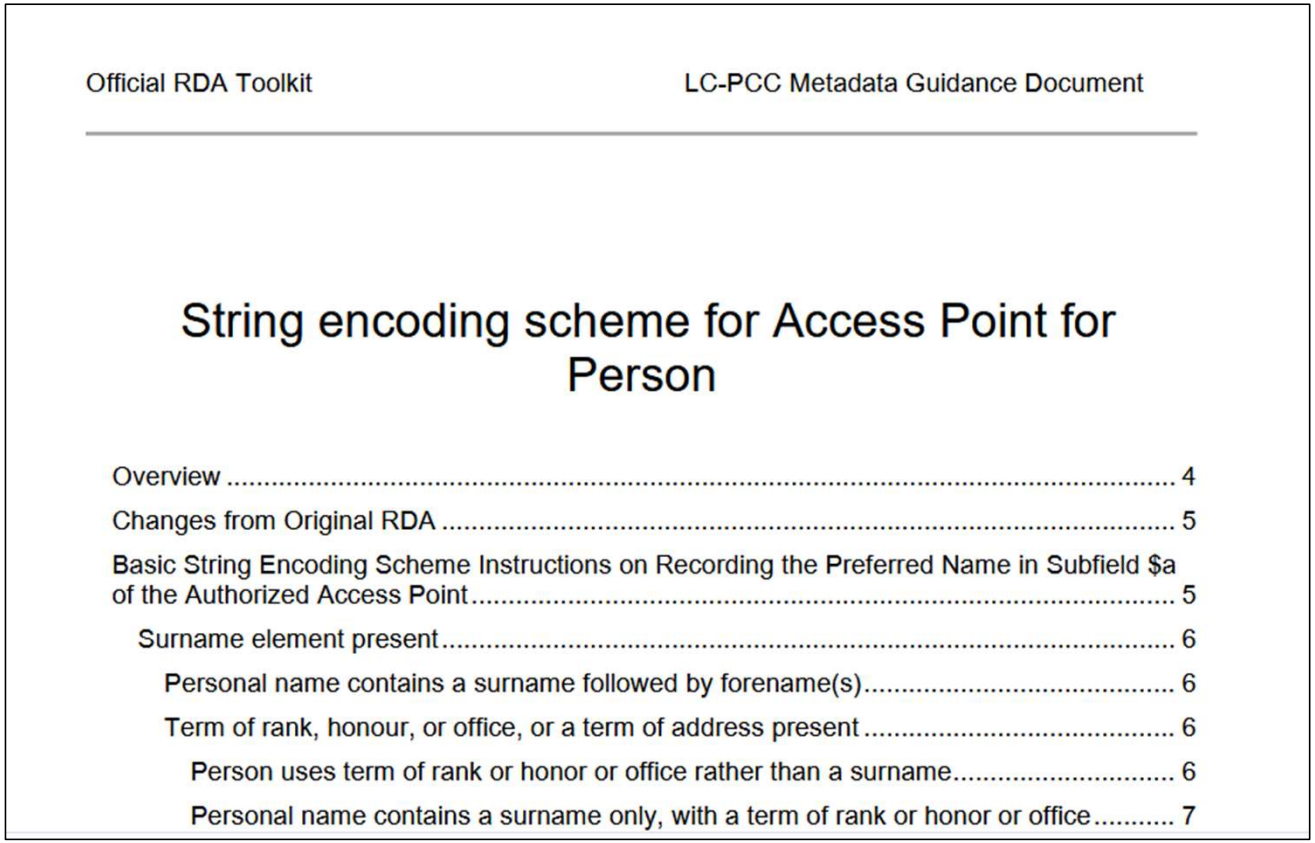
https://www.loc.gov/aba/rda/mgd/





Major change: String encoding schemes in PCC practice will be governed by MGDs

For example, SES for access point for person will give instructions



Official RDA Toolkit LC-PCC Metadata Guidance Document

String encoding scheme for Access Point for Person

Overview 4
Changes from Original RDA 5
Basic String Encoding Scheme Instructions on Recording the Preferred Name in Subfield $a of the Authorized Access Point 5
Surname element present 6
Personal name contains a surname followed by forename(s) 6
Term of rank, honour, or office, or a term of address present 6
Person uses term of rank or honor or office rather than a surname 6
Personal name contains a surname only, with a term of rank or honor or office 7

Change in practice:
new description convention source code

A new source code has been created, “rdapcc”, for use in 040. This means the cataloger is following PCC practices. ***Anyone who follows PCC practice may use the code, whether they’re a BIBCO member or not.***

040 ## $a … $b eng $e rda $e pccrda $c … $d …

The first subfield $e code means the cataloger is following RDA. The second subfield $e code means the cataloger is following PCC practices. There could also be other subfield $e codes (e.g. “$e pn” “$e dcrmr”, etc.)

Note: the fact that the record is authenticated as a BIBCO record will continue to be recorded in 042:

042 ## $a pcc

Change in practice: new MARC coding

Many elements can now be encoded in their own MARC field or subfield. A few examples:

Color content	300 ## ... : $b color illustrations ...
	and/or
	387 ## $b polychrome $2 rdacc
	or
	387 ## $b color
Font size	300 ## $a 569 pages (large print (16 point)) ; $c 23 cm
	and/or
	340 ## $n large print $2 rdafs
	340 ## $n 16 point

Change in practice: new MARC coding

Many elements can now be encoded in their own MARC field or subfield. A few examples:

Type of binding	020 ## $a 9781647824693 $q (hardcover) and/or 340 ## $l case binding $2 rdatb
Bibliographic format	300 ## $a xii, 270 pages ; $c 22 cm (folio) and/or 340 ## $m folio $2 rdabf

Change in practice: new MARC coding

These may also be combined with identifiers, and are regularly showing up that way in OCLC:

Illustrative content

300 ## $a 13 pages : $b illustrations ; $c 18 cm

and/or

340 ## $p illustration $2 rdaill

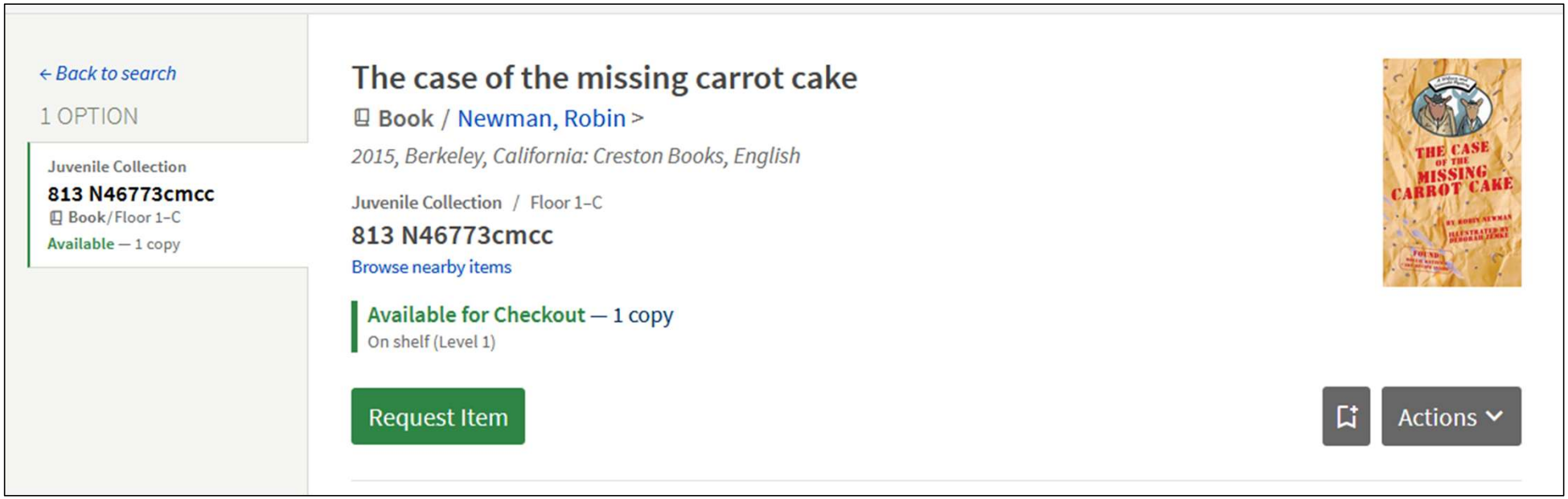
or

340 ## $p illustration $2 rdaill $0 http://rdaregistry.info/termList/IllusContent/1014

Introduction to Linked data practices

- Most of us will continue for some time to catalog using MARC. Official RDA is designed to accommodate this
- But linked-data applications are coming
  - BIBFRAME
    - Principal developer = Library of Congress
  - RDA in RDF
    - Developers = Ex Libris (Alma) and University of Washington Libraries

Introduction to Linked data practices



Introduction to Linked data practices



Identifier

- ISBN: 9781939547170
- ISBN: 1939547172

Language

- English

Creation Date

- 2015

Interest Age Level

- "Ages 4-8"
- Cover.

School Library Journal Review

- Gr 1-3-When crime happens, especially when food goes missing on the farm, everyone knows who to call: Wilcox and Griswold, mouse crime fighters and food detectives. When Miss Rabbit's carrot cake goes missing, they're on the case. Using the latest technology (video surveillance) and old-fashioned police interrogations, they get to the bottom of the mystery. There are plenty of amusing characters and even more hilarious puns to be found along the way. With lovely, warm full-color illustrations on every page and case file/journal-style entries, this simple tale will be a hit for advanced beginning readers. It is a fantastic choice for that last step before chapter books (perhaps before another famous mouse detective/journalist known for his illustrated easy chapter books). Sweet and charming, this title… show more ↓

Kirkus Review

- Two police mice, one missing cake, a bunch of suspectsit's a big case!When Miss Rabbit leaves her carrot cake (with

Introduction to Linked data practices : RDF

- Linked data is a term used to describe a widely-used framework that *links data* from different data sources on the Web.
- This framework is called Resource Description Framework or RDF.
- RDF is usually written in XML, and is designed to be understood by computers. It is not designed to be displayed to people. But:
- RDF *triples* are a translation of the XML that is comprehensible to humans.
- Linked data consists of a series of triples, many of which may be needed to fully describe a particular entity.

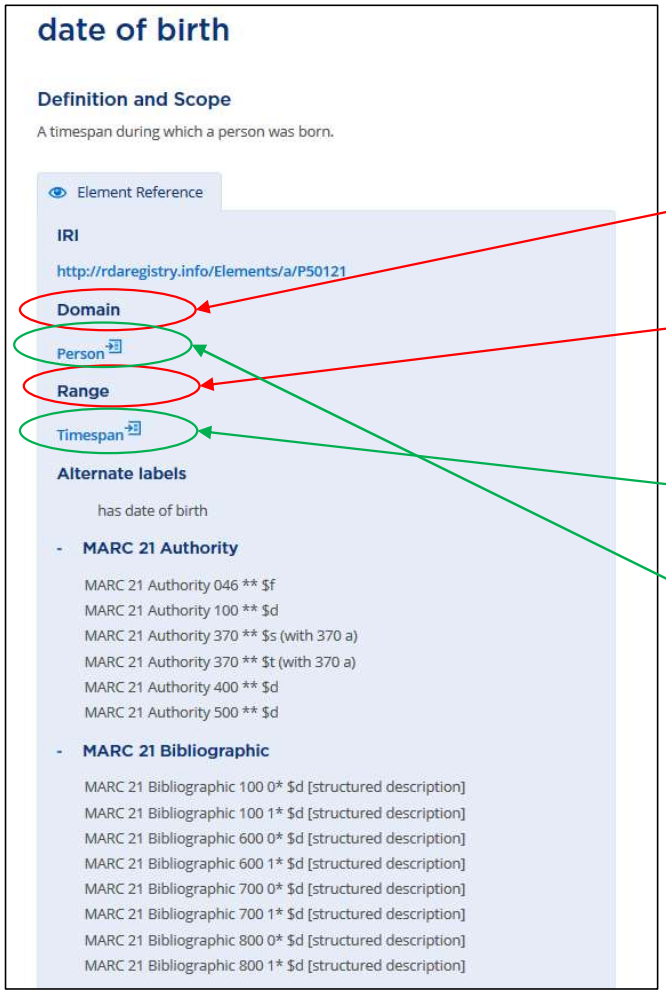
Introduction to Linked data practices : RDF triples

- An RDF triple is a statement about a particular element in the description of an entity.

- It follows a quasi-English-language syntax

Subject =>	Predicate =>	Object
A person =>	Has a name =>	John

Introduction to Linked data practices : RDF triples and RDA



domain
The RDA entity that is described by an element.

range
The RDA entity that is the value of a relationship element.

Subject (the Domain) =>	Predicate (the Element) =>	Object (the Range)
Person (an RDA entity) =>	has date of birth =>	Timespan (an RDA entity)
Terry Pratchett =>	has date of birth =>	April 28, 1948

Introduction to Linked data practices : Metadata Description Sets

- New vocabulary for what we have in the past called “records,” e.g., “authority records for persons,” etc.
- RDA Glossary definition:
  - One or more metadata statements that describe and relate individual instances of one or more RDA entities.
  - A metadata statement is “a piece of metadata that assigns a value to an RDA element that describes an individual instance of an RDA entity.”

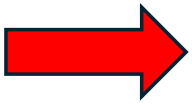
Introduction to Linked data practices : Metadata Description Sets

- An RDF triple is an example of a metadata statement

Subject (the Domain) =>	Predicate (the Element) =>	Object (the Range)
Person (an RDA entity) =>	has date of birth =>	Timespan (an RDA entity)
Terry Pratchett =>	has date of birth =>	April 28, 1948

- A *set* of RDF triples when *combined* to describe an entity is a **metadata description set**

Linked data with RDA in action

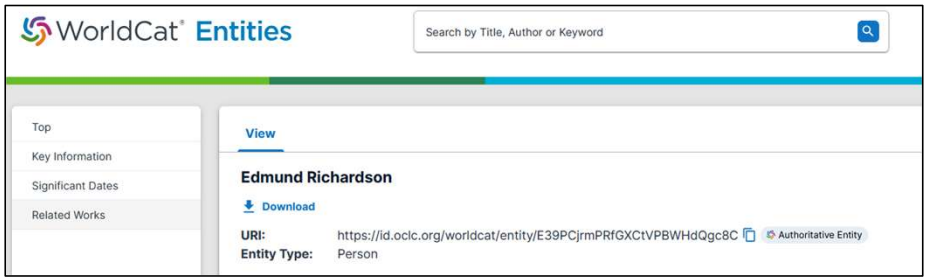


100 1# ‡a Richardson, Edmund, ‡d 1982- ‡e author. ‡1
https://id.oclc.org/worldcat/entity/E39PCjrmPRfGXCtVPBWHdQgc8C
245 10 ‡a Alexander : ‡b god, king, man / ‡c Edmund Richardson.
250 ## ‡a First U.S. edition.
264 #1 ‡a New York, NY : ‡b St. Martin's Press, ‡c 2026.
300 ## ‡a 469 pages, 8 unnumbered pages of plates : ‡b illustrations (some color), maps ; ‡c 25 cm
336 ## ‡a text ‡b txt ‡2 rdacontent ‡0 http://id.loc.gov/vocabulary/contentTypes/txt
337 ## ‡a unmediated ‡b n ‡2 rdamedia ‡0
http://id.loc.gov/vocabulary/mediaTypes/n
338 ## ‡a volume ‡b nc ‡2 rdacarrier ‡0 http://id.loc.gov/vocabulary/carriers/nc
340 ## ‡p illustration ‡2 rdaill ‡0 http://rdaregistry.info/termList/IllusContent/1014
504 ## ‡a Includes bibliographical references and index.
...

Linked data with RDA in action



Subject (Domain)	Predicate (Relationship)	Object (Range)
Work => (Alexander)	has author =>	https://id.oclc.org/worldcat/entity/E39PCjrmPRfGXCtVPBWHdQgc8C



Linked data with RDA in action

100 1# ‡a Richardson, Edmund, ‡d 1982- ‡e author. ‡1
https://id.oclc.org/worldcat/entity/E39PCjrmPRfGXCtVPBWHdQgc8C
245 10 ‡a Alexander : ‡b god, king, man / ‡c Edmund Richardson.
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336 ## ‡a text ‡b txt ‡2 rdacontent ‡0 http://id.loc.gov/vocabulary/contentTypes/txt
337 ## ‡a unmediated ‡b n ‡2 rdamedia ‡0
http://id.loc.gov/vocabulary/mediaTypes/n
338 ## ‡a volume ‡b nc ‡2 rdacarrier ‡0 http://id.loc.gov/vocabulary/carriers/nc
340 ## ‡p illustration ‡2 rdaill ‡0 http://rdaregistry.info/termList/IllusContent/1014
504 ## ‡a Includes bibliographical references and index.
...

Linked data with RDA in action

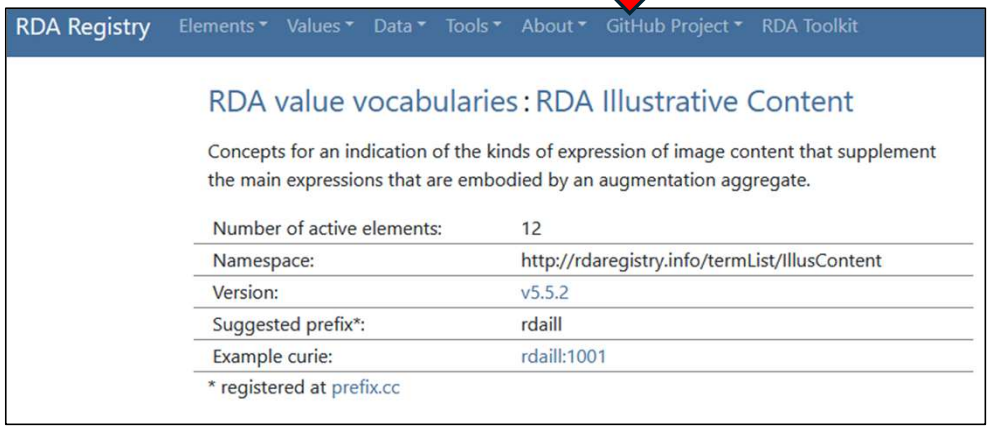
RDA element





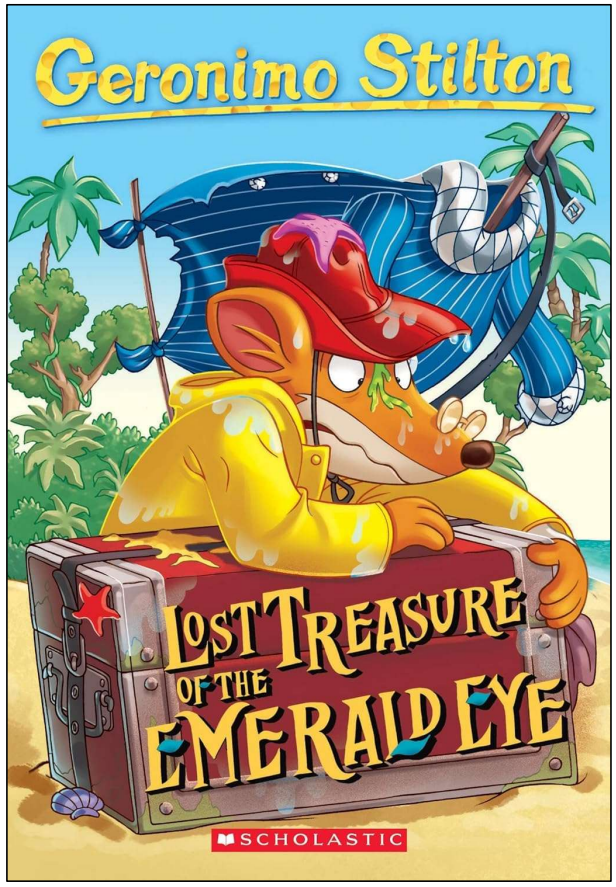
Subject	Predicate	Object
(Domain)	(Relationship)	(no range: literal)
Manifestation => (Alexander)	has illustrative content =>	“illustrations”

https://www.rdaregistry.info/termList/IllusContent/#1014

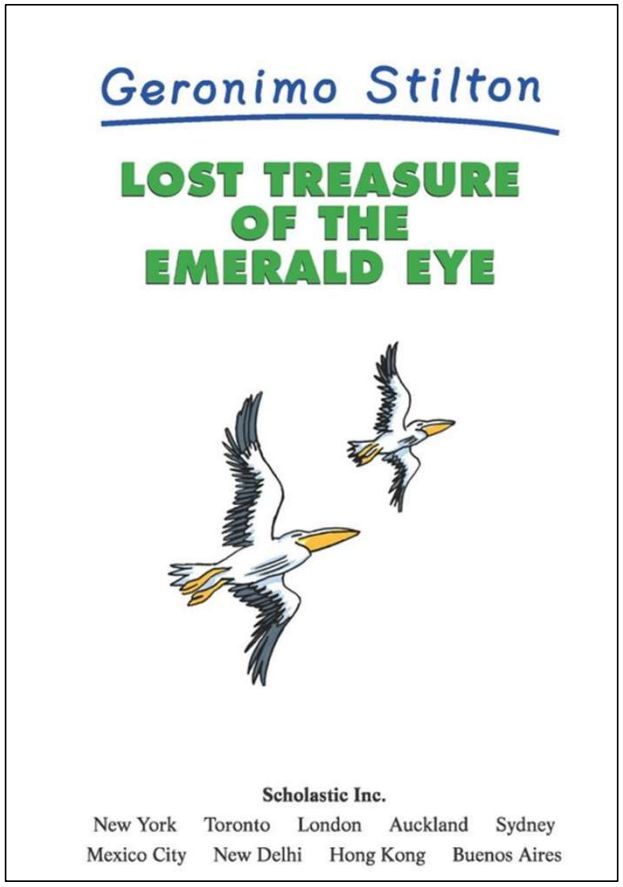


Exercise navigating Official RDA to discover the guidelines for some common cataloging situations

Cover:



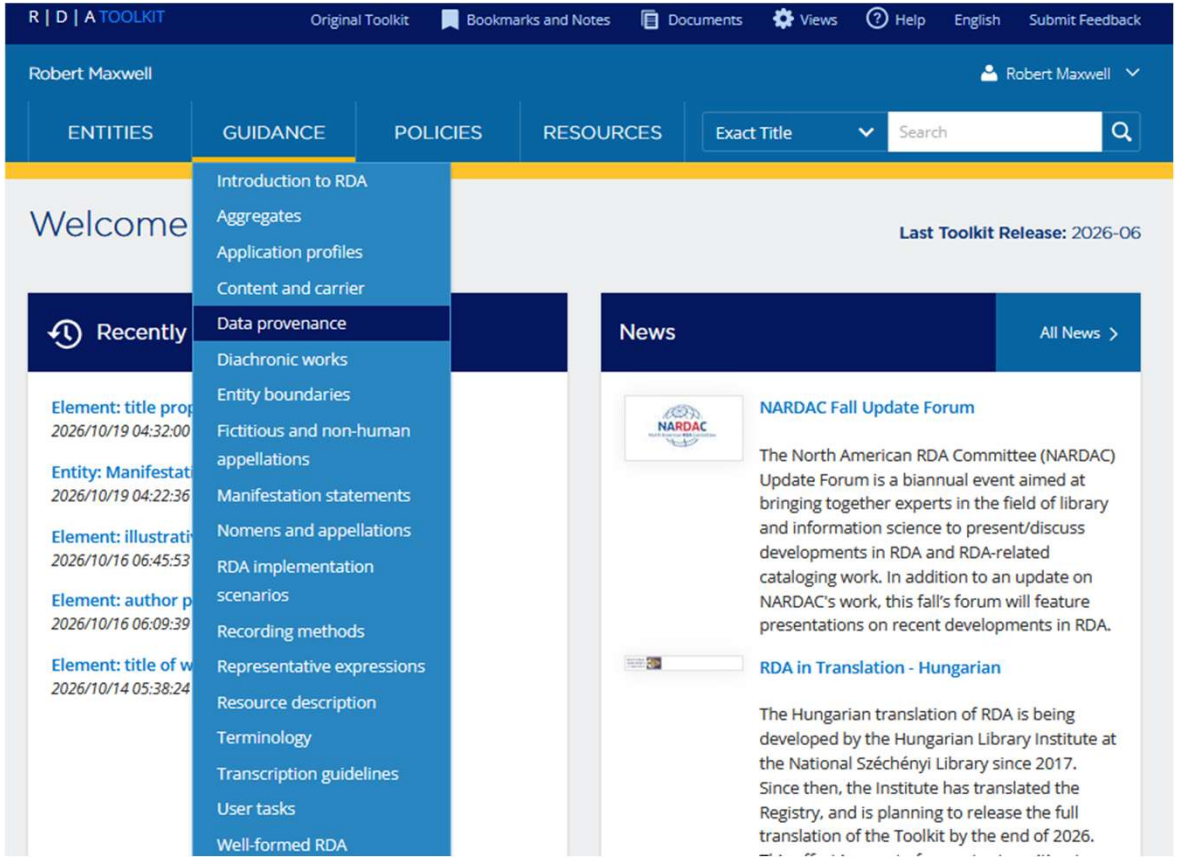
Title page:



Title proper

Where do we take the data from?

Go to Guidance => Data provenance



Title proper

Where do we take the data from?

Go to Recording a source of metadata that is a manifestation being described



Guidance > Data provenance

Data provenance

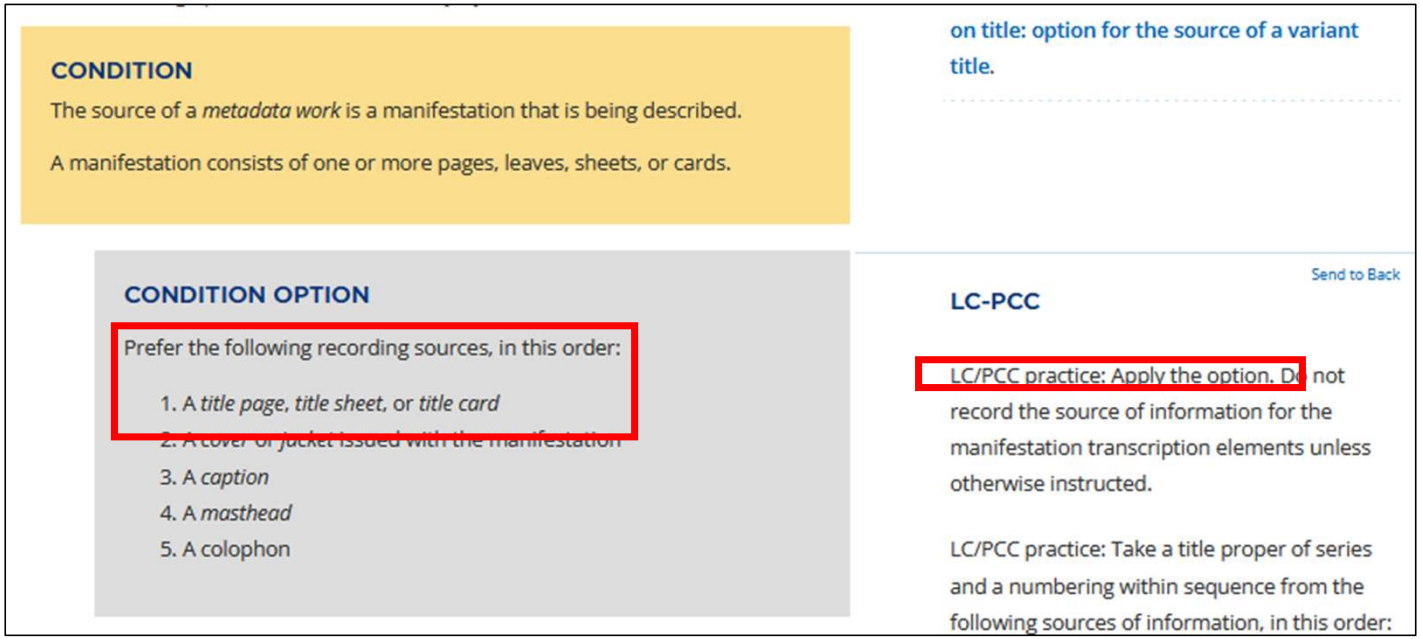
Table of contents

- Recording a note on metadata
- Recording an agent who publishes metadata
- Recording an agent who records metadata
- Recording a content standard used for metadata
- Recording a language of description
- Recording a scope of validity of metadata
- Recording a script of description
- Recording a source of metadata
  - Recording a source of metadata that is a manifestation that is being described
  - Recording a source of metadata that is not a manifestation that is being described
- Recording a timespan for validity of metadata
- Recording a timespan when metadata is published
- Recording a transcription standard used for metadata.

Title proper

Where do we take the data from?

Scroll down to the condition about “a manifestation consists of one or more pages, leaves, sheets, or cards” (a.k.a., a book!)

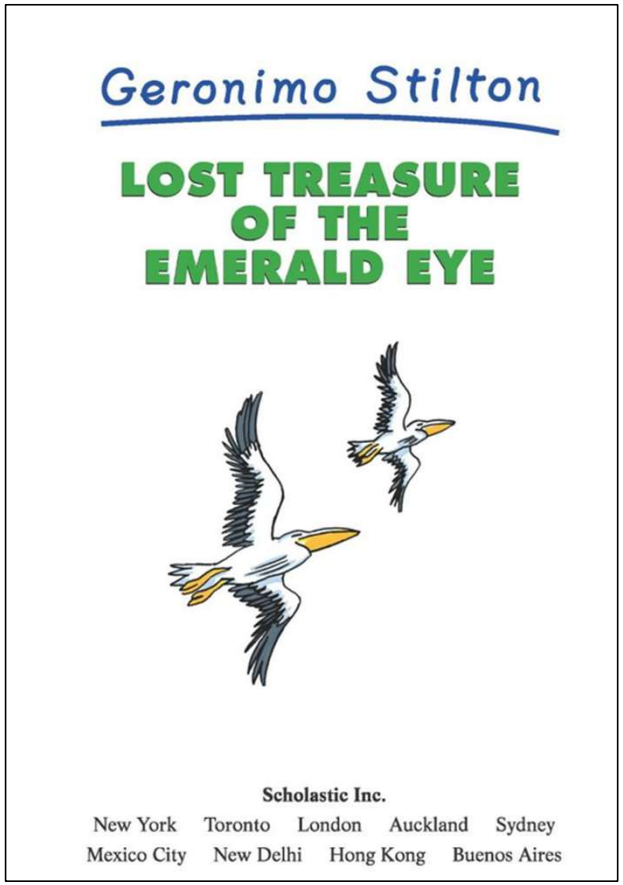


Title proper

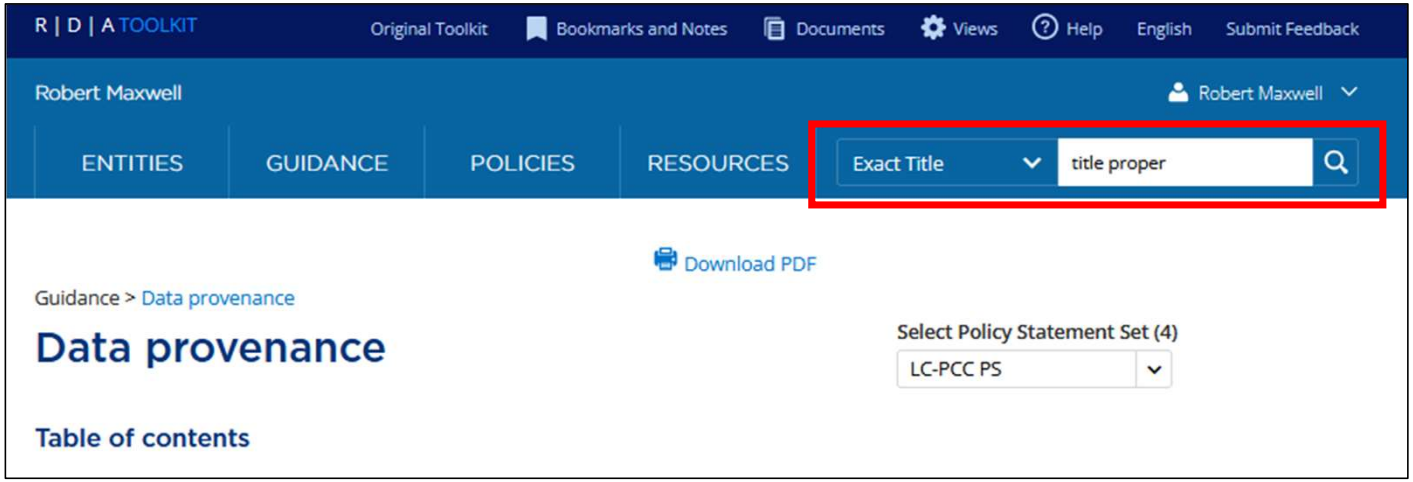
Cover:

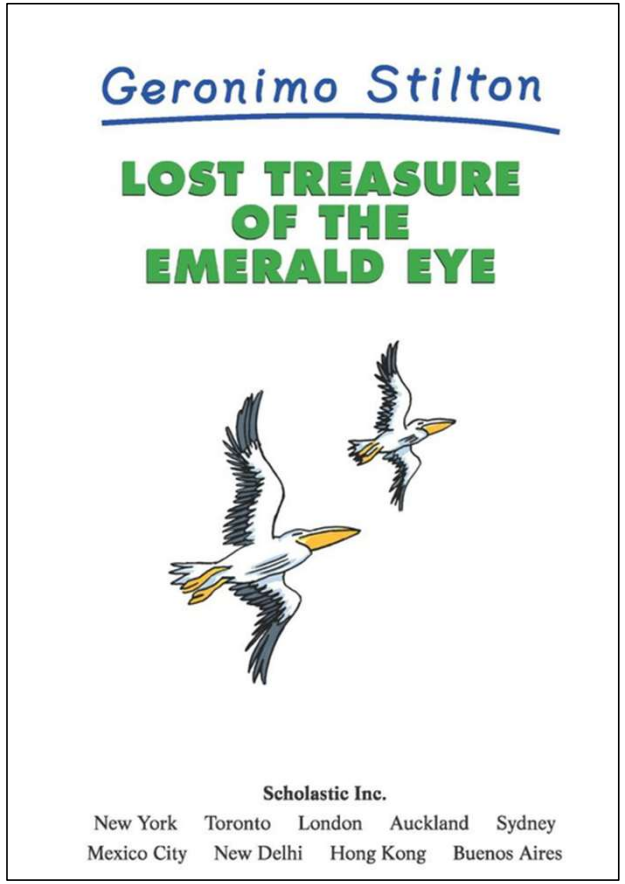


Title page:



Title proper





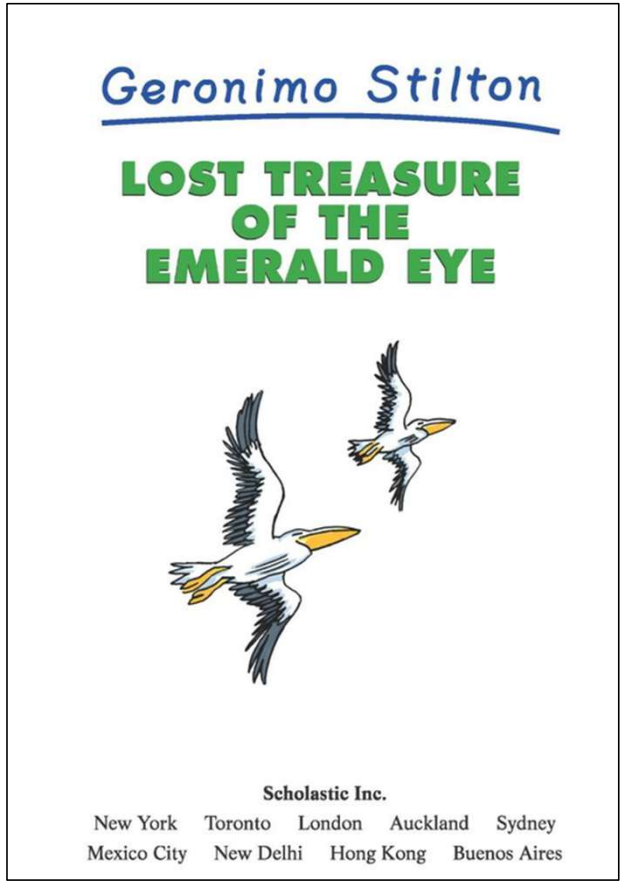
Title proper

Entities > Manifestation > title proper

title proper

Definition and Scope

A nomen that is a title of manifestation that is selected for preference in a specific application or context.



Title proper

Entities > Manifestation > title proper

title proper

Recording

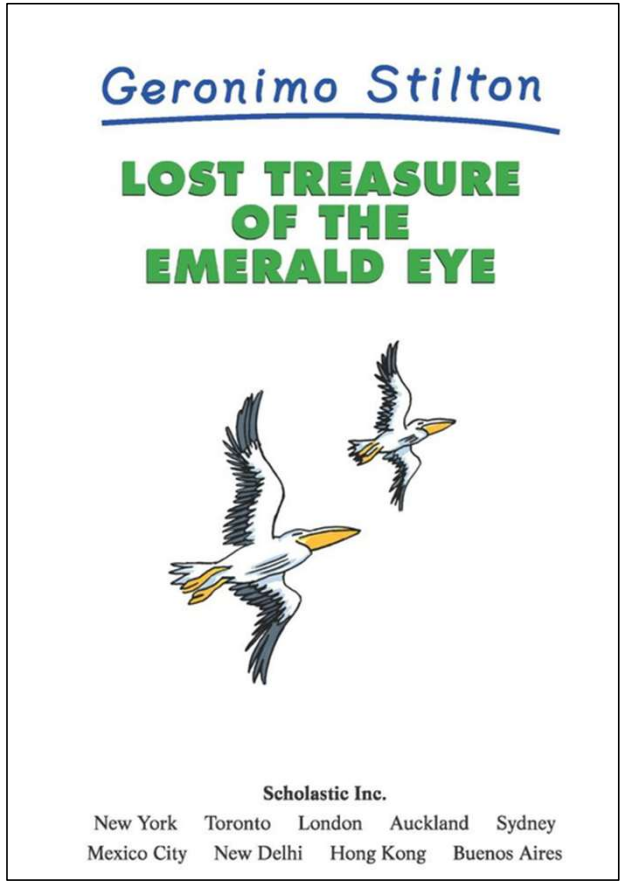
Record this element as a value of Nomen: nomen string or as an instance of a Nomen.

Entities > Nomen > nomen string

nomen string

Definition and Scope

The combination of signs that forms an appellation associated with an entity.



Title proper

Recording an unstructured description

OPTION

Record a value of Manifestation: title of manifestation.

Example

Speedball technique charts

Recording method: unstructured description

Send to Back

LC-PCC

LC/PCC practice: Apply the option.

Recording a structured description

This recording method is not applicable to this element.

Recording an identifier

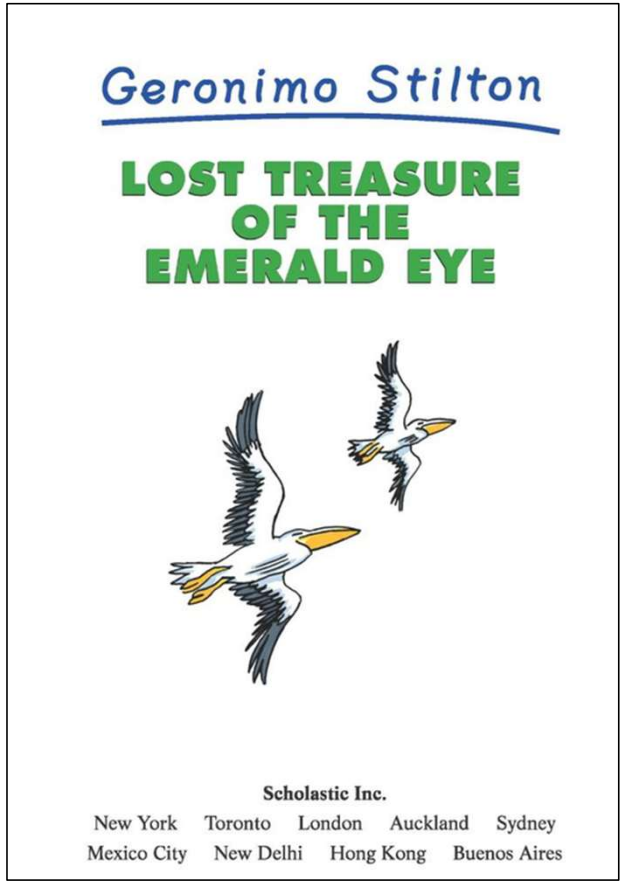
Record an identifier that is a stringified IRI for an instance of a Nomen.

For general guidance on identifiers, see Guidance: Recording methods. Recording an identifier.

Recording an IRI

Record an IRI for an instance of a Nomen as a *real-world object*.

Do not record an IRI for the entity that is being described.



Title proper

Recording an unstructured description

OPTION

Record a value of Manifestation: title of manifestation.

Example

Speedball technique charts

Recording method: unstructured description

Send to Back

LC-PCC

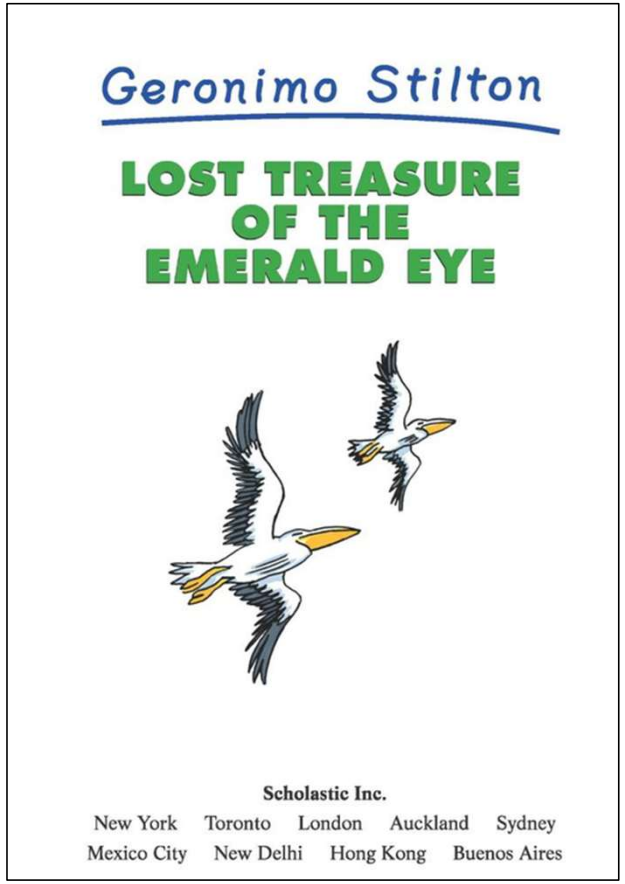
LC/PCC practice: Apply the option.

Entities > Manifestation > title of manifestation

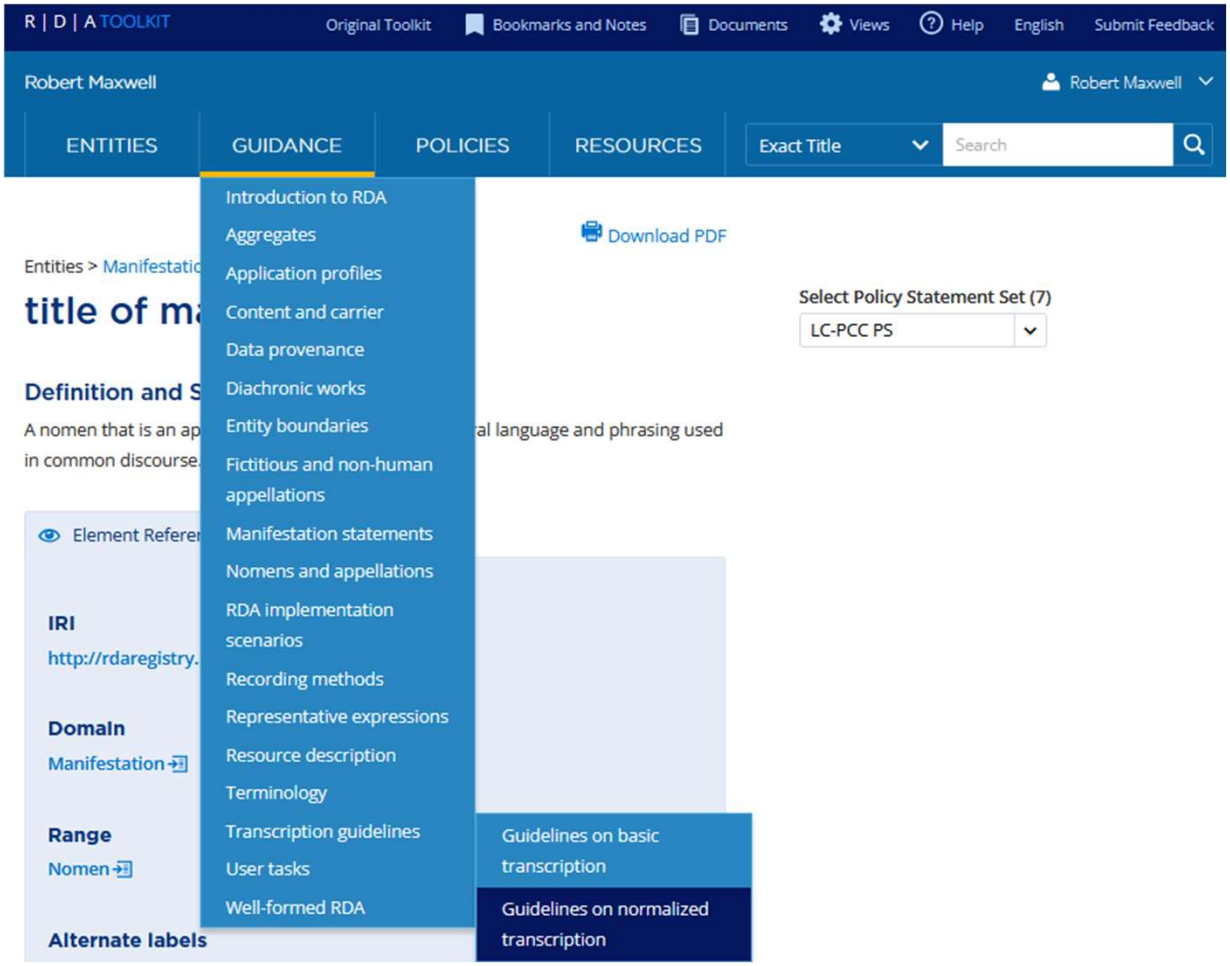
title of manifestation

Definition and Scope

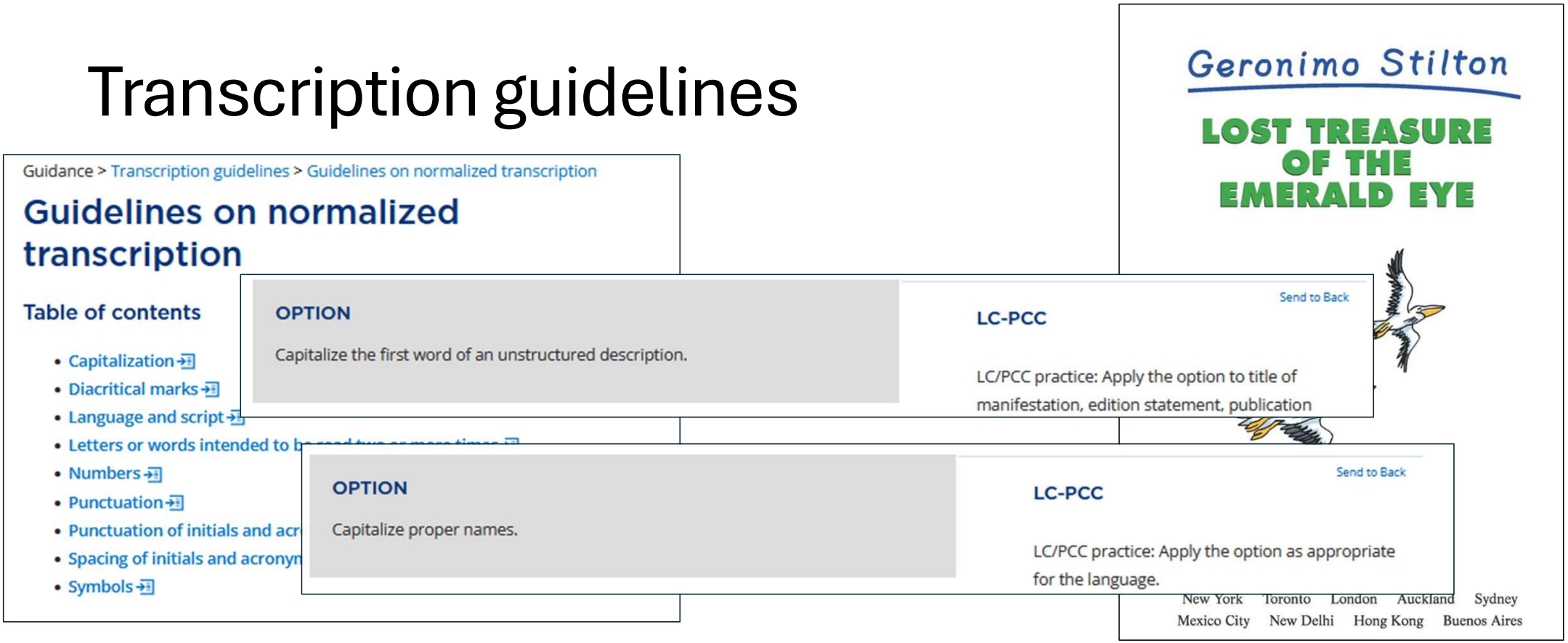
A nomen that is an appellation of manifestation in natural language and phrasing used in common discourse.



Detour: transcription guidelines

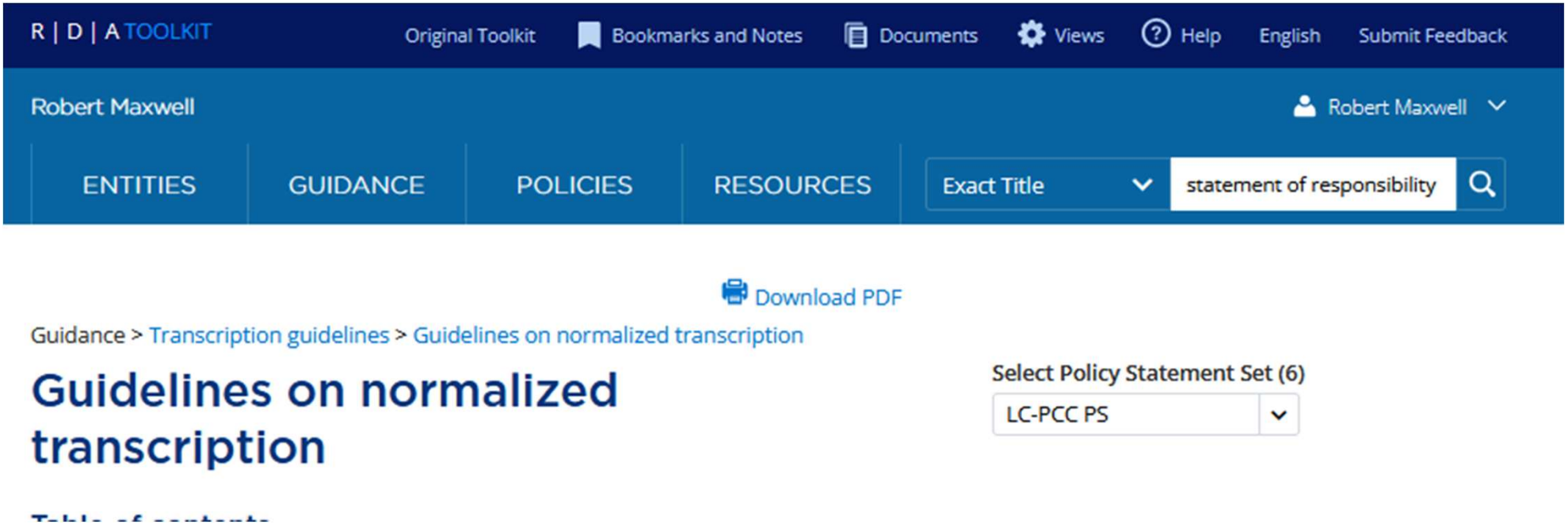


Transcription guidelines

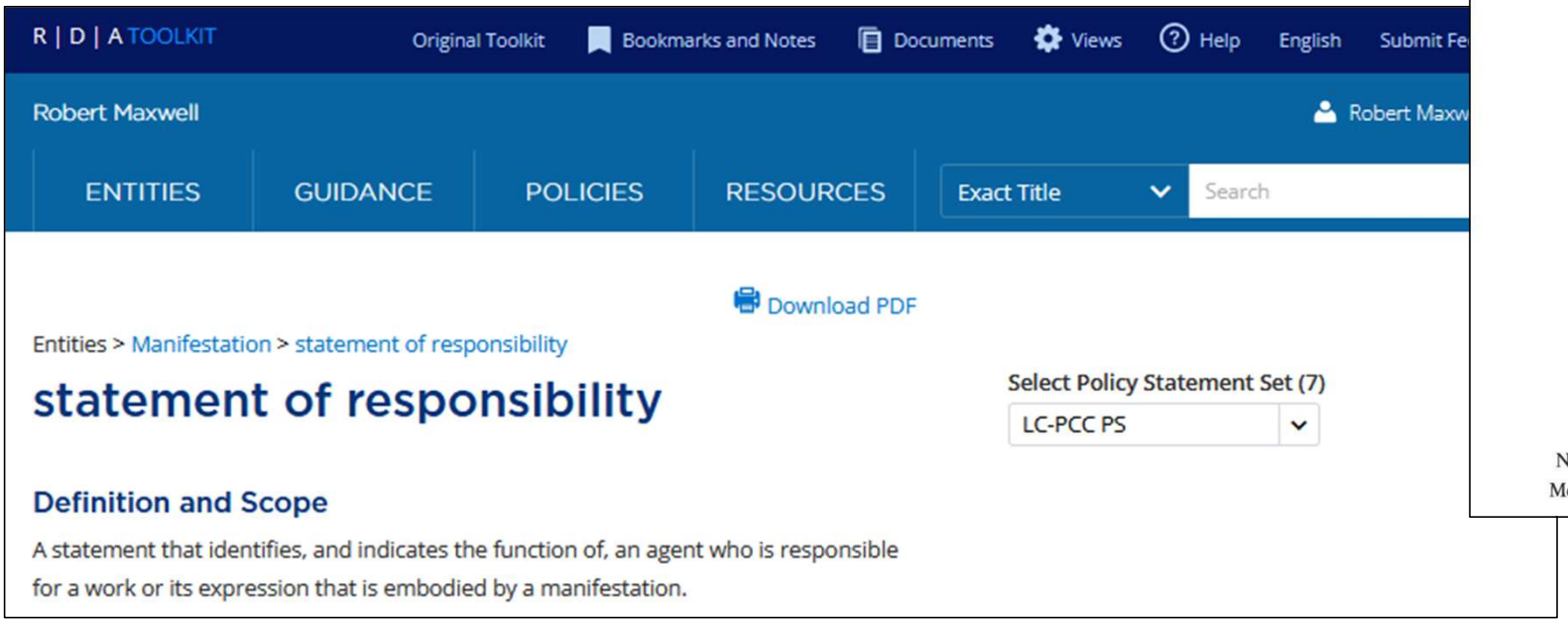


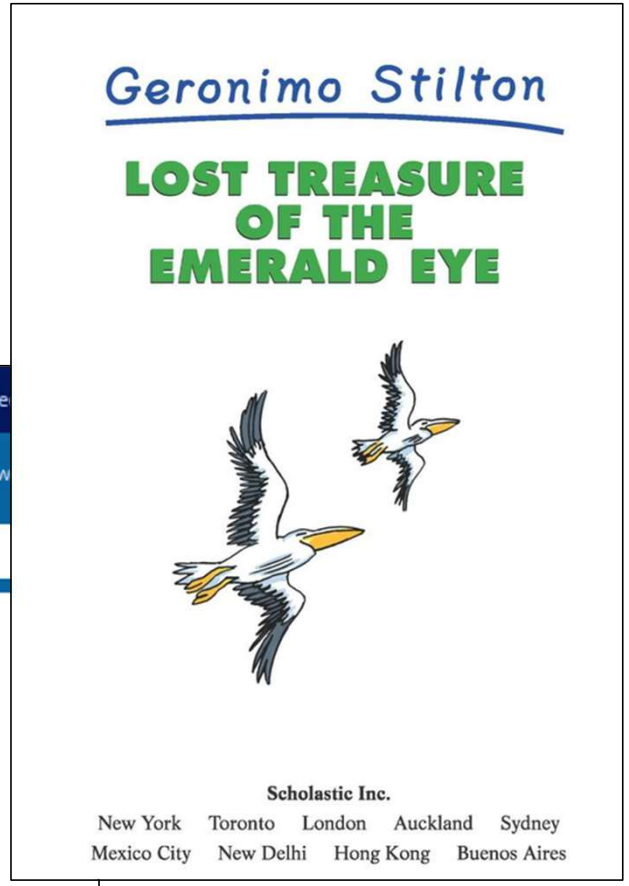
Title proper = Lost treasure of the emerald eye

Statement of responsibility



Statement of responsibility



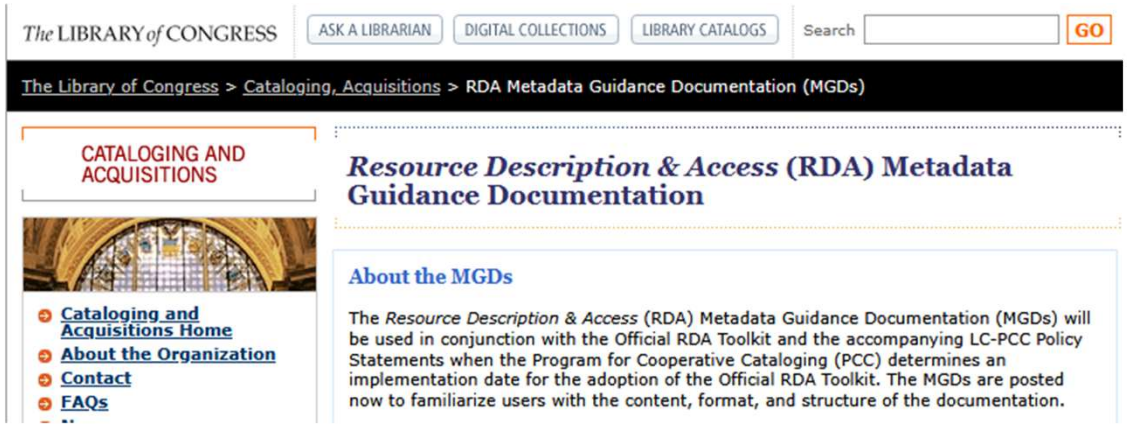


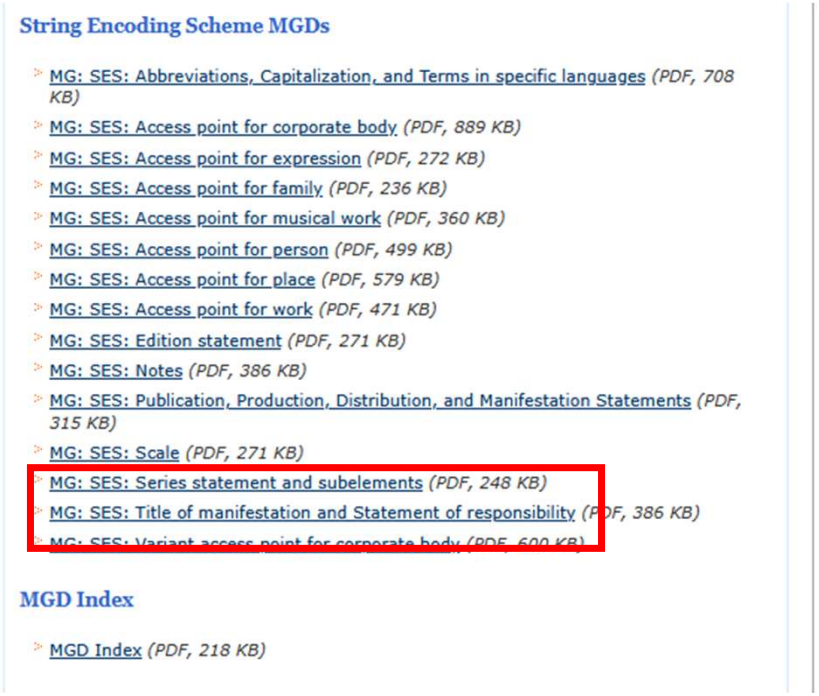
Statement of responsibility: Geronimo Stilton

How to we put the title and statement of responsibility together?

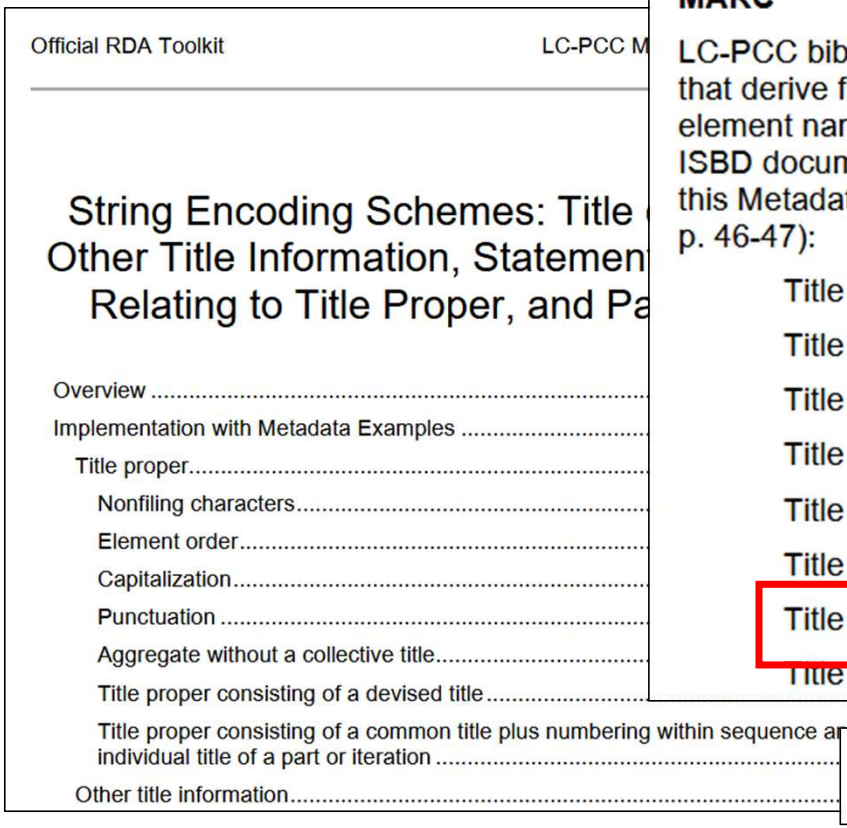
This is an example of an instance where we need to know the string encoding scheme. We will find this at the metadata guidance documentation site

https://www.loc.gov/aba/rda/mgd/





MGD for Title of manifestation and Statement of responsibility – what is the SES?


Official RDA Toolkit LC-PCC M

String Encoding Schemes: Title
Other Title Information, Statemen
Relating to Title Proper, and Pa

Overview
Implementation with Metadata Examples
Title proper
Nonfiling characters
Element order
Capitalization
Punctuation
Aggregate without a collective title
Title proper consisting of a devised title
Title proper consisting of a common title plus numbering within sequence a
individual title of a part or iteration
Other title information

MARC

LC-PCC bibliographic descriptions in MARC records generally follow string encoding schemes that derive from ISBD: International Standard Bibliographic Description. Although Official RDA element names do not always match ISBD element names, they are similar enough that the ISBD document may be consulted without much difficulty. Especially helpful, for the purposes of this Metadata Guidance Document, is the following list of ISBD "punctuation patterns" (found on p. 46-47):

Title proper

Title proper : other title information

Title proper = Parallel title

Title proper = Parallel title : other title information

Title proper : other title information = Parallel title : parallel other title information

Title proper : other title information = parallel other title information

Title proper / statement of responsibility

Title proper = Parallel title / statement of responsibility

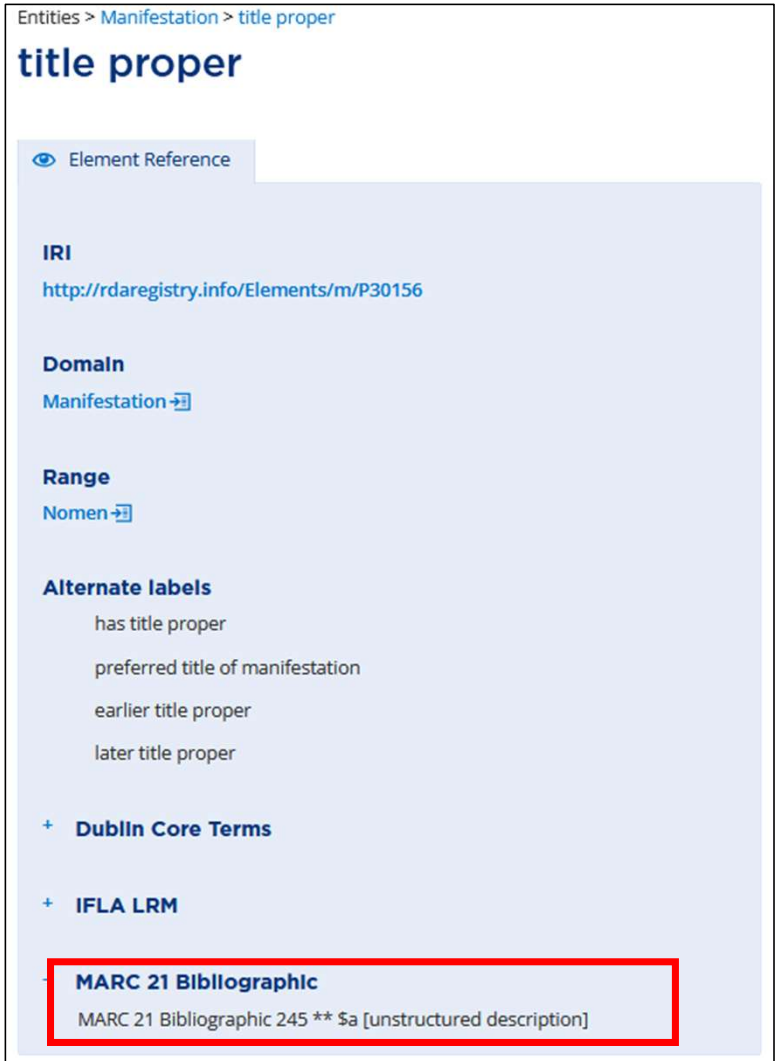
MARC end-of-field punctuation instructions are given in MG: Transcription-Punctuation. Particularly relevant is this instruction: "If field 245 does not end in a period, add one."

RDA element reference—where in MARC do we record things?

Be sure the element reference section is open; and also open up MARC 21 bibliographic at the bottom.

Title proper is recorded in MARC 21 bibliographic 245 subfield $a.

If we look at the same thing under statement of responsibility we will be informed that statement of responsibility is recorded in MARC 21 bibliographic subfield $c.



Recording in MARC -- https://www.loc.gov/marc/bibliographic

Find your way to 245 (https://www.loc.gov/marc/bibliographic/bd245.html)

245 - Title Statement (NR)

MARC 21 Bibliographic - Full — **December 2025**

First Indicator
Title added entry
0 - No added entry
1 - Added entry

Second Indicator
Nonfiling characters
0 - No nonfiling characters
1-9 - Number of nonfiling characters

Subfield Codes
$a - Title (NR)
$b - Remainder of title (NR)
$c - Statement of responsibility, etc. (NR)
$f - Inclusive dates (NR)
$g - Bulk dates (NR)
$h - Medium (NR)
$k - Form (R)
$n - Number of part/section of a work (R)
$p - Name of part/section of a work (R)
$s - Version (NR)
$z - Title statement context note (NR)
$6 - Linkage (NR)
$7 - Data provenance (R)
$8 - Field link and sequence number (R)

Recorded data: title proper = Lost treasure of the emerald eye ; statement of responsibility = Geronimo Stilton

String encoding scheme = Title proper / statement of responsibility plus period at end if not already there

This produces: Lost treasure of the emerald eye / Geronimo Stilton.

Encoded in MARC: 245 10 $a Lost treasure of the emerald eye / $c Geronimo Stilton.

Thank you for coming! Questions?

Official RDA and You:
What to Expect after the Countdown Clock Ends

Robert L. Maxwell

NOTSL Virtual Fall Meeting “It’s Official: Implementing RDA … again”

October 23, 2026