

To: Renate Behrens, Chair, RDA Steering Committee

CC: Anne Welsh, Secretary, RDA Steering Committee

From: Jessica Grzegorski, RDA Examples Editor

Subject: Formal response to RSC/ExtentWG/2025/1, Proposal for Manifestation: **extent of manifestation** and Manifestation: **manifestation extent statement**

Recommendation 1: Recast the element Manifestation: **extent of manifestation** as a superelement that is used to record values constructed from values derived from its subelements in accordance with string encoding schemes.

Approve.

Recommendation 2: Create the element Manifestation: **manifestation extent statement**, referencing each of the subelements of Manifestation: **extent of manifestation** as options to record a value. Update the RDA Toolkit guidance chapter for manifestation statements.

Provisionally approve.

Although I approve of the creation of this element, I would prefer to see at least a preliminary set of instructions, including Options, Conditions, and/or Condition Options. The instructions for manifestation statement elements do not follow a uniform structure. This arrangement is expected and not problematic, but it does make it difficult to infer what the instructions for Manifestation: **manifestation extent statement** would look like based on the instructions in the other manifestation statement elements.

Moreover, I agree with the recommendation to update the guidance chapter on manifestation statements, but I would like to see some suggested revisions. The current instructions for Manifestation: **extent of manifestation** are clearly weighted toward structured description more so than unstructured description. Additional guidance on the use of unstructured description in the new Manifestation: **manifestation extent statement** would give RDA users a better understanding of how to use the element.