MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 2025 MEETING OF THE RDA STEERING COMMITTEE
Asynchronous, via Basecamp, Google Meet and Zoom
17-20 November 2025

Attending: Getaneh Alemu, RSC Wider Community Engagement Officer Elect (observing)
     Colleen Barbus, RDA Board Chair
     Renate Behrens, RSC Chair
     Charlene Chou, RSC Wider Community Engagement Officer (absent from
      synchronous Executive Session)
     Ahava Cohen, RSC Europe Representative
     Szabolcs Dancs, RSC Translations Team Liaison Officer
     Jack Ennis Butler, RSC Oceania Representative
     Jessica Grzegorski, RDA Examples Editor
     James Hennelly, Director, ALA Digital Reference (RDA publisher)
     Christopher Holden, RSC Technica Team Liaison Officer
     Filiberto Felipe Martinez Arellano, RSC Latin America and the Caribbean
      Representative
     Robert Maxwell, RSC North America Representative
     Elisa Sze, RSC Education and Orientation Officer
     Anne Welsh, RSC Secretary

Apologies: Charlene Chou, RSC Wider Community Engagement Officer, was unable to
     attend the synchronous Executive Session

Observers registered for the Public Session on 18 November:
     Selma Alexandre, USA
     Adam Baron, USA
     Rebecca Belford. USA
     Dominique Bourassa, USA
     Ana Cáliz Casanova, USA
     May Chan, Canada
     Hong Cui, Canada
     Iman Dagher, USA
     Thuy-Anh Dang, USA
     Deborah Fritz, USA
     Kathy Glennan, USA
     Jorge Gomez Briseño, Mexico
     Michela Goodwin, Australia
     Chelsea Hoover, USA
     Laura Jamieson, New Zealand

Ebe Kartus, New Zealand
Joanna Katsune, USA
Anastasia Kerameos, UK
Hannes Lowagie, Belgium
Mona Labrie, Canada
Hannes Lowagie, Belgium
Nathalie Mainville, Canada
Timothy Ryan Mendenhall
Daniel Paradis, Canada
Pat Riva, Canada
Adam Schiff, USA
Vera Smirnova. Australia
Olivera Stojanović, Serbia
Nadiya Strishenets, Ukraine
Sharolyn Swenson, USA
Pamela Thomas, USA
Crystal Yragui, USA

Agenda item numbering continues from the previous meeting.

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Public Session, Tuesday, 18 November

Executive Session, Asynchronous Meeting, 17 – 20 November

Executive Session Synchronous Meeting
Monday, 17 November 7-9pm UTC

538   Welcome, housekeeping and review of previous action items
Renate Behrens welcomed everyone and expressed a warm welcome to Jack Ennis Butler, attending his first RSC Meeting as Representative for Oceania, and to Getaneh Alemu, observing the meeting as Wider Community Engagement Officer Elect. She also expressed the sadness of the whole RSC that this would be the last meeting attended by Charlene Chou as Wider Community Engagement Officer[1] and Colleen Barbus as RDA Board Chair. Renate was happy to report that all action items have been completed or were in progress.

539   Update from the Board
Colleen Barbus reported the membership changes on the Board. She thanked Haliza Jailani, National Institution Representative for Asia for her service, and highlighted her outreach work in the region with Charlene Chou. Haliza's place will be taken by a colleague from the National Library Board, Singapore. She also thanked Christian Aliverti for his service as National Institution Representative for Europe. His place has been taken by Hannes Lowagie. She is grateful that Christian has agreed to continue his work on the Working Groups on which he is serving, and that he and Hannes have completed a smooth transition. Recruitment has started for National Institution Representatives for Africa and the USA. Renate Behrens and James Hennelly echoed Colleen's thanks to outgoing members and welcome to new members of the Board. The next meeting of the Board takes place in December and one of the topics on the Agenda is the Board's Strategic Plan. The RSC Secretary thanked Colleen for working on this in a timely manner this year, since the RSC Chair and she will be working on the RSC's Annual Plan to go before the RSC in its first meeting of 2026. Renate Behrens echoed the importance of being able to present the draft to the RSC at its next meeting, and hoped that the Board would agree their Strategic Plan in December. James Hennelly thanked Colleen for her work on this and for all her work during her term as Board Chair. From 1 January 2026, the role of Chair will rotate to Chris Oliver, Copyright Holder for the Canadian Federation of Library Associations. Colleen will remain on the Board as Copyright Holder for the American Library Association.

540   Update from ALA Digital Reference
James Hennelly reported that the October Release was completed on time, with a few technical issues that were resolved. There are corrections and fixes based on feedback submitted to RDA Toolkit and changes to the Guidance chapter on Aggregates. Policy statements have been added by the British Library, Library and Archives Canada, and the New Zealand National Library. This release also introduces the policy statements from the Rare Books and Materials Section (RBMS). Toolkit subscribers can read the full release notes. The Spanish translation debuted in

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[1] From 1 January 2026, Charlene Chou will remain on the Joint RDA Board / RSC Working Group on Artificial Intelligence and the Religions in RDA Working Group. Ahava Cohen, Chair of the AI Working Group, and David Roth, Chair of the Religions Working Group, are grateful for her continued service.

this release[2]. The October Release is the final one under our new publishing calendar. Next year, the release schedule will follow the same pattern, with releases in February, June, and October. In each release the English-language version is published first, and the translations will follow in the weeks after. James also shared updates on the development work ALA Digital Reference is currently carrying out. This will remain business confidential until it is closer to completion.

541   Updates from Working Groups

541.1   Task and Finish / Advisory Working Groups

541.1.1 RDA Board / RSC Working Group on Artificial Intelligence (AI)
Working Group Chair Ahava Cohen shared that a current challenge faced by institutions using AI in cataloguing is AI Drift. An interesting discussion ensued. Ahava also reported that they are still receiving numerous requests for a "Minimal Set". After an intense discussion on the pros and cons of this approach, Renate Behrens asked Chris Holden, Technical Team Liaison Officer, if the Technical Working Group could look into this. Both Renate and James are aware of the strong opinions on each side of this debate, but are mindful that the last time it was raised the Technical Working Group advised against a Minimal Description Set. Is there anything that can be done, since so many requests are received from the wider RDA cataloguing community? Renate highlighted that the next step currently underway in the AI Working Group is to suggest updated tasks to the Board and RSC. Ahava Cohen agreed to update the tasks ahead of the next Board meeting and then bring them to the next RSC Meeting. The Secretary provided Ahava with the number for the updated Terms of Reference – RSC/Chair/2026/4.

541.1.1.1   ACTION: Ahava Cohen to invite Chris Holden to the next meeting of the AI Working Group; Chris to observe AI Working Group and report back, firstly to the Technical Working Group for them to discuss the issues and then to the RSC.

541.1.1.2   ACTION: Ahava Cohen to present DRAFT RSC/Chair/2026/4 – Working Group on Artificial Intelligence, 2026 to the RDA Board in December 2025 and the RSC Meeting in January 2026. This will ultimately replace RSC/Chair/2025/10 – Working Group on Artificial Intelligence, 2025[3]

541.1.2 RSC Working Group on Extent
Renate thanked the Working Group for introducing its proposals at this Meeting (See Item 548). She shared with the RSC that rather than seeking an extension to the Working Group, she had obtained an agreement from its Chair, Thomas Brenndorfer, to form a new Working Group on

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[2] News item: https://www.rdatoolkit.org/news/rda/announcing-spanish-translation-official-rda
[3] Available on ALAIR: https://hdl.handle.net/11213/22923

String Encoding Schemes (SES) and to recruit appropriate members of the Extent Working Group to join it. It is clear from the Extent Working Group's proposals that SES form a significant part of them, and so the first task for the SES Working Group will be to implement the Extent proposals in conjunction with the Technical Team Liaison Officer and Secretary as appropriate. If any of the Extent proposals are rejected by the RSC in the January Meeting, the Extent Working Group's Terms of Reference will include reacting to this (whether by drafting further proposals or offering alternative potential solutions). DRAFT Terms of Reference for the SES Working Group will be presented to the RSC in the January meeting after the Extent Working Group's proposals have been discussed. The RSC agreed unanimously with the plan to discharge the Extent Working Group on the understanding that the SES Working Group will pick up any of its remaining workload. Renate thanked Thomas and the rest of the Extent Working Group for the huge amount of work they have undertaken and she thanked those who are willing to join the SES Working Group. In response to a question, she confirmed that a call for new additional members of the SES Working Group will be issued after the January RSC Meeting, when it is clear how much work is needed to complete Extent work.

541.1.2.1   **ACTION:**   Chair and Secretary to liaise with incoming SES Working Group Chair on DRAFT Terms of Reference ahead of the January RSC Meeting.

541.1.2.2   **ACTION:**   Secretary to prepare a DRAFT discharge document for presentation at the January RSC Meeting, and to update it subject to the outcome of discussions of the Extent proposals in that meeting[4].

541.1.3 RSC Working Group on Religions in RDA

Renate Behrens thanked David Roth and the members of the Religions Working Group for their proposal under discussion at this meeting (Item 546), and their continued hard work. As an Advisory Working Group on such an important topic for the internationalization of RDA, the Working Group will continue in 2026. A DRAFT updated Terms of Reference document will be presented in the next RSC Meeting.

541.1.3.1   **ACTION:**   Chair and Secretary to liaise with David Roth, Working Group Chair, on DRAFT updated Terms of Reference ahead of the January RSC Meeting.

541.2   RSC Examples Working Group

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[4] Although the date at which the Extent Working Group ends is 31 December 2025, it is not unusual for discharge documents to be presented in January, especially where there are loose ends to be tied up and / or recommendations to be voted on.

RDA Examples Editor Jessica Grzegorski highlighted the future actions section of her annual report (Item 549.5). She and James Hennelly discussed the practicalities of the full example sets the Working Group has been creating. Renate Behrens thanked them for this update, and, on behalf of the rest of the RSC, thanked the Examples Working Group members for all their hard work.

541.3   Technical Working Group

Technical Team Liaison Officer Chris Holden shared with the RSC his forthcoming public update on RSC/TechnicalWG/2025/1 – Discussion paper on soft-deprecated parallel elements[5]. He also highlighted recent work on the Registry and shared that the Working Group is continuing to look at the work undertaken by organisations who are currently implementing Official RDA. (See Item 549.8 for his annual report).

541.4   Translations Working Group

Translations Team Liaison Officer Szabolcs Dancs highlighted his current work to finalise plans for a Webinar in February for RDA cataloguers in Central and Eastern Europe, and thanked the members of the RSC who have agreed to give presentations. Renate and James thanked Szabolcs for this important work to strengthen links in the region and James highlighted recent activities by ALA Digital Reference with colleagues there who are exploring translations and / or new subscriptions. He thanked Szabolcs for his ongoing work to represent the benefits of Official RDA with his colleagues in Hungary and nearby countries. Szabolcs also shared the work he and Jessica Grzegorski have been doing on an upcoming proposal. Initially planned for the January meeting, he said he was happy for it to be scheduled for April instead, to allow more space for the Extent proposals. He encouraged members of the RSC, especially new members, to read his annual report (Item 549.9) and get in touch if they have any questions about the work of the translators.

542   Meetings 2026

After extensive discussion, the following dates have been set for 2026 RSC Meetings:

- Monday 19 – Thursday 22 January
- Monday 27 – Thursday 30 April
- Monday 27 – Thursday 30 July
- Monday 16 – 19 November

The Public Session in January will take place on **Wednesday 21 January at 19:00 – 21:00 UTC.** There is a handy time converter here.[6]

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[5] RSC/TechnicalWG/2025/1 was published on the RSC website on 18 November ahead of the Public Session and is archived at https://hdl.handle.net/11213/23621.
[6] Save the Dates: RSC Public Sessions 2026 was published on the RSC News section on 18 November: https://www.rdatoolkit.org/rsc/2026savethedates

Given the rotation of the Chair of the RDA Board from the US Copyright Holder to the Canadian Copyright Holder, Colleen Barbus suggested including incoming RDA Board Chair Chris Oliver in the discussions of time. Renate Behrens agreed to postpone setting the time of the Public Sessions for April, July and November until the Executive Session Synchronous Meeting in January.

542.1   ACTION: Secretary to contact Chris Oliver with the time of the Executive Session Synchronous Meeting in January and check she is able to attend.

Public Session, Tuesday, 18 November

543   Recorded presentation by Aimee Hay, Program Coordinator, National State Libraries Australasia on Official RDA Implementation

Renate Behrens introduced a recorded presentation on the NSLA Official RDA Project by Aimee Hay, Program Coordinator.[7] Following this, she thanked Aimee for her insight into this excellent collaborative project.

544   RSC/NARDAC/2025/3 – Inconsistency in the transcribed manifestation elements related to source of information

Robert Maxwell introduced the proposal[8] and responded to the issues raised by members of the RSC. He accepted the issues with soft-deprecated terms, and noting the Technical Working Group's objections, complied with the suggestion of the Chair and Secretary that RSC/NARDAC/2025/3 be treated as a Discussion Paper in order to decide on next steps. He stressed that the main point raised by NARDAC is that the instructions are confusing, and this is something that they would very much like to see resolved. He thanked those members of the RSC who offered help to carry it forward.

544.1 Technical issues

Chris thanked Robert for bringing these important issues to the table for discussion. He stressed that the Technical Working Group was not trying to halt improvements to the text of RDA. Having reviewed the elements in the proposal, the Technical Working Group were uncomfortable with their disparate nature, including shortcuts and elements including transcription but also going beyond transcription, as well as superelements (transcribed and not

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[7] The presentation was published to the RDA Toolkit YouTube Channel on 19 November: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qmxCGPUvTqw. It is also linked from the RSC news section - https://www.rdatoolkit.org/rsc/November2025NSLA – and from the Implementing Official RDA webpage: https://www.rdatoolkit.org/rsc/implementingRDA

[8] RSC/NARDAC/2025/3 - https://hdl.handle.net/11213/23266 - was published on 21 September and official responses were received between 10 October and 11 November. RSC/NARDAC/2025/3/summary, which includes links to the official responses, was published on 12 November: https://hdl.handle.net/11213/23389

transcribed together). Chris highlighted that some of the options in these elements exist as compromises to accommodate legacy data. As a result, a blanket change to all the elements in the proposal could have unintended negative consequences. However, Chris believes it will be possible to find a way forward – not by taking a blanket approach, but by tacking each issue separately to achieve coherence in the text of RDA, which NARDAC wants, without risking difficulties. He is very willing to collaborate with Robert and the new North America representative to take the intention behind the proposal forward.

544.2   Support from other RSC Members

Europe Representative Ahava Cohen said she values the intent to make everything explicit and then consolidate them. She observed an ever-present tension in cataloguing rules between explanation and concision. Oceania Representative Jack Ennis Butler agrees that there are inconsistencies in the text of RDA, as highlighted by the proposal. He shared that the National Library of New Zealand had made similar points based on their day-to-day practice during their implementation. In particular he mentioned the Data Provenance tables. He also echoed Ahava's point about explanation versus concision. Sometimes the text links through to another part of it, but it does not answer the cataloguer's query for which they are consulting the text. He and his ORDAC colleagues are happy to help carry the proposal forward. Ahava agreed that she was happy to do so too. Renate suggested that input from all the Regional Representatives would be valuable and Robert agreed.

544.3   Data Provenance a moot topic

Robert agreed wholeheartedly with Jack's example of Data Provenance, which often confuses the tasks of choosing and recording in its text. Chris agreed that we need to refine Data Provenance.

544.4   Examples are always meant to illustrate

Jessica Grzegorski offered her assistance as and when required to carry the intentions of the proposal forward. She also felt it important to restate that a core principle of RDA (as distinct from many earlier standards, including AACR and AACR2) is that examples are always meant to illustrate. Instructions should always be made clearer first, and then examples can be added. We do not want to end up with a situation in which instead of looking for principles to apply, cataloguers were searching for specific examples that matched their current situation exactly. Ahava Cohen agreed with this. She has been looking at the history of cataloguing rules, and they do tend to start concise with principles and then expand as more and more examples are added. It becomes time-consuming if cataloguers have to read through every single example in case there are implicit instructions within them.

544.5   The importance of Guidance pages

Education and Orientation Officer Elisa Sze raised the issue of Guidance pages. In training and teaching contexts, people are arriving from lots of different sources. They may or may not know

to read the Guidance pages first. It would be helpful, in the context of carrying the intentions of this proposal further, to identify Guidance pages for updating.

544.6   Next steps

Renate Behrens asked what were the next steps. It was decided that Robert and Chris would form a Rapid Action Group to find a way to carry the intentions of the proposal forward that will be effective from the Technical Working Group's point of view.

544.6.1	**ACTION:**	Robert and Chris to form a Rapid Action Group, including the new North America Representative as soon as they are appointed, and drawing on the expertise of the other Regional Representatives, the Examples Editor and the Education and Orientation Officer as and when required.
544.6.2	**ACTION:**	Robert to go back to NARDAC formally and explain that the intentions of their proposal will be carried forward, using mechanisms to be evaluated by the Rapid Action Group with advice from the Technical Working Group.
544.6.3	**ACTION:**	Robert / the new North America Representative to report back (2-3 sentences) on progress at the January Meeting, and particularly whether a proposal will be forthcoming for the April or June meeting.

545   RSC/NARDAC/2025/4 – Scope note for Corporate Body

Robert Maxwell introduced the proposal.[9] Noting the Technical Working Group's objections, complied with the suggestion of the Chair and Secretary that RSC/NARDAC/2025/4 be treated as a Discussion Paper in order to decide on next steps. He explained that the motivation behind the proposal had been to restore wording from Original RDA. Although he accepted that RSC/NARDAC/2025/4 was now being treated as a Discussion Paper, he wanted to record his disagreement with the Technical Working Group's reading of IFLA LRM as set out in RSC/NARDAC/2025/4/TTLO[10].

545.1   LRM on Corporate Entities

Technical Team Liaison Officer Chris Holden stated that IFLA LRM talks about "Corporate Entities" rather than "Corporate Bodies" and stressed that compliance with the LRM was a core

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[9] RSC/NARDAC/2025/4 - https://hdl.handle.net/11213/23267 - was published on 22 September and official responses were received between 10 October and 11 November. RSC/NARDAC/2025/4/summary, which includes links to the official responses, was published on 13 November: https://hdl.handle.net/11213/23397.
[10] https://hdl.handle.net/11213/23391

principle of RDA. The Technical Working Group simply cannot approve deviation from the LRM.

545.2   Space for non-Anglo-American traditions

Europe Representative Ahava Cohen acknowledged that lists of the kind proposed by NARDAC are usual going back, at least, to the nineteenth century. The main feedback from EURIG members is that any such list should not be exhaustive so that scope is left for non-Anglo-American traditions.

545.3   First Nations and Collective Agents

Oceania Representative Jack Ennis Butler stated that a key issue from Oceania, and he expected other Regions in which information provision for First Nations was a priority, is that space is needed in the definition of Collective Agents for First Nations groups.

545.4   LRM on Collective Agents

Again, Chris stressed that RDA must remain in tandem with the IFLA LRM. It should not try to anticipate IFLA standards development. It would be far better to work within the terms of RSC/Chair/2023/3/rev – Protocol between the RSC and the IFLA Committee on Standards (CoS)[11] and provide feedback on this issue in terms of RDA development.

545.5   Comments from observers and next steps

The Chair opened the floor to observers and several spoke on the importance of First Nations representation and on the IFLA LRM. In particular, Pat Riva shared that in her experience working on the IFLA bodies that created and maintain the LRM, Collective Agent was envisaged as having two elements within it, Family and Corporate Body. She thanked the RSC for its determination to stay aligned with the LRM and offered to take our concerns to the relevant IFLA committee responsible for updating the LRM. Renate Behrens thanked her for this, which she feels an appropriate way forward, consistent with our protocol with the IFLA Committee on Standards[12]. The Secretary asked Robert Maxwell if he would be prepared to take on the discussions with Pat in his first official action as RSC Chair Elect and he said he was very happy to liaise with Pat. Renate asked him to keep the Technical Team Liaison Officer and herself in the loop, and is very pleased to see Robert take on this action.

| 545.5.1 | ACTION: | Chair Elect to liaise with Pat Riva on behalf of the RSC and report back (2-3 sentences) at the January Meeting. |
| 545.5.2 | ACTION: | Chair Elect to involve the Technical Team Liaison Officer and keep him apprised of any further information Pat requests and, if necessary, facilitate a meeting between Pat and the Technical Team Liaison Officer / Technical Working Group. |

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[11] http://hdl.handle.net/11213/21198
[12] http://hdl.handle.net/11213/21198

545.5.3   **ACTION:**   Chair Elect to copy RSC Chair into correspondence so she can maintain a watching brief, since she is the official liaison to IFLA COS. After the Meeting, she requested that he also contact the Chair of the IFLA Bibliographic Conceptual Models (BCM) Review Group as a courtesy to keep her in the loop.

545.5.4   **ACTION:**   Technical Team Liaison Officer to let the Technical Working Group know that under the protocol with IFLA COS the Chair Elect may ask him to organise a meeting between them, the Chair Elect and Pat Riva and / or may ask for documentation and / or opinions ahead of the January meeting.

546   RSC/ReligionsWG/2025/1 – Proposal to Revise Name of Corporate Body

As the Working Group Chair, David Roth, could not be present due to the very late hour of the meeting in his timezone, Renate Behrens introduced the proposal[13]. She said that reading through the official responses, her sense was that there was general approval of the proposal.

546.1   Further work and suggestions

North America Representative Robert Maxwell said that while there was general approval, he had concerns about whether we would need to relocate the current changes as part of the ongoing work now taking place following the NARDAC discussion papers (Items 544 and 545). He also felt that it was clear that more discussion was needed on the glossary definition(s) for "real or official name".

546.2   Glossary definitions

Technical Team Liaison Officer Chris Holden said that he was aware that the suggested glossary definitions he had suggested in RSC/ReligionsWG/2025/1/TTLO[14] were too much to be voted on the basis of a response, but when he had looked into the glossary definitions in this area, he had discovered issues that should be resolved. He had offered the suggestions in his official response not as final solutions but as a route into discussing the issue. He agreed with Robert that the upcoming work following the NARDAC discussion papers plus the need for clarity on definitions may mean that the current proposal was only a placeholder for a more extensive overhaul. He did, however, want to thank the Religions Working Group for working so quickly to bring a concise and thought-provoking proposal to the table.

546.3   Implementation "for now"

Following a wide-ranging discussion among the RSC and some useful comments from observers, Europe Representative Ahava Cohen said that in the interests of improving the experience for cataloguers in the short-term while the Religions Working Group and Technical Working Group worked together on the glossary definitions and NARDAC and the Technical

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[13] RSC/ReligionsWG/2025/1 - https://hdl.handle.net/11213/23268 - was published on 22 September and responses were received between 10 October and 13 November. RSC/ReligionsWG/2025/1/summary which includes links to the official responses, was published on 13 November: https://hdl.handle.net/11213/23381.

[14] https://hdl.handle.net/11213/23377

Working Group worked together on progressing the ideas behind the NARDAC discussion papers, she thought it would be best to approve the current proposal knowing that the individual instructions may well move in the fullness of time. Renate Behrens took a vote and voting members of the RSC agreed unanimously with this practical suggestion.

546.4   After the Public Session
Following the Public Session, there was some discussion amongst RSC members in the asynchronous part of the Executive Session. This was centred on practicalities. The Regional Representatives expressed a strong desire to be included in discussions on this topic going forward. Oceania Representative Jack Ennis Butler highlighted the importance of coverage that is meaningful in a First Nations context.

546.5   Next steps
546.5.1   **ACTION:**   Secretary to draft and implement RSC/ReligionsWG/2025/1/Decisions[15]

546.5.2   **ACTION:**   Technical Working Group to work with Religions in RDA Working Group on glossary definitions

546.5.3   **ACTION:**   Technical Team Liaison Officer to ensure that all Regional Representatives are included in these discussions at the appropriate points, so that their local perspectives can be given full and due consideration[16].

547   Update on soft-deprecated terms
Technical Team Liaison Officer Chris Holden introduced RSC/TechnicalWG/2025/1 – Discussion paper on soft-deprecated parallel elements[17]. It includes links to earlier discussions so that members of the RDA community can locate the current discussion within the lengthy and ongoing conversations around soft-deprecated terms. It also presents examples of catalogue metadata sets to provide community members with ideas of how some institutions have dealt with issues without using the soft-deprecated terms.

As well as paying tribute to members of the Working Group - Gordon Dunsire, Deborah Fritz, Szabina Ilácsa, Damian Iseminger, Ricardo Santos Muñoz, Stefan Schuh - Chris thanked members of the wider RDA community who have been so willing to engage in discussions about soft-deprecated terms already. He hopes that the Discussion Paper presents options for parallel elements that will assist in moving towards next steps, and is really looking forward to

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[15] RSC/ReligionsWG/2025/1/Decisions was published on 26 December 2025 and implemented for the February release of the Toolkit: https://hdl.handle.net/11213/23739

[16] Note from RSC Secretary: I have not included the WCEO in this, since from 1 January 2026 when Getaneh Alemu succeeds Charlene Chou as WCEO, he will also assume her role as *ex officio* member of the Technical Working Group. As such he will *de facto* be included in any actions involving the Technical Working Group.

[17] RSC/TechnicalWG/2025/1 - https://hdl.handle.net/11213/23621 – was published on 18 November, just ahead of the Public Session.

discussing RSC/TechnicalWG/2025/1 in our January RSC Meeting. Its Public Session is scheduled for **Wednesday 21 January 2026 at 19:00 - 21:00 UTC**. (There is a handy time converter here). If you are unsure how to provide feedback, the news item published on 19 November provides contact information for the Regional Representatives and Wider Community Engagement Officer Elect[18].

548   Update by Extent Working Group Chair Thomas Brenndorfer

Renate Behrens welcomed the Chair of the Extent Working Group Thomas Brenndorfer and thanked him for the difficult intellectual work he and the rest of the Working Group have carried out. Thomas introduced a suite of 8 proposals, acknowledging with thanks the support of the Technical Working Group as well as the members of the Extent Working Group. In the last year they have undertaken a review of all the feedback on last year's Discussion Paper (RSC/ExtentWG/2024/1/rev2[19]), which he advises the community to read along with its minuted discussion[20] (RSC/Minutes/483-499 Item 488) before reading the proposals. He also advises reading all 8 proposals through once before taking a deep dive into each one.

The proposals are as follows:

- RSC/ExtentWG/2025/1 - Proposal for Manifestation: **extent of manifestation** and Manifestation: **manifestation extent statement**
- RSC/ExtentWG/2025/2 - Proposal for Manifestation: **extent of unitary structure**
- RSC/ExtentWG/2025/3 - Proposal for Manifestation: **extent of unit** and its subtype elements
- RSC/ExtentWG/2025/4 - Proposal for Manifestation: **extent of aggregated content**
- RSC/ExtentWG/2025/5 - Proposal for Manifestation: **extent of embodied content** and its subtype elements
- RSC/ExtentWG/2025/6 - Proposal for Manifestation: **duration of embodied content**
- RSC/ExtentWG/2025/7 - Proposal for container and storage subelements of Manifestation: **extent of manifestation**
- RSC/ExtentWG/2025/8 - Proposal for Manifestation: **sequence of units of extent**

549   Formal presentation of annual reports of members of the RSC

Most of these were circulated to observers before the meeting and then published on 19 November (RSC/Observers/538-555 Appendix)[21]. They are also included in the Appendix to these Minutes.

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[18] https://www.rdatoolkit.org/rsc/technicalwg20251
[19] RSC/ExtentWG/2024/1/rev2: https://hdl.handle.net/11213/22550
[20] RSC/ExtentWG/2024/1/rev2/summary - https://hdl.handle.net/11213/23629 - links to official responses which were discussed in RSC/Minutes/483-499 Item 488: https://hdl.handle.net/11213/22848
[21] News item: https://www.rdatoolkit.org/rsc/novemberobserversarchive.

549.1   Report of the RSC Chair

549.2   Report of the RDA Board

549.3   Report of ALA Digital Reference

549.4   Report of the RSC Secretary

549.5   Report of the RDA Examples Editor

549.6   Report of the Education and Orientation Officer

549.7   Report of the Wider Community Engagement Officer

549.8   Report of the Technical Team Liaison Officer

549.9   Report of the Translations Team Liaison Officer

549.10 Reports of the Task and Finish Working Groups
RSC/AIWG/2025/AnnualReport was published ahead of the meeting on 18 November. Renate Behrens provided a verbal update on the Extent Working Group (See Item 541.1.2 ; See also Item 548).

549.11 Reports of the Advisory Working Groups
Verbal reports; written reports to follow in January. The Archives Working Group has been active this year, and would like more members to join it. Renate Behrens requested that anyone with expertise in archival documentation who may be interested in joining to contact her in the first instance – RSCchair@rdatoolkit.org. The Religions in RDA Working Group continues to be busy (See Item 541.1.3).

549.12 Report of the RSC Representative for Europe

549.13 Report of the RSC Representative for Latin America and the Caribbean

549.14 Report of the RSC Representative for North America

549.15 Report of the RSC Representative for Oceania

Executive Session, Asynchronous Meeting, 17 – 20 November

550   Fast Track Proposal
The Secretary shared RSC/FT2025-6, which sought explicit permission from the RSC to implement changes that she believed could be inferred from RSC/FT2025-1/Decisions, but in which she was, as always, cautious of accidentally overstepping her editorial authority. All voting members of the RSC approved the changes.

ACTION: Secretary to draft and implement RSC/FT2025-6/Decisions.

551   Update to ISSN Protocol
Renate Behrens shared that the DRAFT protocol (which will be RSC/2026/3) is currently with the ISSN International Centre for their consideration. We hope to receive an updated draft in time for the next RSC Meeting.

552   Annual Report 2025
The annual reports from individuals will feed into the DRAFT of the Annual Report, which the Chair and Secretary will compile for presentation in the January Meeting. Renate Behrens thanked everyone for their prompt completion and submission of their annual reports, which is a big help with this task.

553   Action Plan 2026
Alongside the annual report, the Chair and Secretary will compile a DRAFT Action Plan. The Secretary asked for clarification on some of the items on the Action Plan 2025 and received it from the Technical Team Liaison Officer, *viz*:

1.e. First the Technical Working Group, then the RSC:

• Complete BIBFRAME mapping (2025)
A member of the Technical Working Group has done some initial work on BIBFRAME mappings. However, BIBFRAME remains under development, and different institutions have been working with different BIBFRAME implementations, which has made it difficult to for progress to be made. With the recent protocol between the RSC and SHARE-VDE, I hope that a stable implementation can be identified in 2026 to begin mapping RDA to BIBFRAME in earnest.

• Review the concept of performance aggregates (amalgamation instructions) (2025-2026)
This will be a good project for the Technical Working Group to talk to the Music Working Group about in 2026, though the concept is also wider than just music.

1.h. Further the development of RDA concepts (in line with the IFLA LRM) (2025-2027)

The Technical Working Group has had discussions about joint pseudonyms, and new relationship elements for aggregating expressions, the latter of which will yield a proposal in 2026. The recent discussion about a NARDAC proposal on corporate bodies demonstrates a need to continue the development of the collective agent and timespan elements in 2026 to align with the IFLA LRM.

The Technical Working Group has also provided feedback in 2025 to IFLA's BCM Review Group tasked with reviewing the IFLA LRM.

The Secretary thanked the Technical Team Liaison Officer for this clarification, which will assist very much in compiling the Action Plan 2026.

ACTION: Chair to inform Music Working Group of the potential to include BIBFRAME work with the Technical Working Group when they are clarifying their Terms of Reference. The Technical Team Liaison Officer will be *ex officio* on the Music Working Group, so although the issue is a wider one than music, it makes sense for him to start here.

554   Operations Documents

The Chair and Secretary are working on a restructure of the Operations Documents to make them easier to understand for new members. They presented their suggested plans, which were approved unanimously by members of the RSC. There was a very useful conversation between the Translations Team Liaison Officer and the Director of ALA Digital Reference on updating the documents supporting the translations process, with the Director of ALA Digital Reference volunteering to provide a review of the current processes. He also stated that the RSC Representative for Latin America and the Caribbean is very much up-to-date on these processes.

ACTION: Director of ALA Digital Reference to review translations processes ahead of January Meeting, keeping Translations Team Liaison Officer informed of progress.

555   AOB (Any Other Business) and thanks from the Chair

555.1   Development of Guidance for Collections

The Education and Orientation Officer raised a query about developing a Guidance page for Collections, particularly in the context of describing "bound with" items. After some discussion, it was agreed that she would join the Archives Working Group *ex officio* so she could work with them at the appropriate time to develop this page. Renate Behrens thanked her for doing so.

ACTION: Secretary to inform the Archives Working Group Chair, for inclusion in 2026 Terms of Reference document, and Education and Orientation Officer to maintain a watching brief.

555.2   *Catalogue & Index* May 2026

The Chair and Secretary were ahead of schedule in setting up a Basecamp page[22] to manage submissions for the issue that Dr Karen Pierce and Fran Frenzel, editors, have commissioned from us to coincide with the beginning of the Countdown Clock in May 2026. The Secretary shared the link with members, and asked them to submit proposals for their 1,000-2,000 pieces.

ACTION: RSC Members to check the *C&I* draft contributions page and confirm their pieces / submit proposals by January 2026. The Secretary will set up to do items for everyone. The date to complete final drafts is end of March 2026, so the

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[22] RSC Members should access the November Meeting Item 555 on Basecamp for the link to the *C&I* project page.

Secretary and Chair can do what they need to before submitting to Karen and
Fran as a group.

555.3   Thanks from the Chair

Renate Behrens thanked everyone for their work in this busy and productive meeting. In the
Public Session she thanked observers for attending and pointed out how important observers
were, highlighting Pat Riva's contribution which has assisted the RSC in moving forward in
tandem with the IFLA group that is responsible for the LRM. She encouraged observers to
encourage their friends and colleagues to attend the January Meeting. The Secretary will issue a
call for observers in January.

Approved by the RDA Steering Committee, 12 January 2025.

APPENDIX

549.1   Report of the RSC Chair

Prepared by Renate Behrens, RSC Chair, covering the period November 2024-October 2025
The RSC Chair works continuously with all members of the RSC and in particular with the RSC
Secretary Anne Welsh, and the Director of ALA Digital Reference James Hennelly.

Meetings
- In-person meeting of the RSC in Washington in November 2024
- Asynchronous meeting in January 2025, with a public session
- Asynchronous meeting in April 2025, with a public session
- Joint Meeting of the RDA Board and RSC in April 2025, online via Google Meet
- Asynchronous meeting in July 2025, with a public session
- Participation in the monthly meetings of the Executive Committee as well as numerous other meetings with RSC colleagues as required.

RSC Membership
- Reappointment of the RSC Secretary, to start in January 2026
- Appointment of Chair Elect, to start in January 2026
- Appointment of new Wider Community Engagement Officer, to start in January 2026
- Welcomed the RSC Representative for Latin America and the Caribbean, appointed by AlyC in June 2025
- Welcomed the new RSC Representative for Oceania, appointed by ORDAC in October 2025

Working groups
- Continuous monitoring of the working groups. Discussions with all chairs of the working groups about the goals and tasks.
- Report of the work of the working groups at various occasions and events
- Setting up the Archives Working Group
- Setting up the Music Working Group

Other activities
- Working on the RSC Action Plan according to the RDA Board's Strategic Plan
- Working on the update of the RSC Operation Documents
- Planning the updating for the protocol with the ISSN IC
- Initial agreements for coordinated cooperation with the PCC
- Liaison with the BIBFRAME community enshrined in RSC/Chair/2025/9 in March 2025

Outreach and communication

This year we introduced webpages for each member of the RSC, linked from the Members webpage. My webpage includes my outreach activities, and they are also included alongside those by other RSC members on the page of Presentations and Outreach 2025. Here is a list:

- RDA Around the World - Updates from RSC Chair, RDA Toolkit YouTube Channel, 11 March
- Only What Changes Remains, or the Need for a Rethink, IFLA Standards and Metadata Symposium, Athens, 19 March
- RDA: A Standard on the Way to More Partnership / with James Hennelly, EURIG Annual Meeting, 22 May
- Report on the Symposium 'Metadata Standards Matter', *IFLA Standards Newsletter* 3(1): 33-36
- RDA's AI Strategy and the Future Development of RDA (YouTube video), IFLA Bibliography Section with the Information Technology Section and the IFLA Artificial Intelligence Special Interest Group WLIC Satellite Meeting, 14 August
- Report from RDA Steering Committee, BIBFRAME Workshop in Europe, 16 September. Video available on conference YouTube
- RDA – a standard on the way to more internationality and partnership, XIV Encuentro Latinoamericano de Catalogación y Metadatos 2025 [Latin American Cataloging and Metadata Meeting 2025], 1 October

The RSC Secretary and I are working on editing a special issue of *Catalogue & Index* on RDA, timed to come out at the start of the countdown clock in May 2026.

I have also accepted an invitation to be keynote speaker at RDA Day at the CILIP Metadata and Discovery Group's Conference, 11-13 March 2026. RDA Day is organised by the UK Committee on RDA (UKCoR), the UK body that feeds proposal and discussion paper feedback into EURIG.

549.2 Report of the RDA Board

RDA Board activities November 2024 – October 2025
Prepared by Colleen Barbus, RDA Board Chair

Strategic plan

Work on the 2026-2028 Strategic Plan continues, with the RDA Board discussing a draft version at their September 2025 meeting. A revised version of the document will be presented to the RSC for final review, and a vote of final approval will be held during the December 2025 RDA Board meeting.

RDA Latin America and Caribbean Group
The RDA Board formally approved the creation of the RDA Latin America and Caribbean Group (RDA LAC Group)/ Grupo RDA América Latina y el Caribe (Grupo RDA ALyC) at their May 2025 meeting, with formal establishment of the group in June 2025.

Companion subscription level
The RDA Board approved the RDA Companion Subscription level at their May 2025 meeting, with the new option rolled out in June 2025. The Companion Subscription provides permission to create and publish online cataloging manuals derived from the RDA Standard, and will require annual renewal.

An addendum for companion subscriptions was added to the RDA Toolkit subscription user license agreement.

Transition to Official RDA Toolkit
At the December 2024 meeting, the RDA Board finalized and approved the following dates for the Original RDA Toolkit countdown clock:

- Start of clock: Monday, 11th May 2026
- End of clock: Tuesday, 11th May 2027

The countdown clock was originally announced in May 2023, with the goal of giving Toolkit users ample time to transition to Official RDA. The end date of the countdown clock signifies the final shutdown of the Original RDA Toolkit, after which the website will no longer be accessible.

Board membership changes

National Institution Representatives
With some delay in the recruitment schedule for the Asia, Europe and Oceania regions, as of the September 2025 meeting the RDA Board welcomed three new National Institution Representatives:

Asia: Hui Ling Ng   National Library Board, Singapore
Europe: Hannes Lowagie   Royal Library of Belgium
Oceania: Laura Jamieson   National Library of New Zealand

With this transition, the RDA Board thanks the departing National Institution Representatives for these regions for their work on the Board and ongoing commitment to the RDA community:

Asia: Haliza Jailani   National Library Board, Singapore
Europe: Christian Aliverti   Swiss National Library, Switzerland
Oceania: Julia Hickie National Library of Australia

Additionally, the term for the Board's National Institution Representative for Africa, Rania Osman, comes to a close in December 2025. Judith Cannan will also step down from her position as the National Institution Representative for North America at the end of 2025, in alignment with her retirement from the Library of Congress. Recruitment for the next representatives for these regions is underway.

2026 Board chair transition

Per the RDA Governance Model, the position of Chair of the RDA Board rotates between the three Copyright Holders, with a term two years and an optional extension of an additional term.

The 2024-2025 term of current Board chair Colleen Barbus (copyright holder representative for the American Library Association) will end in December 2025, with Christine Oliver (copyright holder representative for the Canadian Federation of Library Associations) assuming the role of Board chair for the 2026-2027 term.

549.3   Report of ALA Digital Reference
Prepared by James Hennelly, Director of ALA Digital Reference

RDA Toolkit Releases
February Release to RDA Toolkit
- debut of the Catalan translation of Official RDA
June Release to RDA Toolkit
- included changes to guidance on aggregates
October Release to RDA Toolkit
- debut of the Spanish translation of Official RDA
- introduction of DCRM policy statements
-

Meeting, Webinars and other Events
- Collaborated with NARDAC on a preconference event at ALA Annual Conference, as well as NARDAC forum and RDA Linked Data Forum
- Participated in the online event formally announcing the formation of th Grupo ALyC and the release of theSpanish language translatin of offcial RDA
- Provided online support for the NARDAC Spring Forum

- Attended quarterly RDA Board and RSC meetings, monthly RDA Executive meetings, and bimonthly Policy Statement meetings, and annual Translators meeting

Translations and Policy Statements

- Catalan and Spanish translations have been completed; Finnish, French, and Norwegian translations have had regular updates
- Arabic and Hungarian translations are progressing and expected to publish in 2026
- Italian and Portuguese translations continue to be in work
- Turkish translation in discussion
- DCRM policy statement set introduced and new policy statements from OLAC, BANQ and the National Library of Norway

Development Projects

- A new user license agreement has been put into use; it includes an addendum for companion subscriptions.
- Registry enhancements were madeto make more RDA data more accessible to developers
- Development of new governance piece and certification plan continues

549.4   Report of the RSC Secretary
Prepared by Anne Welsh

The RSC Secretary works continuously with all members of the RSC and reports to the RSC Chair, Renate Behrens, and the Director of ALA Digital Reference, James Hennelly. As such, this report is divided into two areas: RSC Support and *RDA Toolkit* Updates. The RSC website falls between both areas, as it is maintained by ALA Digital Reference on behalf of the RSC. This report covers the period November 2024 – October 2025.

RSC Support

RSC Meetings
Supported the Chair in organising, participated in, drafted and published agenda, minutes and papers for:

- November 2024 Meeting, at the Washington Office of the American Library Association (Monday) and the Library of Congress (Tuesday-Friday)
    - RSC/Minutes/483-499, https://hdl.handle.net/11213/22848
    - Proposals discussed:
        - RSC/ExamplesEditor/2024/1 – Proposal to add glossary definitions for fictitious entity and non-human entity
            - RSC/ExamplesEditor/2024/1/Decisions

- RSC/ORDAC/2024/1/rev – Proposal on Dual-language naming of Corporate Body and Place
  - RSC/ORDAC/2024/1/rev/Decisions
- RSC/ReligionsWG/2024/2 – Proposal to Revise Name of Corporate Body
  - RSC/ReligionsWG/2024/2/Decisions
- RSC/TechnicalWG/2024/2/rev – Proposal to revise the definitions of *aggregate, aggregating work* and *aggregates* guidance
  - RSC/TechnicalWG/2024/2/rev/Decisions
- Fast Track Proposal read into the minutes:
  - RSC/FT2024-09/Decisions
- Discussion paper discussed:
  - RSC/ExtentWG/2024/1/rev2 – Discussion Paper on the Development of Extent Elements in RDA
- January 2025 Meeting, asynchronously, 20 – 23 January – 1 February
  - RSC/Minutes/500-507, https://hdl.handle.net/11213/22885
  - Operations Documents discussed and updated:
    - RSC/Operations/1/2025
    - RSC/Operations/3/2025
- April 2025 Joint Meeting of the RDA Board and RSC, online via Google Meet, 7 April
  - RSC-RDABoard/Minutes/010-022, https://hdl.handle.net/11213/22967
- April 2025 Meeting, asynchronously, 7-10 April
  - RSC/Minutes/508-520, https://hdl.handle.net/11213/22970
  - Operations Documents discussed and updated:
    - RSC/Operations/4/2025
    - RSC/Operations/5/2025
  - Proposal discussed:
    - RSC/NARDAC/2025/1 – Proposal on numerals associated with given names
      - RSC/NARDAC/2025/1/Decisions
  - Fast-Track Proposals discussed:
    - RSC/FT2025-1/Decisions
    - RSC/FT2025-2/Decisions
- July 2025 Meeting, asynchronously, 14-17 July
  - RSC/Minutes/521-537, https://hdl.handle.net/11213/23161
  - Proposals discussed:
    - RSC/EOO/2025/1 – Proposal to revise *Guidance: Aggregates* and *Guidance: Diachronic Works* following from RSC/Technical/2024/2/rev/Decisions
      - RSC/EOO/2025/1/Decisions
    - RSC/NARDAC/2025/2 – Revision of two sets of condition and condition options for *Corporate Body: variant access point for corporate body*
      - RSC/NARDAC/2025/2/Decisions
  - Fast-Track Proposals discussed:
    - RSC/FT2025-3/Decisions

- [RSC/FT2025-4/Decisions](#)
- [RSC/FT2025-5/Decisions](#)
-

Other Meetings
- Executive Committee (monthly), including supporting the Chair in drafting the agenda
  - Thanks to James Hennelly for setting the meeting up on MS Teams and recording the meetings.
- 1:1 with the RSC Chair (at least once a month), as required
- *Ad hoc* meetings to support the Chair in her work (re-)negotiating the protocols with other bodies (occasional), as required.
- 1:1 with the Director of ALA Digital Reference (occasional), as required
- *Ad hoc* meetings with Chairs of Working Groups and RSC members to support them in their work (occasional), as required

RSC Website

As Secretary, I update the website with content several times most months. All changes and additions to the website are listed in the ['Additions and Changes to Website' page](#). News is posted regularly to the ['RSC News' page](#), posted to RDA-L and circulated via the Regional representatives and WCEO.

This year I created a page that gathers together recordings of talks and other resources on [Implementing Official RDA](#). I also created an individual webpage for each member of the RSC, including a headshot, brief biography, news and links to presentations and outreach activities. These are all linked from the [RSC Members webpage](#). Presentations and outreach activities are also linked from the [Presentations and Outreach 2025 page](#).

Other Outreach Activities
News and links to outreach activities are shared on [my RSC page](#). In the period covered by this report (November 2024 – October 2025), I compiled and shared 'News from the RDA Steering Committee (RSC)' in:
- [*IFLA Metadata Newsletter* 10(2): 16-19](#)

- [*IFLA Standards Newsletter* 3(1): 33-36](#)

- [*IFLA Metadata Newsletter* 11(2): 15-20](#)

I also secured a special issue of open access journal *Catalogue and Index* to be edited by the RSC Chair and me and published to coincide with the start of the countdown clock for the implementation of Official RDA in May 2026. With thanks to *Catalogue and Index* editors Dr Karen Pierce and Fran Frenzel for accepting our proposal.

In December 2026 and article on the language of RDA will be published in *Catalogue and Index* and in March 2026 I will speak on the same topic and help to facilitate RDA Day 2026, which is organised by the UK Committee on RDA (UKCoR), of which I am a co-opted member, at the Conference of the CILIP Metadata and Discovery Group, of which I am Honorary Secretary. With thanks to UKCoR Chair Anastasia Kerameos, MDG Chair Will Peaden and RSC Chair Renate Behrens for their encouragement.

Archiving

All public papers are posted to the website and then to the [web repository provided by ALAIR](#). Papers containing information that is confidential for business reasons are released as soon as their confidential period is over. (This category applies to resources that are in the very early stages of development). From 2023 onwards, we no longer publish private minutes – anything business confidential is available to RSC and / or RDA Board members and Working Group members via the project management software and the shared drives we use. Our aim is to be transparent in our operations, and information is shared publicly as soon as possible.

RDA Toolkit Updates

Proposals Implemented

- [RSC/EOO/2025/1/Decisions](#) (October 2025 Toolkit Release)
- [RSC/NARDAC/2025/1/Decisions](#) (October 2025 Toolkit Release)
- [RSC/NARDAC/2025/2/Decisions](#) (October 2025 Toolkit Release)
- [RSC/ORDAC/2024/1/rev/Decisions](#) (October 2025 Toolkit Release)
- [RSC/ReligionsWG/2024/1/Decisions](#) (October 2025 Toolkit Release)
- [RSC/ReligionsWG/2024/2/Decisions](#) (October 2025 Toolkit Release)
- [RSC/TechnicalWG/2024/2/rev/Decisions](#) (June 2025 Toolkit Release)
-

Fast-Track Proposal Implemented

- [RSC/FT2025-01/Decisions](#) (October 2025 Toolkit Release)
- Note: Implementation of RSC/FT2025-02/Decisions – RSC/FT2025-05 was carried out
- by the Technical Team Liaison Officer

Feedback Implemented

The wider RDA community submits some change requests via the feedback button in the Toolkit. Sometimes these lead to proposals or fast tracks, but where they are reporting a typo or other similarly small editorial issue, changes are made by the RSC Secretary. Each Toolkit release included a batch of these, and we would like to thank community members for their diligence in reporting them to us.

549.5 Report of the RDA Examples Editor

Prepared by Jessica Grzegorski, RDA Examples Editor and Chair of the RDA Examples Working Group

Activities

Administration and management (Examples Editor/Chair)

- Scheduled and led monthly meetings of the RDA Examples Working Group.
- Participated in monthly meetings of the RSC Executive Committee and quarterly RSC meetings.
- Welcomed a new member, Emine Hatun Gür, and expressed thanks and best wishes to outgoing member Sofia Zapounidou.

Working Group tasks and accomplishments

- Added an appendix to the *RDA Examples Editorial Guide* (RSC/ExamplesEditor/2025/1) with procedures for removing content flagged as harmful and replacing it with appropriate examples.
- Created working templates and instructions for Working Group members to create full examples and basic in-text examples for the RDA Toolkit.
- Created full examples that are neutral regarding encoding standard. Some examples have been reformatted from previously published examples for the Original RDA Toolkit. The new example set will eventually be published as PDFs on the Toolkit website.
- Created new examples for the RDA Toolkit, concentrating on elements with no examples.
    - Prioritized the creation of examples related to proposals.
    - Began to reformat examples for relationship elements shared by members of the Program for Cooperative Cataloging (PCC) with the Examples Working Group for use in the RDA Toolkit.
- Discussed methods for clearly identifying when a string encoding scheme (SES) has been used in an example in the Toolkit.
- Responded to full RSC proposals and fast track proposals.
- Provided possible examples to the Religions Working Group to inform their work on developing proposals.
- Reviewed preliminary drafts of a proposal by the Translations Team Liaison Officer to add new relationship elements to the Toolkit that are relevant to rare materials.

Outreach

Delivered presentations related to examples:
- *RDA Examples Working Group Update* at the EURIG Translators' Meeting (23 May 2025).
- [*Examples Development for RDA Toolkit/RBMS Policy Statements for Official RDA Toolkit*](#) at NARDAC Forum, ALA Annual Conference (28 June 2025).

Goals

- Publish the first group of full examples on the Toolkit website in the coming year.
- Collaborate with James Hennelly, Director of ALA Digital Reference, on a public form for the larger RDA community to submit examples for possible inclusion in the RDA Toolkit.
- Review *CMS Guide: Examples* and revise as needed.
- Continue to create new examples for the RDA Toolkit, especially for new elements and new or revised instructions.
- As new policy documents are added to the Toolkit or made publicly available, develop examples for RDA elements covered in these documents in order to assist those user communities with training.
- Address any outstanding issues related to examples in the Toolkit Feedback spreadsheet.
- Assess CMS and stylesheet functionality for areas of improved display of examples in the RDA Toolkit.
- Examples Editor/Chair to represent the Working Group as an ex officio member of the upcoming String Encoding Scheme Working Group.

549.6 Report of the Education and Orientation Officer
Prepared by Elisa Sze

Activities since November 2024

Ongoing activities:
- Continued to communicate with educators and trainers, respond to questions about RDA by email, provide feedback on training ideas and plans, offer RDA Toolkit orientation, and respond to requests for one-on-one consultation meetings.
- Continued to maintain the "Learning Resources" section of the RDA Toolkit website to incorporate more content targeted at educators and trainers and promote links to teaching and training resources.
- Participated in the Examples Working Group as an Ex-Officio

- Reviewed and responded to RSC proposals, fast tracks, and other discussions related to the development of the RDA standard.

Specific activities:
- April 2025: Delivered an online presentation for the 2nd Meeting on Education on Information Organization in Costa Rica. Thank you to Felipe Martínez, Latin American and the Caribbean RDA Group representative, for developing the connection.
- May-October 2025: Collaborated with translators to produce these translations of the "RDA Teaching and Training Tips" handout:
  - [Traditional Chinese](#) (first published in September 2025) – With thanks to the translator.
  - [Simplified Chinese](#) (first published in October 2025) – With thanks to Ben Gu for providing this translation.
  - Charlene Chou, outgoing WCEO, deserves thanks and appreciation for facilitating communications with translators.
- June 2025: Delivered an online presentation for the IFLA Oceania-Asia Regional Division Committee webinar, "Promoting Discovery Tools for Libraries – Session 2." Thank you to Haliza Jailani, RDA Board member, for facilitating the introduction, to Haliza and Ng Hui Ling, National Library Board, for their co-presentation, and to Piotr Lapo, Kazakh National Women's Teacher Training University Library, Kazakhstan, for hosting the webinar. Thank you to the IFLA Oceania-Asia RDC for their permission to host the video recording on the [RDA Toolkit YouTube](#) channel.
- July 2025: Developed and presented RSC/EOO/2025/1 in collaboration with Chris Holden, Technical Team Liaison Officer, and Damian Iseminger, Past Technical Team Liaison Officer.
- September 2025: Delivered an in-person presentation at the BIBFRAME Workshop in Europe in Naples, Italy. The presentation was co-authored with May Chan and Kyla Jemison, my colleagues at the University of Toronto Libraries, in Toronto, Ontario, Canada. Presentation title: "Scaffolding Transitions: Applying Lessons from Teaching Official RDA to BIBFRAME Training." [Presentation slides and recording](#)

Beyond my direct role within the RSC, I remained engaged in efforts to increase RDA adoption in my country (Canada), through my continued participation on the Canadian Committee on Cataloguing as a Member-at-large, and leadership of the RDA Training in Canada Working Group, which began meeting as a collective agent in May 2024.

The RDA Training in Canada Working Group continues its cross-country outreach and now has members from Newfoundland and Labrador, Quebec, Ontario, and British Columbia. Working group members organized and taught two in-person workshops and one webinar series in 2025:

- January 2025: A full day pre-conference workshop at the Ontario Library Association Super Conference, in Toronto, Ontario. Workshop title: "Application Profiles: Your Map Through RDA, Your Bridge to the Official RDA Toolkit." [Workshop content](#)
- March-May 2025: A three-part lunch time webinar series on the official RDA Toolkit for ABQLA (L'Association des bibliothécaires du Québec/Quebec Library Association). Webinar series title: "Take a bite of RDA."
- May 2025: A half-day pre-conference workshop at the British Columbia Library Conference, in Nanaimo, British Columbia. Workshop title: "Demystifying RDA: Navigating the Official RDA Toolkit Together." [Workshop content](#)

Many thanks to James Hennelly, Director, ALA Digital Reference for providing complimentary access to the RDA Toolkit for the duration of the workshops.

Activities planned for the Education and Orientation Officer for the coming year

- Continue outreach efforts on behalf of RSC, which may include providing presentations when invited.
- Continue to network with educators and trainers about RDA.
- Continue to contribute RDA examples through the Examples Working Group.
- Identify potential topics for RSC proposals that would improve education or training.

549.7 Report of the Wider Community Engagement Officer
Prepared by Charlene Chou, Wider Community Engagement Officer (WCEO), 4 November 2025

Summary
This report presents an overview of Charlene Chou's activities from November 2024 to October 2025 and highlights her work in the following categories: outreach activities, MARC Advisory Committee meetings, and working groups. This is Charlene's fourth and final report, marking the conclusion of her second term. It has been a privilege for her to serve on the RDA Steering Committee from 2021 to 2025.

Outreach activities
- For more information about WCEO activities and presentations, please see my *[About page](#)*.
- Charlene created and maintains the outreach spreadsheet [internal RSC document], in collaboration with EOO and Translations team.

- Since December 2023, Charlene has been in communication with Ben Gu (National Library of China) and James (ALA) regarding the translation of the RDA Reference into Simplified Chinese. Ben completed the translations in 2024 and has revised some sections based on feedback. The updated version will be uploaded in the near future.
- Charlene communicated with the National Central Library (NCL) and James (ALA) to address their questions about translating the RDA Reference into Traditional Chinese. James provided NCL with the template for translating the RDA Reference, and NCL is currently working on it. They have completed translations for three RDA vocabularies—Content Type, Media Type, and Carrier Type. These Traditional Chinese translations were published in the RDA Registry in August 2025.
- Charlene reached out to the National Diet Library (NDL) of Japan, but they currently do not plan to provide a Japanese translation of the RDA Reference.
- With strong language support from colleagues at the Library of Congress, Charlene contacted the National Library of Korea (NLK) regarding a translation of the RDA Reference and received a very supportive response. The Korean Cataloguing Rules (KCR) are currently being revised to align with RDA and are expected to be released later this year. The revision is being carried out by the Cataloguing Committee of the Korean Library Association, with participation from the Deputy Director of the Metadata and Sustainable Access Division at NLK. In late February, the Deputy Director asked me to send him the [Policy for New Translations of RDA](), and I've connected him with James to obtain the template and CSV file needed to move forward.
- While traveling in Asia from April 21 to May 2, Charlene followed up with colleagues involved in RDA, including promoting the translation of [RDA teaching and training tips](). For example, the Traditional Chinese translation was completed and published on the [RDA Learning Resources page]() in September 2025.
- Charlene communicated with Ben Gu about translating the *RDA Training & Teaching Tips* handout and he agreed to translate it promptly. The Chinese Simplified translation was published on the [RDA Learning Resources page]() in October 2025.

MARC Advisory Committee meetings
- Charlene attended the MAC meetings held from January 29–30, 2025. Neither the RSC nor the Technical Working Group members identified any specific comments on the MAC proposals and discussion papers in the context of RDA. As a result, no official RSC responses were submitted for those proposals and papers.
- Charlene attended the MAC meetings held from June 25–26, 2025. She shared the proposals and discussion papers with the RSC and the Technical Working Group (TWG) for comments. The TWG chair and members conducted a thorough review and provided feedback. Charlene then posted the official RSC responses to the MAC listserv before the meetings.

Joint RDA Board and RSC Working Group on AI

- On behalf of the Joint RDA Board and RSC Working Group on AI, Charlene presented *Considering AI in the Growth of RDA: Joint RDA Board and RSC Working Group on Artificial Intelligence report, 2024-Sept. 2025* at the Latin American Cataloguing and Metadata Meeting on October 1, 2025. The Spanish slides are available on the RSC website.
- On June 30, 2025, Charlene presented Considering AI in the Growth of RDA: Joint RDA Board and RSC Working Group on Artificial Intelligence Report, 2024 - June 2025, at the RDA Linked Data Forum, ALA Annual Meeting, on behalf of the Joint RDA Board and RSC Working Group on Artificial Intelligence.
- To enhance collaboration with other international organisations, Charlene serves as the Joint RDA Board and RSC Working Group on AI representative on the PCC Task Group for AI and Machine Learning in Cataloging and Metadata.
- Charlene presented the PCC AI Task Group's progress report at the Joint Group meeting on February 17, 2025.
- On March 20, 2025, Charlene shared the *draft PCC Guiding Principles for Use of AI and Machine Learning Technologies in Cataloguing and Metadata Work* with the Joint Working Group for feedback.
- Charlene shared the AI White Paper with the PCC Task Group for AI and Machine Learning in Cataloging and Metadata for discussion and feedback.
- Charlene shared the Interim report of the PCC Task Group for AI and Machine Learning in Cataloguing and Metadata with the joint group.

Religions in RDA Working Group

The group term was updated and Charlene continues to serve on this group *ex officio*.

Incoming WCEO

Charlene supported the search for the new WCEO by responding to questions and inquiries during the summer and assisting with the onboarding of WCEO-elect Dr. Getaneh Alemu in fall 2025. Charlene wholeheartedly believes that Dr. Alemu will expand WCEO's outreach and influence to broader communities and to a deeper level through his knowledge, experience, vision, and passion.

549.8   Report of the Technical Team Liaison Officer

Prepared by Chris Holden, Technical Team Liaison Officer and Chair of the Technical Working Group, 4 November 2025

At the beginning of 2025, Damian Iseminger ended his term as Technical Team Liaison Officer,

and Chris Holden took over the role. For the first six months of the year, Damian continued to provide support as the outgoing officer, including attending meetings and working to provide Chris with technical advice regarding the position. In July 2025, Chris fully assumed the role of Technical Team Liaison Officer, but Damian continues to participate in the Technical Working Group.

In the past year, the Technical Team Liaison Officer attended the monthly meetings of the Executive Committee, where he shared updates on the technical issues related to RDA and provided advice to colleagues. He also worked to give technical advice and support to RSC members, members of the RDA/MARC21 Alignment Task Force, members of RSC working groups, and to external members of the cataloging community.

In the past year, the Officer gave the following presentations:
- The Officer gave a brief introduction and explanation of his position to a meeting of the RDA Translators Group on 23 May 2025.
- The Officer led an informal discussion on music-related issues in RDA in July 2025, at the annual meeting of the International Association of Music Libraries, Archives, and Documentation Centres (IAML), in order to help promote the formation of an RDA Music Working Group.

The Technical Team Team Liaison Officer prepared the following proposals and responses to proposals made by members of the RSC:

November 2024 meeting
RSC/TechnicalWG/2024/2/rev (Prepared with the Education and Orientation Officer)
RSC/ExamplesEditor/2024/1 (The Examples Editor worked with the Technical Team Liaison Officer on this proposal)
RSC/ORDAC/2024/1/rev/TTWG Response
RSC/ReligionsWG/2024/2/TTWG Response
RSC/ExtentWG/2024/1/rev2/TTWG Response

April 2025 meeting
RSC/NARDAC/2025/1/TTWGResponse

July 2025 meeting
RSC/FT2025-3 (proposal based on issues identified by the Translations Working Group)
RSC/FT2025-4 (proposal based on issues identified by the Translations Working Group)
RSC/EOO/2025/1 (The Education and Orientation Officer worked with the Technical Team Liaison Officer and Past Technical Team Liaison Officer to prepare this proposal)
RSC/NARDAC/2025/2/TTLO

The Technical Team Liaison Officer, with the NARDAC representative, sponsored the following fast-track proposal for the July 2025 meeting, submitted by members of the Music Library Association:
RSC/FT2025-5

The Technical Team Liaison Officer participated in the following activities this year:
- Worked with the Wider Community Engagement Officer to provide feedback on MARC proposals, and attended the June MARC Advisory Committee meeting in which proposals were discussed.
- Met with the RDA/MARC 21 Alignment Task Force to discuss the work of the task force and other outstanding issues relating to RDA and MARC.
- With the Past Officer, met with the Archives Working Group to discuss the collections model.
- Provided regular updates to the RDA Registry and Staff Registry, including making changes to the RDA Registry to allow for translated terms in Turkish and traditional Chinese.
- Implemented changes to content and terminology in the Registry resulting from proposals approved by the RSC.
- Provided feedback to IFLA's Bibliographic Conceptual Models Review Group on issues identified with the IFLA LRM.
- With the Extent Working Group, worked on a proposal to fix an issue with the Expression: Duration element, which will be part of the larger batch of upcoming proposals surrounding extent.
- Reviewed ideas and provided feedback for potential proposals from RSC constituents and the wider RDA cataloging community, including ideas for additional elements for representative expressions.
- Answered questions from RSC constituents and the wider RDA cataloging community, including questions regarding transliteration schemes in RDA, questions regarding elements for describing resources in a series, and questions surrounding joint pseudonyms.
- Prepared a plan to fully deprecate many of the soft-deprecated elements, and presented this plan to the RSC. As part of this plan, the Technical Working Group has been developing a draft discussion paper specifically addressing the parallel elements in RDA and the possibility of cataloging in a future environment without these elements. The plan is to publish the paper for discussion at a future RSC meeting in early 2026.

549.9 Report of the Translations Team Liaison Officer
Prepared by Szabolcs Dancs, Translations Team Liaison Officer and backup EURIG representative at RSC

Outreach activities

- Started to organize a webinar, in cooperation with the RSC, for experts mainly from Eastern and Middle Europe. Colleagues of bibliographic agencies (national libraries, library associations, union catalogue consortia, etc.) will be invited from Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, North-Macedonia, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Ukraine. The aim of the webinar is to provide some basic information on the standard and its translation and implementation. The event is planned for February 2026.
- Held an RDA workshop at the annual meeting of the Association of Librarians in Hungary in July. Contributed to courses on RDA held by the Hungarian Library Institute. Published an e-book on introduction to RDA in Hungarian.
- As the editor-in-chief of *Central European Library and Information Science Review* (CELISR), initiated and supported to publish an article about implementation of RDA in New-Zealand, the authors are Teresa Preston and Anoushka McGuire. The article is to be published in November/December 2025.
- Compiled a document titled 'Why to translate RDA? Benefits of translating RDA', sent it out to RSC members for feedback.
- Corresponded with Serbian colleagues about their interest in translating RDA.

Liaison activities

- Checked translations of RDA Reference. Created and sent new templates and diff reports to translator teams.
- Answered or mediated queries, comments and proposals from translators via email.
- Organized the work of the Hungarian translators working group.
- Updated the content of the RDA Translations wiki and the RDA Translation Resources folder (on Google Drive), including the information on RDA translation statuses. Complied a translators outreach information excel table to ease the communication with translators beyond Basecamp.
- Adjusted the member list on Basecamp,.
- Attended RSC Executive Meetings and participated at the asynchronous meetings of RSC via conference call. Other meetings were followed via consulting the recordings. Followed the work of other WGs, e.g. Examples WG.
- Worked on fast track proposals and editorial changes with RSC Secretary and Technical Team Liaison Officer.
- Forwarded the request for comment on the 2025 edition of the International Cataloguing Principles (ICP) to the Translation WG.

- Consulted with the Education and Orientation Officer and the Wider Community Engagement Officer on the translations of learning resources.
- Provided formal response to RSC/NARDAC/2025/1, RSC/EOO/2025/1 and RSC/NARDAC/2025/2.
- Created presentation for and organized RDA Translators' Meeting in the framework of the annual EURIG meeting. The meeting was held in Stockholm, in the last week of May. It included a brief overview on what happened in the translation field; a presentation by James Hennelly on scheduling releases; introduction of the new Technical Team Liaison Officer and Chair of the Technical Working Group; a presentation by RDA Examples Editor; a presentation by the Education and Orientation Officer on the materials to be translated. (Slides are shared on Google Drive at the Translation Resources folder.)
- Worked with Technical Team Liaison Officer on translation issues.
- Drafted a proposal on adding new elements, applicable to rare and old materials, to the RDA Toolkit, the corresponding new definitions to the Glossary, and the corresponding new properties to RDA Registry.

Goals for the coming year

- Continuing the organization and holding a webinar, in cooperation with the RSC, for experts mainly from Eastern and Middle Europe.
- Giving a momentum to outreach activities (mainly in Europe).
- Contributing and mediating between RSC and countries open to provide venue for RSC meetings in the future.
- Organizing further online meetings for the teams to refresh their knowledge regarding translation procedures, if needed.
- Continuing the organizations of translation and implementation activities in Hungary.

549.12 Report of the RSC Representative for Europe
Prepared by Ahava Cohen

The Europe Region is represented by the European RDA Interest Group (EURIG). EURIG has 53 member organizations in 30 countries.

Annual Meeting 2025
This year's annual EURIG meeting was held May 22-23 2025 at the National Library of Sweden. Presentations focused on new implementations, multilingualism, ad documentation. Slides and recordings from the Annual Meeting are available on the regional website: https://www.rdatoolkit.org/europe/eurig-annual-meeting-22-23-may-2025. Minutes of the meeting are available at https://www.rdatoolkit.org/sites/default/files/uploads/EURIG%20Minutes%202025_final.pdf

Before the meeting Hannes Lowagie of KBR Royal Library of Belgium was appointed the new Institutional Representative to the RDA Board, representing Europe. At the close of the meeting Luna Sindin Cordery, Biblioteca de Catalunya representative, was elected unopposed to serve as Chair of EURIG 2025-2027.

Editorial Committee
The EURIG EdCo is charged with assisting the RSC Representative to prepare responses to proposals. Current membership on the committee is:
Hannes Lowagie (KBR Royal Library of Belgium)

Heloise Lecomte (ABES - Agence bibliographique de l'enseignement supérieur)
Mélanie Roche (Bibliothèque nationale de France)
Anastasia Kerameos (British Film Institute, CILIP)
Ahava Cohen (National Library of Israel)
Luna Sindin Cordery (Biblioteca de Catalunya)
Renate Behrens (RSC Chair)
Szabolcs Dancs (National Széchényi Library)
Emilie Sørine Ullerup (Royal Danish Library)

Former members of the EdCo are encouraged to share the result of their constituency consultations with the official committee members and are considered emeritus, non-voting members.

Translations
EURIG members continue to be the largest group of full and partial translators of the Official Toolkit, under the guidance of the Translations Working Group Chair, EURIG representative for the National Széchényi Library Szabolcs Dancs. Therefore it is only natural that the annual Translators' meeting was held, as it usually is, in conjunction with the EURIG annual meeting.

Additional Presentations
As in previous years, EURIG members have brought their interest in RDA and IFLA-LRM in to conferences and presentations held under other auspices, including the European BIBFRAME Workshop.

Several EURIG members have organized events around RDA topics, including:

Belgium:
- Work has begun to bring together people and organisations that work on/with RDA together. A first draft webpage for the initiative is available at https://opac.kbr.be/BRIDGE.aspx?_lg=en-GB

England:
- The British Library completed phase one of its RDA implementation for the new Toolkit. This involved the rollout of orientation and practice materials to staff at the St Pancras and Boston Spa sites over the summer months. The training cohort was mainly cataloguer focused, but also included some senior management, curatorial and technical support roles. The British Library has developed its own set of policy statements in the new RDA Toolkit as well as application profiles and detailed policy guidance hosted locally on SharePoint. Phase two of implementation is set to commence in the New Year following the library's ALMA LMS implementation. Remaining activities include orientations for other support roles (e.g. acquisitions) and senior management more generally. Phase two will also include the refinement of existing policy documentation and development of additional policy where necessary. As contributors to various communities of practice and as one point in a larger metadata supply chain, the British

Library will also be seeking to coordinate its roll out with third parties nationally and internationally.

Germany:
- The German National Library the Office for Library Standards coordinates the maintenance and development of the RDA DACH standard for the DACH region which is presented on the STA documentation platform. Michaela Edelmann of DNB gave a talk about the platform at the 22nd January public session of the RSC.
  Content changes for the STA documentation platform are developed cooperatively by the STA working groups, in which the German National Library is also involved.
  - Release 2025/1 was published in July with changes and additions for RDA DACH: STA documentation platform / RDA DACH.
  - In September an update for authority data was published: Entity descriptions were added and RDA elements concerning the entities person, family, corporate body and place were integrated in the GND section of the STA documentation platform. Examples were enriched with format information for authority data (e. g. the preferred name of corporate body https://sta.dnb.de/doc/RDA-E-K010#Erfassen-des-bevorzugten-Namens-einer-Korperschaft).
  - Currently preparing release 2025/2 for RDA DACH and also GND is being prepared. It will be published on December 5, 2025.

Greece:
- Michalis Gerolimos of the National Library of Greece gave a talk about the Greek implementation of RDA at the 15th July public session of the RSC

Israel:
- The 10th Annual Catalogers Day was attended by nearly 250 catalogers from across the country and celebrated a decade of RDA in Israel

Italy:
The URBE network, composed of 20 Roman ecclesiastical libraries, established a Cataloging Commission in 2024. Throughout 2025, this Commission is studying which application profiles to adopt for the following areas (tags refer to MARC21):
1. Dates of birth and death of ancient authors or those with uncertain, probable, or period-based dates (tag 046 in authority records). Authors whose dates are not precise even to the year —typically ancient authors— are being considered. Taking into account the reference sources listed in the "URBE Local Variants" and the EDTF format, ongoing work is establishing criteria for representing cases of probable, uncertain, or floruit dates in tag 046 subfields f, g, s, and t.
2. Coordinated use of occupation (tag 374) and field of activity (tag 372 in authority records). Guidelines are being established for the use of tag 372 when tag 374 is present.
3. Relationship terms and codes (subfields $e of tags 700 and 710 in bibliographic records). A decision is being made to improve and fix the relationship terms and codes used in URBE, also in light of changes introduced by the Library of Congress in March 2025 in https://id.loc.gov/vocabulary/relators/aui.html, where some codes were deprecated and others introduced (e.g., *aui* "author of introduction" was deprecated, and *wfw* "writer of foreword"*, *win* "writer of introduction"*, *wpr* "writer of preface" were added).

Netherlands:
- The RDA commissie Netherlands published the 14th article in the series 'Catalogiseren in het linked-data tijdperk' about recording IRIs
  See https://rdacommissie.home.blog/2025/10/03/catalogiseren-in-het-linked-data-tijdperk-14
- Presentation during the UKB studiedag on 28th October titled 'Van traditioneel catalogiseren naar entiteitsbeschrijvingen' is about the future of cataloging with RDA
- Translated the new update of the RDA registry in Dutch

Scotland:
- The Metadata and Discovery Group in Scotland will be holding an RDA Agony Aunt session on 27th November, featuring an expert panel from the UKCoR Committee (UK Committee on RDA) answering questions, queries and concerns around all things RDA.

Slovenia:
- Since 2016, several working groups have been formed at the National and University Library of Slovenia to prepare the rules according to the RDA standard. A draft structure of the rules has been prepared within these groups. The current working group, i.e. the *Working Group for the Preparation of the Rules for the Description of Resources according to the RDA Standard*, which has been operating since May 2025, is in the final phase of preparing general rules and guidelines (recording methods, data transcription, etc.), and has also begun preparing rules for the description of individual entities. In parallel with the preparation of the rules, coordination and activities for the preparation of the application profile are also underway, in cooperation with the Institute of Information Sciences (IZUM).

Sweden:
- The National Library of Sweden has decided to implement Official RDA. The work will be carried out gradually.

UK:
- The final 'Uncataloguing Workshop' of the year, organized by The UK Committee on RDA (UKCoR) and the Metadata & Discovery Group (MDG) in conjunction with The Wales Higher Education Libraries Forum (WHELF), took place in Cardiff on 25 July 2025 as planned. It has highlighted a need for more.
- Sessions of the MDG Practical Cataloguing Webinar series all touched upon RDA, some more lightly than others. These are the webinars which have taken place so far:
  - *MDG Practical Cataloguing Webinar 1: Introduction to MARC21 Cataloguing, presented by Will Peaden* - Key MARC21 fields and a practical demonstration of original cataloguing.
  - *MDG Practical Cataloguing Webinar 2: Library of Congress Classification, presented by Concetta La Spada* - Cataloguing e-resources in the MARC21 RDA-compliant format at Cambridge University Press.
  - *MDG Practical Cataloguing Webinar 3: Linked Data, Ontologies and Entity Reconciliation, presented by Fran Frenzel* - How making sense of linked data and ontology terminology can help cataloguers navigate the RDA Toolkit.

549.13 Report of the RSC Representative for Latin America and the Caribbean
Prepared by Filiberto Felipe Martínez Arellano, LAyC Representative to RSC

INTRODUCTION

The Latin American and the Caribbean RDA Group (RDA LAyC) was formally established in June 2025. Nevertheless, it has been carrying out diverse actions throughout the 2025 year to promote RDA understanding in this region, as well as its use and application. During this year various activities have been developed, some of which are:

ACTIVITIES

2nd. Meeting on Information Organization Education: "Challenges and opportunities in teaching and learning RDA Toolkit."

The RDA Mexico Group, together with the College of Library Science and Archives (National Autonomous University of Mexico) and the School of Library Science, Documentation and Information (National University of Costa Rica) organized the 2nd. Meeting on Information Organization Education: "Challenges and opportunities in teaching and learning RDA Toolkit." I took place in a hybrid format from April 1st. to 4th. In Costa Rica This meeting aimed to be a space where Latin American teachers, students, cataloguers, and information organization specialists share their experiences on teaching and learning RDA Toolkit versions (RDA Toolkit Original and RDA Toolkit Official). Angela Quiroz and Felipe Martinez, Eliza Sze from RSC gave the conference "RDA Toolkit in a Canadian Cataloguing Course"

Program and further information in Spanish: https://difusion.iibi.unam.mx/EEOI/index.

1st. RDA Users Meeting.

The RDA Mexico Group invited the RDA subscriber community in Mexico and Latin America to participate in the 1st RDA Users Meeting. It was held on May 14th at the National Autonomous University of Mexico in a hybrid format. Its objective was to share experiences, best practices, and success stories on the adoption, application, and use of the RDA Toolkit (Resource Description and Access) in libraries and other information units from their institutions. Angela Quiroz participated with the conference: RDA Implementation in the Library of the National Congress of Chile.

Program and further information in Spanish:
https://difusion.iibi.unam.mx/EURDA/index.html

"II Meeting on Information Organization: Challenges and Opportunities of Technological Innovations."

The National Library of Peru (BNP), together with the RDA Peru Group, organized the "II Meeting on Information Organization: Challenges and Opportunities of Technological Innovations." The meeting took place from June 16th to 18th in the "Mario Vargas Llosa" auditorium of the National Library of Peru. Felipe Martínez and Angela Quiroz participated as speakers, along with others from Spain, Costa Rica, Colombia, Argentina, Chile, and Peru, who shared their experiences, studies, and research on RDA.

Further information in Spanish
https://www.bnp.gob.pe/biblioteca-nacional-del-peru-realizo-con-exito-ii-encuentro-sobre-organizacion-de-la-informacion/

Conference "From cataloging to metadata management: RDA in sound and audiovisual archives."

The Ibero-American Network for Digital Preservation of Sound and Audiovisual Archives (RIDAPSA) invited Felipe Martinez to give the conference "From cataloging to metadata management: RDA in sound and audiovisual archives." This was held on the Zoom platform from the Institute of Library Research of the National Autonomous University of Mexico on June 28, 2025. It was an attendance of more than 300 participants in remote access from various Latin American countries.

Further information in Spanish
https://www.bnp.gob.pe/biblioteca-nacional-del-peru-realizo-con-exito-ii-encuentro-sobre-organizacion-de-la-informacion/

1st Symposium on Data and Information Organization in Digital Ecosystems

This symposium was held from September 3 to 5. It was organized and sponsored by the Library Daniel Cosío Villegas of "El Colegio de México" and the Academic Libraries of Latin America and the Caribbean Network. Filiberto Felipe Martínez Arellano. RSC Representative to LAyC was invited to give the conference "Official RDA Toolkit: a standard for organizing information in the future"

Further information in Spanish
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Kv4ZWVnizp7POAjlJWZf-vq5ABGU059Z/view
https://www.youtube.com/live/Ln9mwE8SVb8

XIV Latin American Cataloging and Metadata Meeting

The XIV Latin American Cataloging and Metadata Meeting was celebrated on October 1, 2, 3 at the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM) and also delivered by Zoom platform. In this time, the theme was "Reflections around the Official RDA Toolkit" It was organized by the RDA Mexico Group and sponsored by the Institute of Research in Library Science and Information Studies (UNAM), the General Direction for Libraries and Digital Services(UNAM), and the National Library of Mexico. Participated like keynote speakers Charlene Chou, Joint RDA Board and RSC Working Group on Artificial Intelligence giving the conference "RDA and Artificial Intelligence", and Michalis Gerolimos, National Library of Greece with the conference "Implementing the official RDA in the National Library of Greece: challenges and lessons learned". It is important to point out in this meeting it was presented the RDA Spanish translation which was published since September 29th and open to all RDA subscribers. Participated in this presentation Renate Berhens, RDA Steering Committee Chair, James Hennelly, RDA Toolkit Director, Filiberto Felipe Martinez Arellano, RDA Steering Committee Representative to LAyC and Spanish translation Coordinator, Cecilia Hernández ABINIA (Association of Ibero-American States for the Development of the National Libraries of Ibero-America) Executive Secretary, and Ricardo Santos, RDA Working Group of ABINIA, giving all of them speeches about the importance of this translation for Latin America countries. Likewise, Filiberto Felipe Martinez gave the keynote conference "Challenges for RDA Official Toolkit implementation in Latin America"

Further information in Spanish:
https://difusion.iibi.unam.mx/ECyM/
https://web.facebook.com/grupordamx/

XXII International Conference on University Libraries

On October 15-17, the XXII International Conference on University Libraries was celebrated at the General Direction for Libraries and Digital Services(UNAM), approaching the theme "Innovating University Libraries: Interoperability and Data Linked to Serving User Communities". Participated in it, Filiberto Felipe Martínez Arellano, RSC Representative to Latin America and the Caribbean, given the conference "From catalogs with descriptive data to catalogs with linked data: applying the RDA (Resource Description and Access) standard.

Further information in Spanish
https://cibu.dgb.unam.mx/index.php/es
Further information in English:
https://cibu.dgb.unam.mx/index.php/en

RDA Spanish Translation conclusion

On October 23th., 2025, during the XXVI ABINIA General Assembly, celebrated in Santiago de Chile, in presence of the national libraries' directors, Filiberto Felipe Martinez Arellano, Coordinator for the RDA Spanish translation, María Andrea Giovine Yañez, ABINIA President, and James Hennelly, RDA Toolkit Director, came together to sign the delivery/reception act for the conclusion of RDA translation to Spanish. Also participated in this act like witnesses Cecilia Hernández. ABINIA Executive Secretary, Ricardo Santos, RDA Working Group of ABINIA, and Valentín Becerril, ICI (Información Científica Internacional), distributor of RDA in Spanish. Since September 30th., RDA in Spanish was published in the RDA Toolkit site and open to all RDA subscribers. ABINIA libraries and LAyC Group members now would begin to adopt RDA as their cataloguing standard.

Further information in Spanish
https://web.facebook.com/grupordamx/

VII RDA Colloquium in Latin America and the Caribbean

On November 18 and 19, it was celebrated at the National Library of Chile the VII RDA Colloquium in Latin America and the Caribbean, which approached the theme "RDA Toolkit Official implementation in Latin America and the Caribbean libraries in time of metadata generated by artificial intelligence". It was sponsored by the National Library of Chile, the Chile Congress National Library and the Concepcion University. Chris Oliver, RDA Board member, was the keynote speaker given the conference "RDA Toolkit Official: metadata for a word in fast evolution. Moreover, Angela Quiroz, LAyC representative in the RDA Board gave the conference "Latin America and the Caribbean participation in the RDA governance"

Further information in Spanish:
https://www.bcn.cl/coloquio-rda-chile/

RDA Education in Latin America Group

On November 14th, the RDA Education in Latin America Group was established. It is sponsored by the School of Library Science, Documentation and Information of the National University of Costa Rica, the College of Library On Science and Archival Studies of the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM), and the Institute of Research on Library Science and Information . This group was established to create an academic cooperation network aimed at promoting the integration of the RDA standard into information organization programs at Library Science schools in Latin America. This group is organizing the 3rd Meeting on Information Organization Education: "New Pedagogical and Technological Perspectives for Teaching and Applying the Official RDA Toolkit in the Training of Librarians," which will be held in May 2026.

549.14 Report of the RSC Representative for North America
Prepared by: Robert L. Maxwell, NARDAC Representative to RSC

The North American RDA Committee (NARDAC) is the entity that represents the North American region on the RDA Steering Committee (RSC), comprising representatives from the American Library Association, the Canadian Committee on Cataloguing, the Library of Congress, the North American French-speaking cataloging community, and Library Science education. NARDAC's membership, as of November 2025, consists of:

- ALA Representatives:
    - Robert Maxwell, Brigham Young University, 2021- ; NARDAC representative to RSC
    - Adam Schiff, University of Washington, 2022-
- Library of Congress (LC) Representatives:
    - Melanie Polutta, 2019- ; NARDAC Coordinator of Web Content; back-up NARDAC representative to RSC
    - Trina Soderquist, 2025-
- Canadian Committee on Cataloguing (CCC) Representatives:
    - Thomas Brenndorfer, Guelph Public Library, 2018- ; NARDAC co-chair (2025-)
    - Hong Cui, Library and Archives Canada, 2023-
- French-speaking Cataloging Community Representative
    - Daniel Paradis, Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec, 2024- ; NARDAC co-chair (2025-)
- Library Science Education Representative
    - Shawne Miksa, University of North Texas , 2024-

NARDAC met monthly, virtually, and had occasional special meetings.

Committee Work
NARDAC submitted the following proposals during the 2024-2025 year:

- [NARDAC/2025/1 - Proposal on numerals associated with given names](#)

The proposal was discussed at the April 2025 RSC meeting and approved with some revisions.

- [NARDAC/2025/2 - Revision of two sets of condition and condition options for Corporate Body: variant access point for corporate body](#)
  The proposal was discussed at the July 2025 RSC meeting and approved in part.

- [RSC/NARDAC/2025/3 - Inconsistency in the transcribed manifestation elements related to source of information](#).[23]
- [RSC/NARDAC/2025/4 - Scope note for Corporate Body](#)[24]

Other activities

- The spring NARDAC Update Forum was held online on April 14, 2025. An update about NARDAC activities was followed by a presentation by Charlotte Christensen of Te Puna Mātauranga o Aotearoa National Library of New Zealand about NLNZ's implementation and training for Official RDA. NLNZ implemented Official RDA in August 2024. The forum can be viewed on the RDA YouTube channel at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZK_4EdUW5k8.
- NARDAC co-sponsored the preconference **A Joint Workshop with NARDAC and PCC SCT RDA Training Task Group: Monographs**, held at the ALA Annual Conference on Friday, June 27, 2025. Participants from NARDAC in developing the content and/or presenting the workshop included Robert Maxwell, Adam Schiff, Hong Cui, Melanie Polutta, Trina Soderquist, and Shawne Miksa.
- NARDAC hosted a forum on Saturday, June 28, 2025, 2:30 to 3:30 PM at the 2025 ALA Annual Conference. The forum featured an update on NARDAC activities, a summary of the preconference, and presentations from James Hennelly on RDA Toolkit and from Jessica Grzegorski, RDA Examples Editor
- The fall NARDAC Update Forum was held online on October 21, 2024. The recording is on the RDA YouTube channel at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uLa0Gluu-OU and also through the RDA Toolkit website at https://www.rdatoolkit.org/news/rda/2024-fall-nardac-update-forum. The forum included an update from NARDAC chair Clara Liao, an update from Dr. Ahava Cohen, chair of the Joint RDA Board and RSC Working Group on Artificial Intelligence, and a presentation by Dr. Hannes Lowagie, head of the Bibliographic Information Agency of the Royal Library of Belgium (KBR) and the vice-chair of EURIG exploring the

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[23] Note from RSC Secretary: under discussion at the November 2025 Meeting (so submitted in year November 2024-October 2025 and discussed in year November 2025-October 2026)
[24] Note from RSC Secretary: under discussion at the November 2025 Meeting (so submitted in year November 2024-October 2025 and discussed in year November 2025-October 2026)

transformative potential of Microsoft PowerApps, focusing on the use of AI components for the detection and enhancement of metadata.

Terms of Reference

NARDAC has prepared an updated revision of its terms of reference, which will be submitted to RSC and the RDA Board in the near future.

Margaret Mann Citation

NARDAC member Adam Schiff was awarded the 2025 Margaret Mann Citation at the ALA Annual meeting https://www.ala.org/news/2025/04/adam-l-schiff-awarded-2025-margaret-mann-citation.

549.15 Report of the RSC Representative for Oceania
Prepared by Jack Ennis Butler, Oceania representative to RSC

Membership

This year ORDAC welcomed new co-opted members Chingmy Lam and Jaimie Solomons. Chingmy brings a perspective from the university sector and Jaimie works at the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (AIATSIS), fulfilling our goal to involve voices from First Nations and Indigenous communities.

Charlotte Christensen has stepped down as RSC Representative and Jack Ennis Butler has moved from the back-up into this role. Bridget Jennings has accordingly moved into the back-up position.

Julie Hickie has also finished her term as RDA Board Representative and we have welcomed Laura Jamieson from NLNZ into this role. We farewelled some members of ORDAC, with Ebe Kartus and Renate Beilharz resigning from their roles. ORDAC continue to investigate expanding representation of the region through membership from other nations within Oceania.

In addition, the ORDAC Terms of Reference were updated, and a logo created for the committee.

Proposal

ORDAC were delighted our RSC/ORDAC/2024/1/rev – Proposal on Dual-language naming of Corporate Body and Place was approved at the November RSC meeting and implemented on 17

August for the October Toolkit release[25]. This recognises the requirements of cataloguers working in Oceania. The committee will continue to investigate more options to enhance the standard for our region.
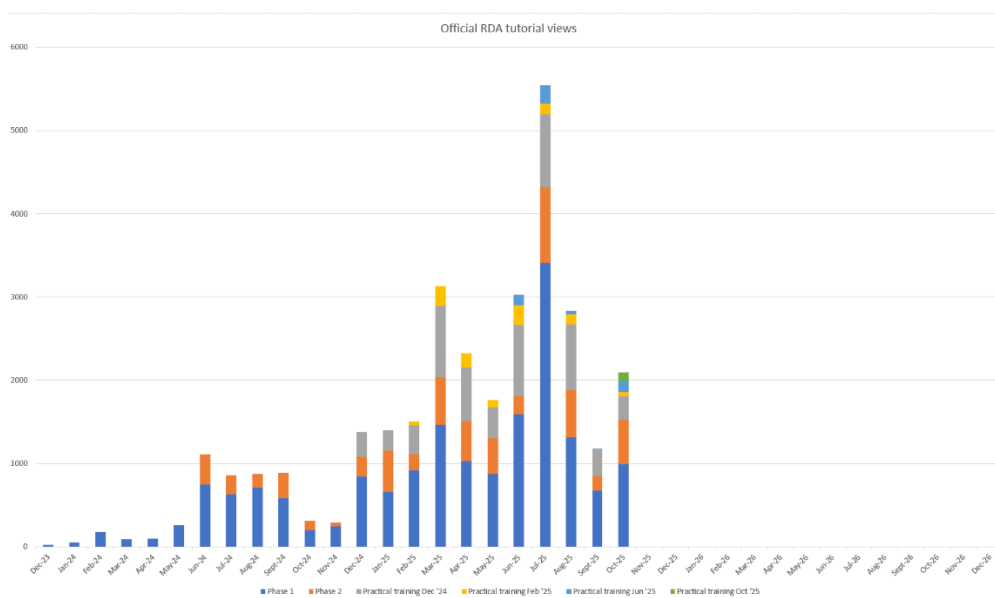
Official RDA in Oceania

National and State Libraries Australasia (NSLA) is coordinating the Australia-wide project to transition the library and information sector to Official RDA. The project launched in February 2025, milestones include:

- Representatives from AIATSIS and CAUL are members of the Policy Statement Working Group.
- The draft Metadata Application Profiles (MAPs) are complete.
- The Metadata Application Profile Working Group Co-Leads alongside the Project Manager are undertaking MAP community consultation throughout September.
- The Project Manager is investigating options to share the completed documentation with the Australian library sector.
- AIATSIS has joined the project by becoming a member of the Official RDA Steering Group.

The National Library of New Zealand has posted their training materials online and continue to develop more resources to support cataloguers using Official RDA. These include foundational modules as well as content focussed on New Zealand's guidance on serial works, archived websites, music scores and parallel aggregates. These are being accessed by colleagues across New Zealand and internationally, and are available here: https://my.nicheacademy.com/natlib.gov.nz?category=27693. See attached graph for usage statistics.

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[25] Note from RSC Secretary: See RSC/ORDAC/2024/1/rev/Decisions for details of implemented changes.

Official RDA tutorial views

A new public guidance page has recently been added to the RDA Toolkit which brings together all the documentation, including Metadata Application Profiles (MAPs), that the National Library of New Zealand is using to create Official RDA descriptions. See the NLNZ approach to resource description. This page is also now linked to from the Contributing Organizations section of the Community Resources page of the Official RDA Toolkit.

ORDAC and RDA Outreach in Oceania

ORDAC and ORDAC members have participated in outreach activities throughout the year. These are listed below with other relevant outreach activities relevant to our region. In addition, ORDAC has undertaken analysis of the audience for the last three webinars to understand who is interacting with our programs.

Presentation Date | **Title** | **Presenter / Author** | **Sponsor / Venue** | **Notes**
11 June 2025 | NSLA Official RDA Project | Michela Goodwin, Aimee Hay, Melissa Parent and Colleen Hayes | RDA Toolkit |
19 May 2025 | Q&A on Official RDA Project at NLNZ | Anoushka McGuire, Catherine Barnes, Charlotte Christensen, Teresa Preston | ORDAC Webinar |
12 May 2025 | Practical Implementation of RDA at NLNZ | Charlotte Christensen | ORDAC Webinar |
14 April 2025 | Practical Implementation of RDA at NLNZ | Charlotte Christensen | NARDAC Forum | Begins at 10:58
8 April 2025 | RDA Toolkit, Only the Toolit, and Nothing but the Toolkit | Ebe Kartus | RDA Toolkit |
20 November 2024 | RDA Contributions from ORDAC | Charlotte Christensen, Ebe Kartus,

Jack Ennis Butler, Michela Goodwin | ORDAC / RDA Toolkit |
13 November 2024 | Implementing Official RDA | Charlotte Christensen | RSC / RDA
Toolkit | Presentation begins at 01:00:43
13 November 2024 | RDA Steering Committee Outreach Day | Renate Behrens, Charlotte
Christensen, Sally McCallum, Paul Frank, Kevin Ford | RSC / RDA Toolkit |