To: ALA/ALCTS/CCS Committee on Cataloging: Description and Access

From: Kathy Glennan, ALA Representative to the Joint Steering Committee

Subject: Report on JSC Activities, January-June 2014

The JSC worked continuously from November 2013 through March 2014 to finalize the changes and additions to RDA instructions arising from the 48 proposals and discussion papers considered at its 2013 meeting. The JSC also approved fast track and related changes for both the February 2014 release and the April 2014 update to the RDA Toolkit. We updated the draft three-year strategic plan for RDA and the related work plan, which contains actions to meet the long-term goals. These should be finalized in cooperation with the Committee of Principles of RDA (CoP) sometime this summer.

As a result of the November 2013 meeting, JSC created and charged the following working groups, along with setting their tasks for 2014:
    JSC Places Working Group
    JSC RDA/ONIX Framework Working Group
    JSC Technical Working Group
In addition, the existing JSC Music Working Group membership was refreshed, and the RDA Examples Group 3 was dissolved in favor of having an Examples Editor: Kate James of the Library of Congress. The JSC is currently reviewing a draft RDA Examples Guide, which will provide principles and editorial guidance for RDA examples.

The JSC website contains documents related to recent activities, including the "…/Sec final" versions of the proposals from 2013, a summary of the fast track changes for both the February and April 2014 releases of the Toolkit, the terms of reference and 2014 tasks for the four JSC working groups, an update of the *RDA Element Analysis Table*, the *Protocol between the JSC and the ISBD Review Group*, the minutes from the 2013 JSC meeting, the updated *Statement of policy and procedures for JSC*, and the revised *Information for new JSC representatives*.

The CoP met in late April; the agenda topics included reports from the JSC and the RDA Toolkit Technical Committee (which evolved from the CoP Technical Committee) as well as a review of RDA Strategy and Governance. Expect to see a wider discussion of governance structures this summer and fall; the current governance structures need to be revisited in light of the increasing adoption of RDA internationally. For more information, see "RDA – Future strategy, future governance", a presentation by the CoP Chair, Simon Edwards, given at *CILIP RDA: Resource Description and Access Executive Briefing 2014*:
http://www.cilip.org.uk/sites/default/files/7.%20Simon%20Edwards.pdf

In May, the JSC welcomed the new representative from ACOC, Ebe Kartus.

Just this month, the RDA Toolkit Technical Committee announced that they had updated http://www.rdaregistry.info, the namespace of the RDA element sets. The website provides

access to the element sets as well as examples and datasets which use RDA elements, and maps between RDA elements and other namespaces. The maps include one between elements for RDA relationship designators and the MARC relator codes. Data files are available in multiple formats.

ALA Publishing has plans for two more releases of the RDA Toolkit in 2014:
- August - German Update and addition of DNB policy statements [no changes to the English language text]
- October - Fast track, policy statement updates, French Update, addition of BL Alternatives and Options, Toolkit enhancements and fixes

In addition, ALA Publishing is developing a new publishing system for the Toolkit; it is currently in development and testing.

The JSC expects to discuss the CoP strategy and governance topics at its fall meeting (scheduled for Washington DC, November 3-7), along with the usual assortment of proposals and discussion papers from the various JSC constituencies and working groups. Potential big changes for RDA could be included in the scope of these discussions, including: the design and arrangement of the RDA Toolkit; internationalization and translations; the impact of the Registry; and use of RDA for linked data.

Deadlines for CC:DA in relation to the November 2014 JSC meeting:
- *July 18:* Last day for CC:DA to vote to approve proposals and discussion papers originating from ALA
- *September 19:* Last day for CC:DA to vote to approve ALA responses to constituency proposals and discussion papers