

To: ALCTS Board of Directors
ALCTS/CaMMS Committee on Cataloging: Description and Access

From: Dominique Bourassa and Kathy Glennan, ALA Representatives to the North American RDA Committee (NARDAC)

Subject: Report on NARDAC and RDA-Related Activities, January-June 2018

NARDAC

The North American RDA Committee (NARDAC), the entity formed in January 2018 to represent the North American region on the RDA Steering Committee (RSC), is up and running. The current membership includes two representatives from the American Library Association (Dominique Bourassa, Yale University, and Kathy Glennan, University of Maryland), two from the Canadian Committee on Cataloguing (Thomas Brenndorfer, Guelph Public Library, and Nathalie Mainville, Library and Archives Canada), and two from the Library of Congress (Damian Iseminger and Kate James).

NARDAC members met virtually via GoToMeeting three times in 2018: February 28, April 4, and May 25. During the first meeting, members introduced themselves, reviewed NARDAC's terms of references, discussed the possible scope of NARDAC's work, and unanimously agreed on the following roles:

- NARDAC chair: Dominique
- NARDAC representative to the RSC Committee: Thomas
- NARDAC representative back-up: Kate
- Coordinator of Web content: Damian

As representative to the RSC Committee, Thomas has been added to the RSC and the RSC plus listservs. Damian has received a log to the RSC website and a quick primer on how to make pages. He has started building the committee's webpages (<http://www.rda-rsc.org/northamerica>). The committee plans to discuss at the next meeting how to flesh out the NARDAC site. In addition, the committee has obtained a chair email (nardacchair@rdatoolkit.org) and created a Google Drive that serves as a document repository and virtual workspace.

On the April 6 and May 25 meetings, Kathy and Kate updated NARDAC members on the activities of the RSC Core Team and the development of the new RDA Toolkit. The committee discussed establishing an information policy with NARDAC's various communities.

The NARDAC representative to the RSC has already received his first request for addition to the RDA Toolkit. The committee anticipates receiving many more requests for additions and revisions to RDA after the new RDA Toolkit is released. After discussion the committee agreed that:

- If a NARDAC member receives a proposal that cannot go forward, he/she should consult with other NARDAC members who will confirm. The NARDAC member will then contact the person who made the proposal to explain why the proposal cannot move forward.
- If a NARDAC member receives a change proposal that has potential to succeed, he/she will refer the person who made the proposal to the appropriate group (CCC for a Canadian proposal; CC:DA for a U.S. proposal, LC for an LC proposal), and copy either all NARDAC members or the representatives of that group.
- Part of NARDAC's messaging until June 13, when the Toolkit beta site is released is that, even if a proposal has potential, nothing will happen until at least the summer.

The next meeting of NARDAC is scheduled for July 13.

Time commitment for ALA reps in this time period: average 3 hours/month each.

RDA activities

- RDA Steering Committee (RSC) membership changes

The RSC has continued to move forward in implementing the new governance structure. The co-opted members listed below have agreed to serve a one-year term; their participation will be reevaluated in 2019:

Catherine Amey, National Library of New Zealand, ORDAC (Oceania RDA Committee)
representative
Thomas Brenndorfer, Guelph Public Library, NARDAC representative
Kathy Glennan, University of Maryland, co-opted member (and RSC Chair-elect)
William Leonard, Library and Archives Canada, co-opted member
Dave Reser, Library of Congress, co-opted member

The RSC Core Team has expanded its membership. In February, the group expanded to include Ebe Kartus (University of New England, New South Wales), the new Wider Community Engagement Officer. In March, representatives were added from the translators (Daniel Paradis, Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec) and policy statement writers (Dave Reser, Library of Congress). The team meets weekly via conference calls to make decisions and resolve issues, primarily centered around the 3R Project.

- 3R Project – Major activities
 - Development of a specification for routine extraction of OMR data into the content management system for the new Toolkit.
 - Creation of draft guidance chapters.
 - Continued work on examples (reformatted, new, etc.).
 - Release of an alpha site using the new design and many of the updated instructions.
 - Work on a new method of associating RDA instructions with the appropriate MARC 21 tags.
 - Creation of a new [3R Project FAQ](#) on the RSC website.

The Core Team decided that the June 13, 2018 release of the new Toolkit will be an English-language beta version which will introduce much of the new functionality and many of the reorganized instructions.

- The goal is to complete the content and add policy statements and translations in early 2019.
 - The old Toolkit will remain available for a year after the new Toolkit is declared “final”.
 - Once the new Toolkit is declared final, the old (current) version will no longer be considered “authorized” by the RSC and the RDA Board.
- RDA Reference
 - The linked data RDA Vocabularies extracted from the OMR have been added to GitHub as pre-release versions for the use of the 3R Project.
 - Notations have been added to all RDA vocabulary encoding schemes to provide data for recording identifiers.
 - Serials/aggregates

Work continues to integrate instructions for diachronic works into the new Toolkit. To assist with this project, the RSC formed an ad hoc Serials Task Force, chaired by Ed Jones (National University, California). This group has prepared recommendations for RDA implementation of the LRM approach to diachronic works and aggregates.
 - Enhancements to the RSC website

New or revised pages include:

 - Links to 2018 presentations made by RSC members and others associated with RDA development (<http://www.rda-rsc.org/node/560>)
 - Creation of the 3R Project FAQ (<http://rda-rsc.org/node/551>)
 - Regular updates to the News and Announcements page (<http://www.rda-rsc.org/news>)
 - Outreach
 - RSC+ members have given RDA-related presentations for the following US-based organizations in the past six months: Music Library Association; Council on East Asian Libraries; Library of Congress; Program for Cooperative Cataloging (multiple venues); LD4 Workshop; FEDLINK Spring Expo; and the California Library Association.
 - The RSC held a day-long preconference on RDA at ALA Midwinter and has another day-long preconference planned for ALA Annual.
 - The RDA Board is planning a day-long conference prior to IFLA, to be hosted by the National Library of Malaysia: *Diversity of Data: RDA in the International Context*.

RSC meeting, October 2018

The RSC will meet at McGill University in Montréal, Québec, Canada, from October 23-25, 2018. In addition, the RSC is considering supplemental meetings to reach out to the francophone community and possibly others. The RSC expects that only a portion of its agenda will be held in executive session this year.