



To: ALA/Core/Committee on Cataloging Cataloging: Description and Access

From: Robert Maxwell and Adam Schiff, ALA Representatives to the North American RDA Committee (NARDAC)

Subject: Report on NARDAC and RDA-Related Activities, February 2022 - July 2022

NARDAC

The North American RDA Committee (NARDAC) is the entity that represents the North American region to the RDA Steering Committee (RSC). NARDAC's membership for this period consisted 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
 - Clara Liao, 2021- ; NARDAC chair (2022-)
- Canadian Committee on Cataloguing (CCC) Representatives:
 - Thomas Brenndorfer, Guelph Public Library, 2018-
 - Thi Bao Tran Phan, Library and Archives Canada, 2020-

NARDAC met monthly since ALA Midwinter, conducting its work using Basecamp, Google Drive, Zoom, email, and phone calls.

Committee Work

NARDAC held its semi-annual update forum online April 25, 2022. Topics included NARDAC news, RSC training/outreach update, the new Collections Model change, a case study of the possible RDA extension work on place-related relation designators outside RDA, and an MGD (Metadata Guidance Documentation) demonstration with specific cataloging examples.

NARDAC members and RSC chair Kathy Glennan presented a workshop at ALA Annual, June 24, 2022, with attendance of approximately 45 persons. The workshop had a practical approach, focusing on helping participants learn to interpret "official" RDA and the documentation that is being formed around it, particularly the LC-PCC Policy Statements and Metadata Guidance Documentation.

NARDAC also held a question-and-answer format forum at ALA Annual, June 25, 2022. A presentation was made on NARDAC activities since April and questions of importance to audience members were fielded.

NARDAC discussions and RDA-related activities of members included:

- Preparation of NARDAC responses to two RDA revision proposals, both of which were approved (with minor changes) at the RDA Steering Committee meeting July 12, 2022. The proposals were
 - [RSC/TranslationTLO/2022/1](#) -- Proposal for correction of the narrower element hierarchy in Manifestation: manufacturer agent (etc.) and its inverses
 - [RSC/RSCSecretary/2022/1](#) -- Proposal to improve consistency in “supertype” elements. This proposal was written by NARDAC member Thomas Brenndorfer
- Four current NARDAC members were involved in writing the LC-PCC Metadata Guidance Documentation for use with RDA. The initial set of documents is available at <https://loc.gov/aba/rda/mgd/>
- NARDAC monitored development of the LC-PCC Policy Statements and Metadata Guidance Documentation, including a monthly report from the LC representatives to NARDAC. Related activities by NARDAC members included
 - Proposal of a set of place-related extensions of relationship elements to the PCC Standing Committee on Standards
 - Submission of a group of proposed policy statements related to representative expression to the PCC Standing Committee on Standards
- NARDAC continued discussion of ways to be more proactive in its relations with its constituencies.

RDA Steering Committee (RSC)

The RDA Steering Committee membership is currently:

Regional Representatives:

Europe: Ahava Cohen, National Library of Israel

North America: Robert Maxwell, Brigham Young University

Oceania: Melissa Parent, State Library of Victoria

Position holders:

RSC Chair: Kathy Glennan, University of Maryland

RSC Chair-Elect: Renate Behrens, Deutsche Nationalbibliothek (will become chair in January 2023)

RSC Secretary: Linda Barnhart

RDA Examples Editor: Honor Moody, Harvard University

Technical Team Liaison Officer: Damian Iseminger, Library of Congress

Transitions Team Liaison Officer: Daniel Paradis, Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec

Wider Community Engagement Officer: Charlene Chou, New York University

Education and Orientation Officer: Elisa Sze, University of Toronto

Ex officio members:

RDA Board Chair: John Trevor-Allen

Director, ALA Digital Reference: James Hennelly

Activities

The RSC held one virtual/asynchronous meeting (July 11-14) and one asynchronous meeting (April 11-14) since ALA Midwinter, and held a question-and-answer format webinar in May.

The April meeting included:

- Updates from the RDA Assessment Group (charged with helping route change suggestions as fast-track changes or full proposals)
- Discussion of application profiles and the Community Resources area of the RDA Toolkit

The July meeting included:

- Discussion and approval of the two RDA revision proposals noted above with NARDAC activities
- Reports from the four task-and-finish working groups:
 - Extent Working Group, chair, Thomas Brenndorfer
 - Official Languages Working Group, chair, Peter Rolla
 - Place/Jurisdiction Working Group, chair, Esther Scheven
 - Religions in RDA Working Group, chair, Kate James
- Continuing discussions of
 - Application profiles
 - Community Resources area of the RDA Toolkit
 - Disposition of Anglo-American legacy materials no longer thought appropriate for the main RDA guidelines