IFLA Metadata Newsletter

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About IFLA Metadata Newsletter

The newsletter is published twice a year (June and December).

Contributions are welcome at any time.

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Ongoing projects, activities, and publications can be found at:

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LETTER FROM THE CHAIRS

Dear colleagues,

Preparations are underway for the World Libraries and Information Congress (WLIC) in Rotterdam, The Netherlands, 21-25 August 2023. In addition to the Congress program, several satellite meetings, business meetings, tours, and social events are scheduled around the Congress. We hope that many of you will attend the Congress in person but if not, the hybrid concept allows for remote attendance to most business meetings and open sessions.

We have several exciting news about WLIC sessions:

The three Metadata Sections, through their program committees, have planned the following open sessions that will take place during the congress, 21-25 August 2023. Follow the links to the proposal calls for more information on the themes and the links to the programme for session scheduling information.

- Bibliography: National Bibliographies today | Programme

- Cataloguing and SAA, together with IT:
    - Library data in the world of machine learning: ethics, bias and algorithms | Programme, and
    - Utopia, threat or opportunity? Artificial Intelligence Machine Learning for cataloguing | Programme

- Subject Analysis and Access Section: Identifiers for identities: Rectifying the (mis)representation of demographic groups | Programme

Prior to the Congress, consider attending one of our Satellite meetings:

- Joint Satellite meeting Universal Bibliographic Control at the crossroads: the challenges of unifying IFLA bibliographic standards
- Date: 18 – 19 August 2023.
- Location: KBR, Brussels, Belgium
- Call for Proposals
- Registrations

Joint Satellite meeting Agile methodology in libraries: innovations in library projects and management

- Date: 18 August 2023.
- Location: Erasmus University Library
- Satellite website (call for proposals, programme, & registration)

Unfortunately, we were not able to hold the planned Metadata Webinar in February 2023. The first quarter was a very busy time for all, including the planning of various WLIC events, the election of new committee members, midyear business meetings, and the preparations for transitioning to the next two-year term with new officers.

Transitions

The IFLA elections were held and results were announced this spring. We are excited to welcome new members to our Section Standing Committees and wish all continuing and new members a productive next term!

Section committee officers nominations and elections for the 2023-2025 term are taking place 1-19 June 2023, with run-off elections 14-24 July, if necessary. We encourage all continuing and new members to consider an officer position for each of the Sections' committees.

A huge "Thank you" to all outgoing members and officers whose terms end at the conclusion of WLIC 2023. We appreciate your contributions, your dedication, and your leadership.

Athena Salaba, Chair of the Subject Analysis and Access Section Standing Committee

Vincent Boulet, Chair of the Cataloguing Section Standing Committee

Mathilde Koskas, Chair of the Bibliography Section Standing Committee

SECTION NEWS

TRANSLATIONS OF COMMON PRACTICES FOR NATIONAL BIBLIOGRAPHIES IN THE DIGITAL AGE

By **Mathilde Koskas**, Bibliothèque nationale de France, and **Jay Weitz**, OCLC

Endorsed by the IFLA Professional Committee in April 2022 and made available in the IFLA Depository in July 2022, Common Practices for National Bibliographies in the Digital Age was the result of five years of work by the IFLA Bibliography Section. It carries on the traditions of the web-based Best Practice for National Bibliographic Agencies in a Digital Age (2014-2017) and its predecessor, the printed National Bibliographies in the Digital Age: Guidance and New Directions (2009). Because bibliographic control varies widely from place to place depending upon legal, financial, and other factors, Common Practices intends to provide accurate guidance to a range of options for those creating and maintaining a national bibliography.

Now in addition to the original English document, translations are available or in progress. The Chinese translation, 数字时代的国家书目: 普遍实践; Italian translation, Pratiche condivise per le bibliografie nazionali nell'era digitale; and Spanish translation, Prácticas comunes para las bibliografías nacionales en la era digital can be accessed in the IFLA Depository. Translations in French, Persian, Arabic, and Mongolian are underway. German-speaking countries decided that no translation was necessary for the relatively small pool of specialists who will work with the English version.

The Bibliography Section encourages anyone interested in undertaking a translation project to contact the committee Information Coordinator so that the work may be shared when completed.

NATIONAL AND REGIONAL NEWS

NEWS FROM MAURITIUS

By **Mrs Belinda T.K Ramnauth,** Director of National Library of Mauritius

National Library of Mauritius Project Presentation NPQC 20/21, Theme: Pursuing Productivity & Quality amidst COVID-19

Silver Award Winner – National Production and Quality Convention (NPQC) 2020-2021

The National Library of Mauritius is a para-statal body under the aegis of the Ministry of Arts and Cultural Heritage. It was established by the Government under the National Library Act of 1996 (Act No. 32) and was officially opened to the public in January 2000. It is mandated to collect and preserve the library materials and make these available to the public for consultation.

The National Library of Mauritius participated in the National Productivity and Quality Convention (NPQC) competition 2020-2021. The aim of this presentation was to demonstrate the National Library's endeavour in improving its services during Covid – 19.

The NPQC is a platform in Mauritius where local organisations can participate and share knowledge, as well deepen their understanding of productivity, quality, innovation in order to achieve sustainable growth and competitiveness. The NPQC encourages organisations to share their best operational practices, processes, systems, and initiatives and learn from the experience of others. It also provides an opportunity to celebrate the achievements of teams that have been responsible for creating and/or managing productivity and quality improvements at their workplace.

In that connection, third edition of the competition was scheduled for November 2020-April 2021 and about 53 participants from various business and

government sectors has submitted their projects. It was noted that this year NPQC 2020-2021 was organized in exceptional circumtances, in view of prevailing Covid-19 situation. As such public as well as private organisations were called upon to work on the project identifying new ways of doing business or service and to communicate differently with their stakeholders.

With that in view, that prevailing situation presented a real challenge for many organisations to be henceforth more digital, data-driven, to have more variable cost structures, lean operations and to innovate.

A team from the National Library was selected to embark on the project and study on the theme 'Pursuing Quality and Productivity amidst COVID-19 pandemic." A study was conducted to analyse the loophole that prevail during Covid-19, when the National Library could not deliver its services fully to the public.

A trigger for an urgent paradigm shift from paper to digital transformation, storage and delivery was presented in the project. The National Library Team won the Silver Award on national level. The Team composed of

Mr. Kamless NARAIN, Team Leader

Mrs Chintamani Devi SAHADEW, Member

Miss Vanessa SELLAPILLAY, Member

Actually the implementation of the Digitization project is at its full stage at the National Library of Mauritius.

NEWS FROM RUSSIA

By **Stanislav Golubtsov**, PhD, Deputy Director for Library work, National Library of Russia (St.-Petersburg)

The practice of subject indexing and subject analysis in the National Library of Russia

The National Library of Russia in St. Petersburg is one of the five largest libraries in the world and ranks second in Russia in terms of holdings. The National Library of Russia was founded in 1795 and opened to readers in 1814 as the Imperial Public Library. In 1992 the National Library of Russia received its current name and the status of a particularly valuable object of cultural heritage of the peoples of the Russian Federation.

One of the main priorities of the National Library of Russia is to conduct subject analysis of printed editions published in Russia and present their content in the electronic catalog of the Library. The activity of subject analysis and creating a subject catalog began in the pre-electronic era. The first subject catalogs in the National Library of Russia appeared in the 19th century. In 1874 the subject catalogs of the Philosophical and Legal departments were compiled. The practice of subject access to the collections proved successful, and in 1928 the universal subject catalog of the National Library of Russia was formed. It covers all branches of

knowledge: natural and mathematical sciences, engineering and technology, social sciences, branches of economics and culture, art studies in a broad sense, etc.

The National Library of Russia has extensive experience in developing a system of formats for presenting machine-readable bibliographic and authority records, in creating authority files, in methodological, educational and organizational work in this area. The system of Russian national authority files was developed on the basis of the system of the card catalogs of the National Library of Russia. Thus, the authority file of subject headings was created on the basis of unique in volume and universal in content the only one in **the** country list of subject headings used in the subject catalog of the National Library of Russia.

The National Library of Russia not only generates an array of metadata based on subject analysis but also has a pool of specialists who have the skills of practical work in subject analysis of publications, forming subject headings, maintaining the authority file of subject headings as well as the skills of compiling training cases, instructions, and manuals that include proven to be the best practices of subject analysis.

The Russian library community felt the need to create a center that could unite efforts to improve subject indexing methodology. The National Library of Russia became such a center, which has made a significant contribution to the theory and methodology of subject analysis, developed technologies for electronic cataloging and authority control, for forming an authority file of subject headings. Thus, a format for presenting machine-readable bibliographic and authority data RUSMARC (Russian version of UNIMARC) was developed. The quality of the national authority data allows the National Library of Russia to provide it to the VIAF® (Virtual International Authority File).

The National Library of Russia also deals with the issues of cooperation between Russian libraries in the field of cataloging, which requires continuous vocational training and improving professional

competencies of librarians. Today, professional development management has become the main element of modern library management. Learning from leaders is the best strategy in the educational services market. In this sense the National Library of Russia is the best place for learning.

The Library is successfully implementing an educational course "Theory and Practice of Machine-Readable Cataloging in the RUSMARC Format System and Subject Processing of Documents". The course takes place both offline and online and allows to acquire knowledge and skills in the use of authority files, general methodology of subject indexing. As part of the training, an essential practical section is provided when the students learn to apply the theoretical knowledge they have gained under the guidance of experienced specialists of the Library.

Organizing training for metadata specialists, professional development of specialists at the workplace, maintaining uniform practices for subject analysis, support for the subject authority file and quality control of the electronic catalog require constant updating of standards, guidance materials and manuals that have the status of national ones.

Responding to current professional challenges, the specialists of the National Library of Russia have prepared for publication a manual "Fundamentals of Subject Indexing". It outlines the technological stages of subject indexing on the examples of traditional text publications. It presents specific technological maps for the stages of document content analysis, subject selection, the formulation of a subject heading and search pattern of a document, the choice of an indexing term from the authority file of subject headings of the National Library of Russia, and the authority control.

The analysis of each stage is guided by the theoretical concepts of information retrieval languages and strategies of topical search using subject headings. Particular attention is paid to the evaluation of the results of subject analysis as the

main criterion for the user effectiveness of a search engine.

MEETING AND CONFERENCE REPORTS

REPORT OF THE AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION/CORE SUBJECT ANALYSIS COMMITTEE

By **Dr. Judy H. Jeng,** Community Representative,
Digital Public Library of America
ALA/Core Subject Analysis Committee
representative to IFLA Subject Analysis and Access

The American Library Association/Core Metadata and Collections Section Subject Analysis Committee held three online meetings on January 18-20, 2023.

Annie Wolfe gave a report on Library and Archives Canada. Because the language describing Indigenous materials in CSH is often not reflective of the terminology preferred by First Nation, Inuit and Métis Nation communities in Canada, in 2019, LAC started a review of CSH headings. LAC replaces 'Indians of North America' with 'First Nations' for Canada. LAC has published the French translation of MARC21.

Paul Frank gave a report on The Library of Congress Policy, Training, and Cooperative Programs Division. The Library of Congress is very aware that many of its subject headings for Indigenous peoples living within the USA and bordering countries are either incorrect or offensive. The Library is committed to rectifying these errors and is determined to do it correctly with respect for Indigenous peoples, their customs, culture, and languages. "Nothing about us without us" is driving the Library's approach to this enormous task. LC is forming the Indigenous Consultants Group consisting of 8 to 10 people or institutions from the U.S., Canada, and Mexico. The group will be selected based on subject matter expertise and understanding of cataloging. The aim of the group is to address fallacies in subject construction for Indigenous materials in catalogs.

Veronica Ranieri gave a report on the PCC Subject Authority Cooperative Program. The project to replace "Slaves" to "Enslaved persons" is close to completion.

Dean Seeman gave a report on the FAST Policy and Outreach Committee. The FAST Funnel has been active since July 2021. The Funnel has continued to accept proposals and see them through the SACO process. As intended, some of these requests have come from FAST users that are not participants in the PCC programs.

Violet Fox gave a report on Sears List of Subject Headings. The 23rd Edition of the Sears List of Subject Headings was published in October 2022. Previous editions of Sears were published by H.W. Wilson (EBSCO) and edited by full-time/in-house staff. For the 23rd Edition, Grey House Publishing hired an editor only for a six-month period of editing; there is currently no acting editor of Sears to field questions or take suggestions. The first edition of Sears was published in 1923, but no commemorations for the 100th anniversary are planned.

Margaret Joyce gave a report on the Working Group on the Devaluation of Cataloging. The working group has been meeting monthly since October 2022 and have compiled an annotated bibliography of resources on this topic. The intended goal of this working group is to create a collaborative toolkit for learning about and promoting the importance of cataloging work.

Michael Phillips from OCLC talked about the removal of 655 "Electronic Books" from WorldCat Records. Starting in September 2022, OCLC began removing the term "Electronic Books" from the 655 field of WorldCat records since "Electronic Books" is an indicator of carrier type not a valid genre/form heading. The clean-up project was then expanded to include other "Electronic" resource terms (Electronic article, Electronic audiobook, Electronic newspaper, etc.). Most recently, terms beginning with "Compact disc," "Downloadable," "Online

resource," and "Streaming audio" have been added to the list for deletion from 655.

EDUG MEETING, 25-26 APRIL 2023

By **Harriet Aagaard,** National Library of Sweden

EDUG, the European DDC Users Group, met at the Nasjonalbiblioteket (National Library of Norway) in Oslo. After having to hold the meeting online for the past few years due to the pandemic, everyone was very happy to be able to meet in person again!

The two-day event included a symposium on the first day and the group's business meeting on the second. This year, the main topics discussed were:

- Classification quality
- Sharing of built Dewey numbers with other countries
- Issues related to the use of DDC in discovery systems and other public catalogues (including the complete lack of DDC search options)
- Improving searches for the Saami people at Umeå University library, Sweden
- DDC as linked data
- Do we need the including note? Pre-discussion about the rule of "approximating the whole" (to be continued next year)

Presentations of the symposium are available on the EDUG website ().

(Both photos: Harriet Aagaard)

RDA AND LINKED DATA IN GREECE

By **Michalis Gerolimos,** Phd, Head of Cataloging Department, National Library of Greece

Following the hosting of the 2023 EURIG Meeting at the begging of May, the National Library of Greece (NLG) organized a 2-day national meeting (22-23 May), during an Erasmus+ week, to present the results of three 4-year long projects:

- The adoption of MARC21, moving from UNIMARC

- The implementation of RDA/RDF to its new Wikibase linked data system

- The adoption of the new RDA3R to its cataloging policy

During the 2-day meeting, speakers from Greece, Italy and Germany and librarians from Greece discussed how the country may adopt a national cataloging policy. The NLG showcased the configuration of its ILS (Koha) to assist with implementing RDA3R rules. Other speakers talked about the use of application profiles, the importance of common controlled vocabularies in Libraries, Archives and Museums, the differences between AACR2 and RDA3R, how to move from authority control to identity management and the role of persistent identifiers in cataloging within a linked environment. Invited speakers presented linked data projects and the exploitation of Wikidata to assist with cataloging. Finally, the NLG showcased the new linked data system on Wikibase implementing RDA/RDF ontology.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE LOOK BEYOND. SUBJECT INDEXING OF NON-BOOK RESOURCES

On February 6th, 2023 the AIB CILW group (Cataloguing, indexing, semantic web and linked data group of the Italian Library association) and ISKO-Italy, in collaboration with Sapienza Library System held the International Conference Look beyond. Subject indexing of non-book resources.

Non-book resources (maps, images, music, audio-video etc.) are an important challenge for those dealing with subject indexing and knowledge organization (KO). To enhance access and usage of the subject content of such resources, practices of conceptual analysis for each resource type need to be shared. At the same time, we need to make possible the creation and management of indexing tools that allow for interoperability of cataloguing practices and meet user needs in searching and navigating, both within catalogues and out of them.

The spread of the Semantic Web, discovery tools and union catalogues has radically changed the way catalogues and access are implemented. Current debate about cataloguing practices is rich in proposal and stimulations for the library and information community at both national and international levels. The conference then aimed at presenting and sharing practices, proposals and tools as well as reflecting about the improvement of access for an increasingly various community of users, who are changing their search habits so fast that traditional catalogue tools can hardly match them.

Keynote speech was given by Athena Salaba; the invited speackers were Claudio Gnoli (The curtain of Broni: knowledge organization beyond books), Michela Grossi and Roberta Schiavone(Beyond the score: indexing notated music for performance), Margherita Naim (Subject indexing of the photographic image: proposals and models), Anna Lucarelli and Elisabetta Viti (Between textuality and iconology: insights into subject indexing of maps),

Antonella Fischetti (Navigating in an ocean of content: subject indexing of sound and audiovisual resources at Istituto Centrale per I Beni Sonori e Audiovisi)

The presentations that were selected through a call for papers were Tiziana Possemato (Strings and their semantics: the treatment of subjects in entity modelling processes), Valentina Atturo (Subject indexing in the ICCU Alphabetica portal), Lorenzo Gobbo, Automatic subject indexing: testing of Annif software for the Italian language), Elisa Tosi Brandi (Classifying the heterogeneous cultural heritage of fashion), Vincenzo Maltese ('Cataloguing' experts by competences: the Digital University project), Alessandra Mo i- Andrea Marchitelli – Carlo Bianchini (Author tagging: potential and limits of keywords in professional scientific production), Ignazio Pirronitto (Subject indexing of normative acts), Gislene Rodrigues da Silva and Célia da Consolação Dias (Product image content representation model for electronic commerce: MRCIP), Mara Sorrentino (From the local thesaurus to the Nuovo Soggettario: indexing by subject of photographs and postcards at the Biblioteca civica Gambalunga in Rimini) and the Biblioteche Oggi Trends editorial team (Search and navigation features of the new Biblioteche Oggi Trends platform)

Video recordings, English abstracts and slides of the presentations from the Conference are available at https://www.aib.it/struttura/commissioni-e-gruppi/heori-di-studio-catalogazione-ed-indicizzazione/2022/101224-look-beyond/.

RANGANATHAN'S MULTIPLE FACETS = LE MOLTE FACCETTE DI RANGANATHAN. INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

University of Pavia, Department of Musicology and Cultural Heritage, Cremona, May 23rd, 2022

The year 2022 marks the 50th anniversary of the death of Shiyali Ramamrita Ranganathan (9 August 1892, Shiyali, Madras, India- 27 September 1972, Bangalore, Mysore), the Indian librarian and scholar, unanimously considered the father of Indian librarianship and known worldwide for his groundbreaking five laws of librarianship and profoundly innovative theories in the field of bibliographic classifications.

To celebrate the famous librarian, the Department of Musicology and Cultural Heritage (Cremona) of the University of Pavia heorized two separate initiatives: in collaboration with prof. Lucia Sardo (University of Bologna, Italy) and prof. Ignacio Mancini (Universidad de Buenos Aires, Argentina) an international conference and, in collaboration with the SpazioMythos theatre company of Cremona, a performance that staged the salient features of the great librarian's librarianship by means of a few excerpts from his own texts.

The international conference, in a mixed mode of presence at the Department of Musicology and Cultural Heritage, University of Pavia, Italy and at a distance, was promoted by Alma Mater Studiorum Università di Bologna, Italy, Federal University of the State of Rio de Janeiro, Brasil, Brazilian Institute of Information in Science and Technology, Brasil, the Italian Chapter of the International Society of Knowledge Organization, Società Italiana di Scienze bibliografiche e biblioteconomiche, Italy Italy, Associazione Italiana Biblioteche, Italy, Biblioteca Statale di Cremona, Italy, and Comune di Cremona, Italy.

The conference aimed to bring out and deepen the lesser-known themes of Ranganathan thought. who, through his vast scholarly production, dealt with topics such as the disciplinary collocation of librarianship, management librarianship and the national library system; documented his travels in European and American libraries; dealt with school libraries and the problems related to library acquisitions and, at the same time, the material aspects of books and documentation; and participated in the creation of standards and the promotion of public library acts on a national level. For that reason, the conference involved Italian and foreign experts in individual themes, who proposed an in-depth reading of specific original texts by Ranganathan with the dual aim of highlighting the topical aspects and comparing his thought with that of other 'classical' authors who have tackled the same theme.

The papers presented are now published in a special issue of Bibliothecae.it (https://bibliothecae.unibo.it/), a scientific, peer-reviewed, open access e-journal, published twice a year.

During the conference, two more presentations were given by Ignacio Mancini and Elsa M. Ramírez Leyva, but unfortunately the two scholars were not able to submit a text for publication. In his presentation Ranganathan's Five Laws of Library Science in Pandemic Argentina (Le cinque Leggi della Biblioteconomia nella Argentina pandémica), Ignacio Mancini started from a quick examination of the effects on libraries and the social impact of the pandemic emergency in Argentina, to analyse the reaction and activities of libraries through the model of the Five Laws of Librarianship heorized by Ranganathan. Elsa M. Ramírez Leyva presented her speech titled The reference service in Ranganathan's futuristic vision of librarianship in which effected a reflection on the qualities and capabilities of the reference librarian and the characteristics of his service as expressed in Ranganathan's futuristic vision of librarianship. These qualities and capabilities, defined more than seventy years ago by the Indian scholar in Reference service (2. ed., Bombai, Asia Publishing House, 1961) and in Library Manual (Delhi: Indian Library Association, 1951), prove to be essential characteristics in the current context, in relation to

the digital services that need to be developed to adapt and update the role of an integrated guide, educator and librarian facing new challenges in the hybrid information ecosystem.

The issue is enriched by three contributions that expand on the topics discussed at the conference and offer insights to the reader into the reference service, the possibilities offered by linked open data to foster the spread of Colon Classification and an impassioned reconstruction of the fundamental importance of the figure of Ranganathan for the birth of librarianship in India.

RDA BOARD MEETING, MAY 2023

In May 2023, at the invitation of the American Library Association, Ms. Rania Osman (cataloguing section member) had attended the RDA Board and the RDA Steering Committee (RSC) joint meeting held in The American Library Association (ALA), Chicago, USA, in her capacity as the National Institution Representative for Africa, serving from 2022 to 2024, and as Head of the Information Institutions and Professional Skills Department, Library Sector, Bibliotheca Alexandrina.

NEWS FROM THE RDA STEERING COMMITTEE (RSC)

By **Anne Welsh**, RSC secretary

Countdown Clock for Original RDA

As announced on the RDA Toolkit website, the RDA Board in consultation with the Copyright Holders of RDA have determined that a hard date for the removal of the original RDA Toolkit website is needed. This determination was made against a backdrop of giving user communities plenty of time for planning in their transition to official RDA. The Board plans to begin a countdown clock in May 2026 (specific date still to be determined), with the removal of the original Toolkit taking place a year later—May 2027. This plan was presented to the RDA Steering Committee last week, and the RSC fully supported this decision.

Removal of the Original RDA Toolkit means that the site will no longer be accessible via the Web. However, the pdf files of the RDA instructions and guidance will remain accessible through the Instruction Archive in the official RDA Toolkit. More details about the countdown clock will be shared as the information becomes available.

Finding Your Way with RDA

Beginning on 7 June, the Oceania Region RDA Committee (ORDAC) is pleased to present a series of three free webinars exploring concepts from the Official RDA Guidance chapters, presented by ORDAC member and Oceania RSC representative Charlotte Christensen based at the National Library of New Zealand Te Puna Mātauranga o Aotearoa.

You do not have to be based in Oceania or be a subscriber to the RDA Toolkit to attend - no prior knowledge of RDA is assumed. Details and registration are available on the RDA Toolkit website.

RSC Action Plan 2023-2025

The RSC published its latest Action Plan (RSC/Chair/2023/1) on 16 February. The committee's annual action plans provide an overview of the general direction of travel, based on achieving the aims of the RDA Board's Strategic Plan. The Board finalized its Strategic Plan at its latest meeting in May 2023, and the RSC will update its Action Plan following its next meeting in July 2023.

Proposals

Alongside its Action Plan, the RSC develops RDA in line with proposals received from its various Working Groups and the wider RDA community. The Place/Jurisdictions Working Group (chaired by Esther Sheven) presented its first proposal (RSC/PlacesWG/2023/1) for discussion at the RSC's meeting on 19 May 2023. Responses were received from across Europe, North America and Oceania, and several members of the wider community made time to attend the meeting as online observers. The RSC is always grateful for community input, and RSC Chair, Renate Behrens, expressed her thanks to those who contributed to strengthening our understanding of how the concept of jurisdiction. You can read the proposal and its formal responses on the RDA website, and the discussion and its outcome are item 380 in the Minutes of the meeting (RSC/Minutes/373-392). A decisions document is under preparation and will be published in due course, and it is expected that changes to the Registry and the Toolkit will take place in their next releases.

The RSC has been informed by the chairs of several Working Groups that proposals and discussion papers will be presented for the next meeting, and with that in mind, the Chair took the decision that the next public meeting will be held on 2 August 2023 at 9-11pm Frankfurt time (World Clock time converter to work out equivalents). As always, the RSC is keen to welcome online observers to this public meeting. A formal call will go out on the RSC news and announcements page nearer the time,

but if you would like to in be added to the email list used by the RSC Secretary solely to send courtesy emails informing list members that a public meeting is open for registration, you can send an email to RSCsecretary@rdatoolkit.org with the subject line "online observers list". (Under UK GDPR (General Data Protection Regulation) email addresses can only be retained with specific permission for specific purposes).

The RSC is keen to receive proposals and discussion papers from members of the RDA community. Information on how to make a proposal are available on the RSC website, including links to Past Chair Kathy Glennan's webinar on How to Propose a Change in RDA.

It is worth bearing in mind that information submitted through the feedback button on the RDA Toolkit is monitored and responded to. Many fast track changes and some proposals made by RSC members have started their life-cycle as suggestions from the wider community via the feedback button. The RSC Secretary, Technical Team Liaison Officer and the Director of ALA Digital Reference also make changes to the Toolkit, Registry and text of RDA following feedback received in this way, or raise it with the wider RSC for discussion if it has wider implications.

RSC Archive at ALAIR

From 2023, RSC documents and papers are being deposited in the American Library Association Institutional Repository (ALAIR). Former RSC Secretaries Linda Barnhart and Judith A. Kuhagan are working on the deposit of papers from 2012-2022). ALAIR is managed by the American Library Association Archives and the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, and it provides all the advantages of an online repository, including URIs and the assurance of maintenance by professional archival staff.

RSC Meetings

The RDA Steering Committee in May 2023 at the ALA offices in Chicago.
Left-to-right: Elisa Sze (Education and Orientation Officer), Charlene Chou (Widening Community Engagement Officer), Anne Welsh (Secretary), Ahava Cohen (Regional Representative for Europe), Renate Behrens (Chair), John Trevor-Allen (RDA Board Chair, ex-officio), Damian Iseminger (Technical Team Liaison Officer), Robert Maxwell (Regional Representative for North America), Honor Moody (RDA Examples Editor), Kathy Glennan (Past Chair), Szabolcs Dancs (Translations Team Liaison Officer), Charlotte Christensen (Regional Representative for Oceania), James Hennelly (ALA Digital Reference)
Photo by Jennifer Gongorek.

Since the last *IFLA Metadata Newsletter* there have been two RSC meetings, one asynchronously in and one in-person in Chicago in May. The May meeting was immediately preceded by the first ever joint meeting of the RDA Board and RDA Steering Committee. Minutes are available for all three meetings:

- RSC/Minutes/362-372 – including the dates of future RSC meetings; the annual report of the Oceania Representative (Item 362.1, report included in appendix); and the update of the Operations documents (Item 363)
- RSC-RDABoard/Minutes/000-009 – including discussion of the governance model (Item 005); and updates on

Education and Training (Item 009.1) and Widening Community Engagement (Item 009.2)

- RSC/Minutes/373-392 – including the proposal RSC/PlacesWG/2023/1 (Item 380; the upcoming constituency survey of soft-deprecated terms (Item 381); and the latest developments in the RDA Toolkit's Community Resources (Item 382)

The next RSC meeting will be asynchronous, 10-13 July. Because of the volume of materials the Working Group chairs have indicated they will be submitting, and the importance the RSC places on input from the wider community, as reported above, it was decided to hold the next public meeting of the RSC online on 2 August to give all representatives time to consult with their constituencies. See above, under the subheading 'proposals' for information about registering as an online observer.

The final meeting for 2023, 16-19 October, will be in-person, and the RSC is actively seeking a host institution. Details on what hosting involves are on the news and announcements page of the RSC website, and the RSC usually provides a day of outreach or training to the host's regional community. RSC Chair, Renate Behrens, will be delighted to hear from anyone whose institution may be interested in hosting the October meeting. Please contact her by 30 June at RSCchair@rdatoolkit.org if you think you may be a potential host.

Working Groups

The RSC has two standing Working Groups: the Technical Working Group, chaired by Damian Iseminger, and the Translations Working Group, chaired by Szabolcs Dancs. Following discussion at the May Meeting, and approval by the RDA Board of RSC/Chair/2023/2, an Examples Working Group will be instituted in 2023. Formal calls will be issued on the news and announcements page of the RSC

website. The current Examples Editor's term of office ends at the end of this year and the RSC will be recruiting her replacement. If you are interested in what the post and, indeed, the new Working Group involves, the current Examples Editor, Honor Moody, is happy to receive informal enquiries: honor@rdatoolkit.org

The Task and Finish Working Groups will also be increasing in number this year. Currently there are four Working Groups in the areas of Extent; Official Languages; Place/Jurisdiction; and Religion, and we will soon see a further Working Group on String Encoding Schemes established. Again, a call for members will be posted to the news and announcements page of the RSC website.

Teaching in the LIS Classroom

Education and Orientation Officer, Elisa Sze, has been continuing her work to find out how educators are teaching Official RDA and what resources may be helpful to support their work. A news item on the RSC website collates links to her report and webinar on the topic, as well as her most recent call for participants. Basically, Elisa is keen to be in touch with anyone involved in RDA education and training.

Toolkit and Registry Releases

Since the last issue of the *IFLA Metadata Newsletter* there have been releases to the Toolkit in December 2022 (including changes to the display of options) and March 2023 (including revisions to the Guidance: Data Elements to provide more explanation of the relationship between element supertypes and subtypes).

The current Registry release is 5.0.9.

The next releases for both Toolkit and Registry are expected in July.

Looking for More On RDA?

Recent presentations by RSC members include updates to the Council on East Asia Libraries (CEAL), European RDA Interest Group (EURIG), and North American RDA Committee (NARDAC). In the final quarter of 2022, you can see presentations to a wide range of organizations, including Forum Archiv, Herbsttagung der Fachgruppe Dokumentation des Deutschen Museumsbunds, and 5to. Coloquio sobre RDA (Recursos, Descripción y Acceso) en América Latina y el Caribe, ALISE, RDA in Europe and NARDAC. Videos are shared where available.

UPCOMING EVENTS

CILIP MDG CONFERENCE AND UKCOR RDA DAY / 6TH-8TH SEPTEMBER 2023

Join us in Birmingham, England, for the CILIP Metadata and Discovery Group (MDG) biennial conference and UKCoR RDA Day!

The MDG conference will be held on Wednesday 6th and Thursday 7th September 2023 followed by the UK Committee on RDA (UKCoR) RDA Day on Friday 8th September 2023 at IET Birmingham: Austin Court in Birmingham, England.

The theme for this year's conference is #ReDiscovery in the context of rediscovering and re-establishing the Metadata and Discovery Group at our first in-person event since the Covid-19 pandemic. The conference will be an exciting opportunity for anyone with an interest in resource discovery and description to come together to re-energise our communities of practice, re-establish our principles, revitalise the conversation around metadata and discovery, and reimagine what the future of metadata will be.

Delivering the Keynote speech will be Alan Danskin, who, prior to his retirement in June 2023, was the Collection Metadata Standards Manager at the British Library, where he was responsible for the development, implementation and application of bibliographic standards and metadata quality. Working with metadata since 1992, Alan will reflect on the changes in cataloguing, metadata and discovery that he has witnessed or contributed to over the course of his career at the British Library.

The rest of the programme features an exciting mix of papers, lightning talks, workshops and posters, exploring all aspects of metadata and discovery. Topics to be covered range from traditional cataloguing and archival description, to metadata management for research repositories, as well as discussions around the issues of cataloguing and metadata ethics, subject headings, Linked Data, and Persistent Identifiers (PIDs).

The RDA Day on Friday 8th September will support those wishing to understand the Resource Description and Access content standard and those wanting to implement RDA, with practical activities and informative sessions led by the UK's experts.

Full or single day tickets are on sale until 18th August 2023, with early bird rates available until 16th June 2023. Discounted tickets are on offer to CILIP members.

Full Conference and RDA Day Tickets

CILIP/MDG Member:

- Early Bird Rate: £378.25 + VAT (until 16th June)
- Full Rate: £445 + VAT (until 18th August)

Non-Member:

- Early Bird Rate: £454.75 + VAT (until 16th June)
- Full Rate: £535 + VAT (until 18th August)

Day Delegate Tickets

CILIP/MDG Member:

- Early Bird Rate: £191.25 + VAT (until 16th June)
- Full Rate: £225 + VAT (until 18th August)

Non-Member:

- Early Bird Rate: £229.50 +VAT (until 16th June)
- Full Rate: £270 + VAT (until 18th August)

Book your place and view the full programme here

We look forward to welcoming you in Birmingham in September!