

CILIP/BL COMMITTEE ON RDA

Minutes of the 16th meeting held at the British Library, St Pancras on Monday 15 December 2008.

Approved

Present:

CILIP representatives:	Ann Chapman Stuart Hunt Neil Nicholson Hugh Taylor	(Chair) (CILIP JSC rep)
BL representatives:	Alan Danskin Caroline Kent Claire Thatcher	(BL JSC rep)
Special representatives:	Robert Davies Gordon Dunsire Graeme Forbes	
Secretary:	Katharine Gryspeerdt	(BL)

1. Apologies for absence and welcome to new members

Apologies were received from James Caudwell, Anne Mellor, Ann O'Brien and Thurstan Young.

The Chair welcomed Claire Thatcher to the Committee as one of the new BL representatives. Also joining the Committee but unable to attend this meeting - Thurstan Young as the other BL representative and Ann O'Brien who fills the vacancy following John Bowman's retirement in September 2008.

2. Minutes of the 15th meeting, 12 February 2008

The draft minutes were approved. [Final version (v1.0) issued 15 December 2008 to the Committee and posted on the CILIP/BL website.]

3. Matters arising

- 3.1 Availability of unified roadmap leading up to RDA implementation** (mtg15, 12.2.08, item 3.2) AD explained that no progress has been made with this due to the uncertainty of the RDA timeline.
- 3.2 JSC Documents for comment** (mtg15, 12.2.08, item 6; mtg15, 12.2.08, item 8) CILIP/BL responses were sent to JSC for discussion at the April 2008 meeting – details in Appendix.

4. Reports of last JSC meeting

The outcomes of the April meeting were posted on the JSC website approximately one month after the meeting – see:

<http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/jsc/0804out.html>

JSC and CoP held a joint meeting in the first week of the April meeting to discuss the RDA project. Topics covered at that meeting included the project timeline up to the first release of RDA, progress made by the Co-Publishers in the development of the RDA Online product, and the future governance of RDA. There were also preliminary discussions on a pricing model for RDA Online.

At the JSC meeting areas of RDA were identified to be too ambitious for inclusion in the first release of RDA. Priorities were also identified. With the expansion of the number of elements in RDA, JSC decided that it would be preferable to designate certain elements as “core” rather than designating all elements as either “required” or “optional.”

Generally the outlook for RDA at the time of the JSC meeting was positive.

5. RDA – full draft version: background and discussion

Since the JSC meeting the follow-up work in May and June progressed initially as planned with the release date for the full draft of RDA scheduled for early August. However the publication date was then rescheduled a few times and following a telephone conference on 10 November a new timetable for the publication of RDA was drawn up. A PDF version only of RDA was released on 17 November – unfortunately this version contained many typos and incorrect references resulting from data being re-keyed. A beta release of the software version is due mid/late January 2009.

Comments:

- concern was raised over the possible effect of the non-release of the software on the RDA timeline. No announcements about a revised RDA software timeline has been issued by the Co-Publishers (HT).

JSC are keen to continue with the current content and the signing off of the first release of RDA in mid-June 2009.

- concern was raised also about the developer's ability to produce a viable and robust product with significant functionality beyond the sort of thing Cataloguer's Desktop has done with AACR2 (SH, AD, HT, GD). Only screen shots of the RDA online product have been seen resulting in questions about the basic functionalities of the product. This has been a disappointing start to the software version – people are keen to seeing something (GF).

- the various strands of the project (JSC, CoP, Co-Publishers) do not seem to be working well together (SH). There is a lack of confidence in the information community in the development of the product.

- there appears to be a lack of publicly-available specification documents from the Co-Publishers (HT).

- a contract for the online development has not been seen (HT). Without a contract and associated penalty clauses it is clear that the governance of RDA and the project has not been set up properly (GF). In principle the CoP, as owner of the RDA content, can approach another developer. The meeting noted the conflict of interest between CoP, JSC and the Co-Publishers (the constituencies overlap).

- the RDA Outreach Group and the Dublin Core Task Group have not been contacted about any delays or problems regarding RDA development (GD). There is a feeling of lack of support from JSC. Meetings/presentations have continued to be scheduled (by AC, GD, AD, HT) in anticipation of RDA being released on time.

- costing issues are still to be resolved and this will not be possible until there is the RDA product.

- there have been only limited talks with vendors. It is essential to ensure the product can be integrated into systems (HT). OCLC is probably the only supplier capable of development work on RDA (GD).

- a fundamental review of the RDA business plan is needed – there is a real risk that sections of RDA would be released unofficially into the public domain: the income stream is from the packaging of the RDA product (GD).

Actions

AC to write directly to Sue Brown, Chair of CoP to express concern at the lack of information and the repeated failure of the Co-Publishers to meet deadlines. HT and AD to agree draft with AC.

6. New Wiki area for response discussion

6.1 Music documents (5JSC/LC/12/LC follow-up and 5JSC/LC/12/LC follow-up/2)

HT reported that he has contacted IAML (UK & Irl) for comments and a response is expected.

Actions

Discussions on the JSC documents to continue on CamTools Wiki.

Deadline 19 January 2009.

HT and AD to draft and submit formal CILIP and BL responses to JSC by the deadline of 9 February 2009.

**6.2 RDA draft (5JSC/RDA/Full draft
<http://www.rdaonline.org/constituencyreview/>)**

The cover letter issued with the full draft explains the categories of comments being sought in the current constituency review. Detailed comments on the actual content are not requested at this stage as they formed part of earlier discussions by JSC.

AD explained that the BL response would include comments from specialist staff who have been assigned to review particular chapters of the draft.

CILIP responses to be submitted via the Wiki on CamTools.

Other responses have also been sought from individuals and organisations via the Internet – deadline for comments to be sent to KG for inclusion in the CILIP response – 12 January 2009.

Actions

Discussions on the RDA draft document to continue on CamTools Wiki. Deadline 19 January 2009.

HT and AD to draft and submit formal CILIP and BL responses to JSC by the deadline of 26 January 2009.

7. Future CILIP representation

7.1 CILIP/JSC representative

HT explained that the Librarian at Cambridge University Library will be leaving and a new librarian appointed in summer 2009. Changes within the University Library are expected. At the same time HT is intending to stand down from the CILIP/BL Committee and this would tie in with the expected release date of RDA. HT recommended that the Committee consider the content, presentation and ownership issues of the CILIP/BL data on CamTools. AC expressed the Committee's gratitude for HT's extensive work to date for the Committee.

AD added that JSC meetings should decrease in frequency once RDA is published: if the JSC workload decreases so the number of CILIP/BL meetings during the year would be expected to decrease accordingly.

Actions

HT to produce job description for his position on the Committee, together with information on the travel involved and sources of funding for work. He is also to check the arrangement over use of the Wiki on CamTools by CILIP/BL after he has left the Committee.

HT to tender his formal resignation from the CILIP/BL Committee to AC and Sue Brown.

7.2 CILIP/BL representative

Thurstan Young, as the new RDA Implementation Project Co-ordinator, will be joining the Committee as a BL representative.

8. Any other business

8.1 Presentations

- 'RDA and interoperability in library catalogues: DC and MARC' at the DCMI Libraries Community workshop, held during DC-2008: International Conference on Dublin Core and Metadata Applications in Berlin, 23 September 2008 (GD).

- RDA update at the Standards Forum of the Cataloguing and Indexing Group at its conference in Glasgow, 3 September 2008 (AD, AC).

- presentation, 'RDA vocabularies and concepts' at the IFLA satellite meeting on RDA in Québec City, Canada 8 August 2008 (GD).

- presentation on 'Resource description and access for the digital world' to the 2008 International DOI Foundation open meeting: Resource access for a digital world, Brussels, Belgium 17 June 2008 (GD).

- presentation, 'RDA: the current state of play' at the International Association of Music Libraries (UK and Ireland) Academic Librarians Seminar in Birmingham, 17 May 2008.

- presentation on 'RDA: cataloguing for the twenty-first century' to the Library Association of Ireland and CILIP Ireland 40th joint annual conference held in Athlone, Republic of Ireland (AC).

- presentations on 'RDA: the state of play', 'RDA: Implementation schedule', and 'RDA: benefits and opportunities', respectively, at the CIG Standards Seminars in Manchester, UK. The presentations were originally given at the Standards Forum of the Cataloguing and Indexing Group at its Annual General Meeting in London on 26 Sep 2007 (AC, AD, GD)

8.2 DCMI/RDA Task Group – teleconference held 11 December 2008.

Reported progress but requested more real world complicated examples.

9. Date of next meeting

To be arranged after the next JSC meeting (Chicago, March 2009) and before the meeting after that, depending on deadlines set for document review.

The meeting closed at 1345.

APPENDIX

A summary of the CILIP/BL responses sent to JSC for discussion at the April 2008 meeting following the February 2008 Committee meeting.

Sections 2-4, 9 (5JSC/RDA/Sections 2-4, 9) (mtg15, 12.2.08, item 6)
CILIP and BL responses sent to JSC and posted on documents site 17 and 13 March 2008 respectively.

Rule revision for music (5JSC/LC/12/LC follow-up) (mtg 15, 12.2.08, item 8.1)
CILIP and BL responses due for March 2009 meeting – see item 6.1 above.