

# Resource Description and Access (RDA)

An Overview

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Metadata Working Group Forum  
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# New Content Standard for Cataloging

*"RDA uses the concepts, vocabulary, and principles that are recognized by the international cataloging community. It builds on existing cataloging traditions while also taking into consideration how library data will be used in the future."*

--from Chris Oliver, *Introducing RDA*

- Guidelines and instructions for
  - Resource description
  - Choice and form of access points
- Independent of metadata coding schema used
  - Use with various display and metadata standards, not just MARC

# RDA Online --

<http://access.rdatoolkit.org/>

## RDA

- + 0: Introduction
- Recording Attributes of ...
  - Section 1: Manifestation & Item
    - + 1: General Guidelines on Recording Attributes of Manifestations and Items
    - + 2: Identifying Manifestations and Items
    - + 3: Describing Carriers
    - + 4: Providing Acquisition and Access Information
  - + Section 2: Work & Expression
  - + Section 3: Person, Family, & Corporate Body
  - + Section 4: Concept, Object, Event & Place
- Recording Primary Relationships ...
  - + Section 5: Between Work, Expression, Manifestation, & Item
- Recording Relationships to ...
  - + Section 6: Persons, Families, & Corporate Bodies
  - + Section 7: Concepts, Objects, Events, & Places

carrier type. If desired, take additional evidence from any source.

### 3.3.1.3 Recording Carrier Type

Record the type of carrier used to convey the content of the resource using one or more of the terms listed below. Record as many terms as are applicable to the resource being described.

#### *Alternative*

If the resource being described consists of more than one carrier type, record only

- a) the carrier type that applies to the predominant part of the resource (if there is a predominant part)

*or*

- b) the carrier types that apply to the most substantial parts of the resource (including the predominant part, if there is one)

using one or more of the terms listed below, as appropriate.

#### **Audio carriers**

audio cartridge

audio cylinder

audio disc

# What RDA is *intended* to be

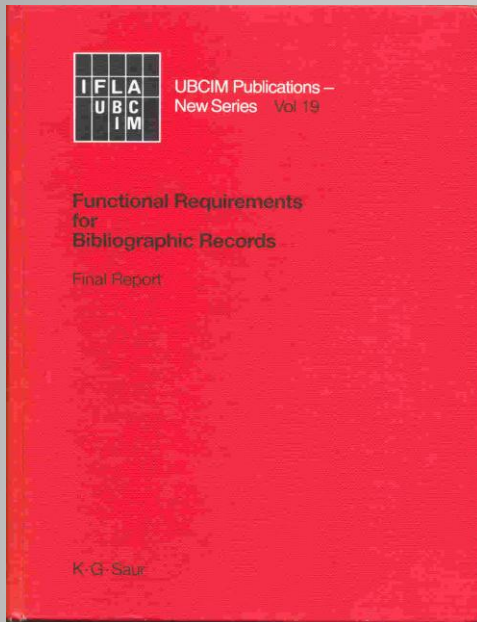
- ▶ A content standard
- ▶ A set of guidelines
- ▶ Focused on user tasks
- ▶ An online product
- ▶ A more international standard
- ▶ An effort to make library catalog data play better in the Web environment
- ▶ May be used with many encoding schema such as MODS, MARC, Dublin Core
- ▶ An attempt to improve the way we describe and present relationships among resources and bibliographic entities
- ▶ Flexible and adaptable
- ▶ Designed for the digital environment

# What RDA is *NOT* intended to be

- A display or presentation standard
- A metadata schema
- A rigid set of rules
- Structured around ISBD areas and elements
- Instructions on creating and formatting subject headings
- Instructions on classification numbers

# RDA

- Built on international principles and models

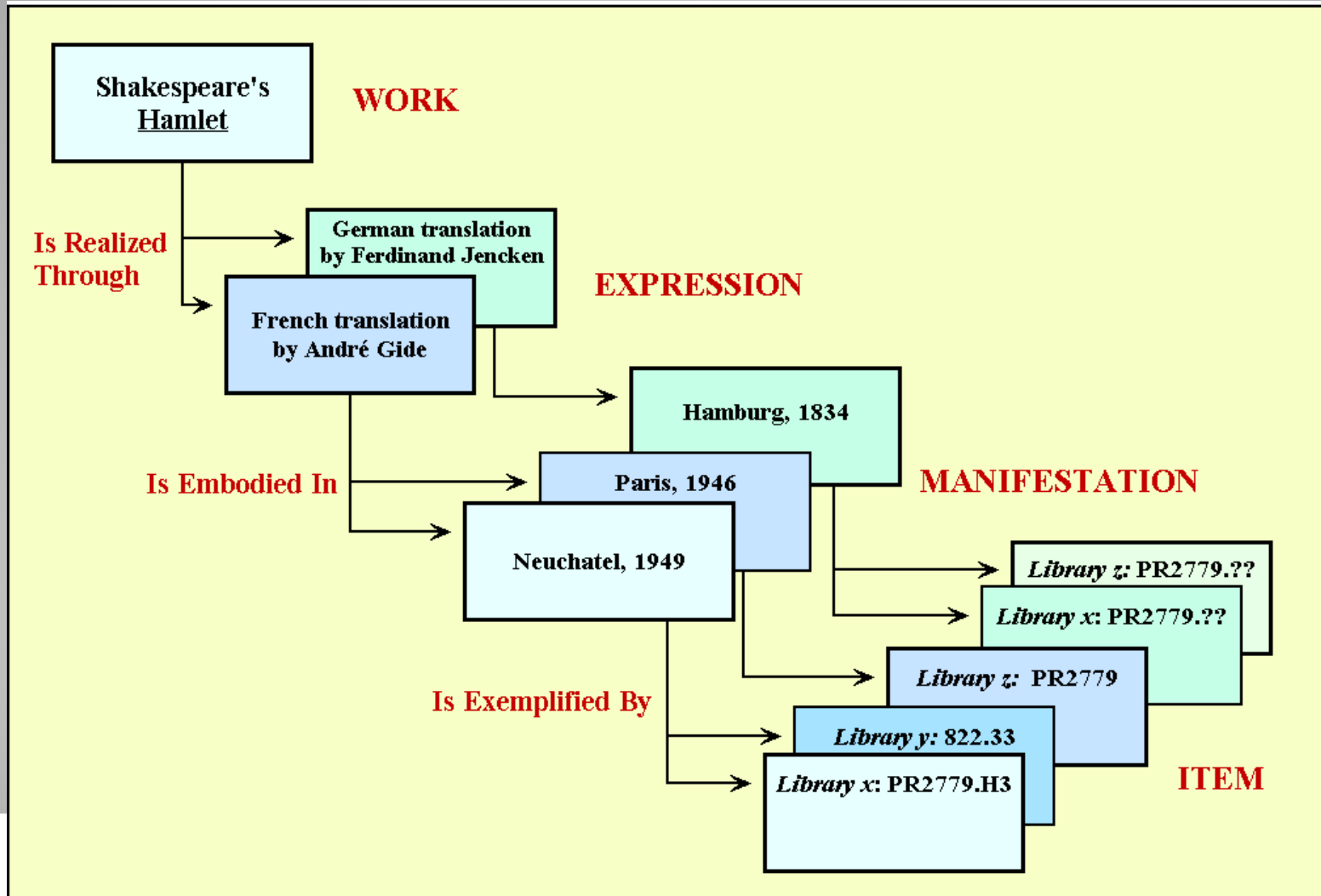


- FRBR
- FRAD
- Statement of International Cataloging Principles

# Functional Requirements for Bibliographic Records (FRBR)

- Conceptual model
- Not a set of rules
- Uses an entity relationship model, rather than descriptive analysis, without a structural model
- Abstraction of how we can think about bibliographic records to facilitate relationships between data elements and between data and users
- Outlined in a 1998 report from the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA)

# Functional Requirements for Bibliographic Records (FRBR)





# Functional Requirements for Authority Data (FRAD)

- ▶ An extension of FRBR to name authority data
- ▶ Current functions of authority data
- ▶ Concepts underlying the functions of authority data as a basis for future refinements and improvements
- ▶ User tasks: Find, Identify, Contextualize, Justify
- ▶ Like FRBR, FRAD defines entities, attributes, and relationships, but is focused on personal, corporate, and family names and their controlled access points

# Functional Requirements for Authority Data (FRAD)

BIBLIOGRAPHIC ENTITIES

*known by*

NAMES and / or IDENTIFIERS

*basis for*

CONTROLLED ACCESS POINTS

# Statement of International Cataloguing Principles

- ▶ Available at [http://www.ifla.org/files/cataloguing/icp/icp\\_2009-en.pdf](http://www.ifla.org/files/cataloguing/icp/icp_2009-en.pdf)
- ▶ AKA Paris Principals (or at least the update to them)
- ▶ Defensible and not Arbitrary

**Convenience of the user.** Decisions taken in the making of descriptions and controlled forms of names for access should be made with the user in mind.

**Common usage.** Vocabulary used in descriptions and access should be in accord with that of the majority of users.

**Representation.** Descriptions and controlled forms of names should be based on the way an entity describes itself.

**Accuracy.** The entity described should be faithfully portrayed.

**Sufficiency and necessity.** Only those data elements in descriptions and controlled forms of names for access that are required to fulfill user tasks and are essential to uniquely identify an entity should be included.

**Significance.** Data elements should be bibliographically significant.

**Economy.** When alternative ways exist to achieve a goal, preference should be given to the way that best furthers overall economy (i.e., the least cost or the simplest approach).

**Consistency and standardization.** Descriptions and construction of access points should be standardized as far as possible.

**Integration.** The descriptions for all types of materials and controlled forms of names of all types of entities should be based on a common set of rules, insofar as it is relevant.

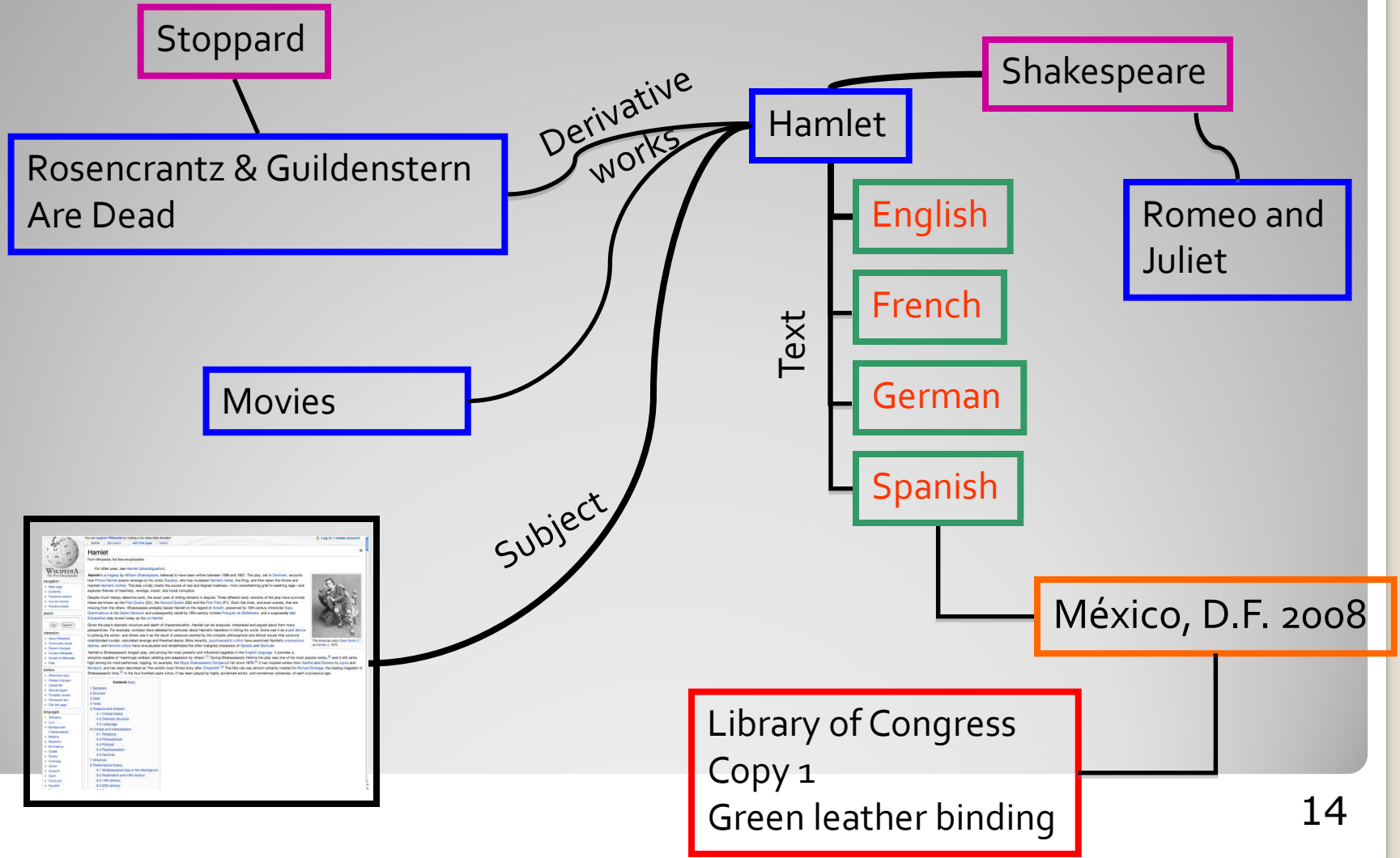
# RDA Is Also...

- Move from classes of materials to elements and values
- An opportunity for us to move library cataloging data to a new level using modern technology and concepts
  - Data, not text
  - Semantic web
  - Reusable data
  - Machine-actionable data

# Is It All Really About RDA and AACR2?

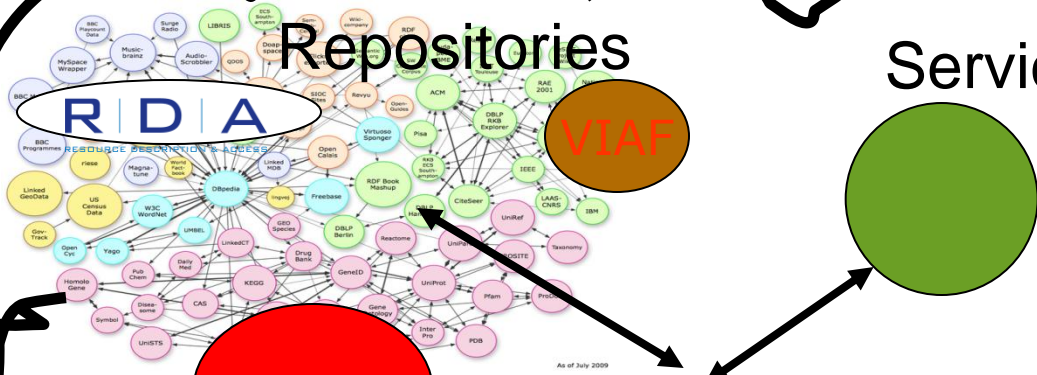
- Cataloging is changing
  - Metadata
  - Vocabularies
  - Element sets
  - Schemas
  - Discovery, Google-like searching, user focus, etc.
- We are moving towards
  - Linking instead of embedding textual data
  - Mixing and matching data from different sources to create flexible record displays
  - Registering and using standard vocabularies and element sets
  - Using multiple standards for content and metadata

# RDA Linked Data



Databases,  
Repositories

Services



Web front  
end

Internet  
"Cloud"

*Our descriptions no longer stand alone!  
Connect our data with the rest of the WEB  
Allow others to reuse more easily  
--Quote from Corey Harper on Linked Data*

# Why Will RDA Be Better than AACR2?

- More flexible, result in better data
  - Handle all formats of information, including electronic
  - Produce more flexible and usable data
- Be more international
  - Be consistent with international cataloging standards and principles
  - Be used and shared internationally and by communities outside of libraries



# Intended Benefits for the Cataloger

- Easier to use
- More adaptable
- More cost-efficient
- Web-based
- International
- Handle non-book formats better

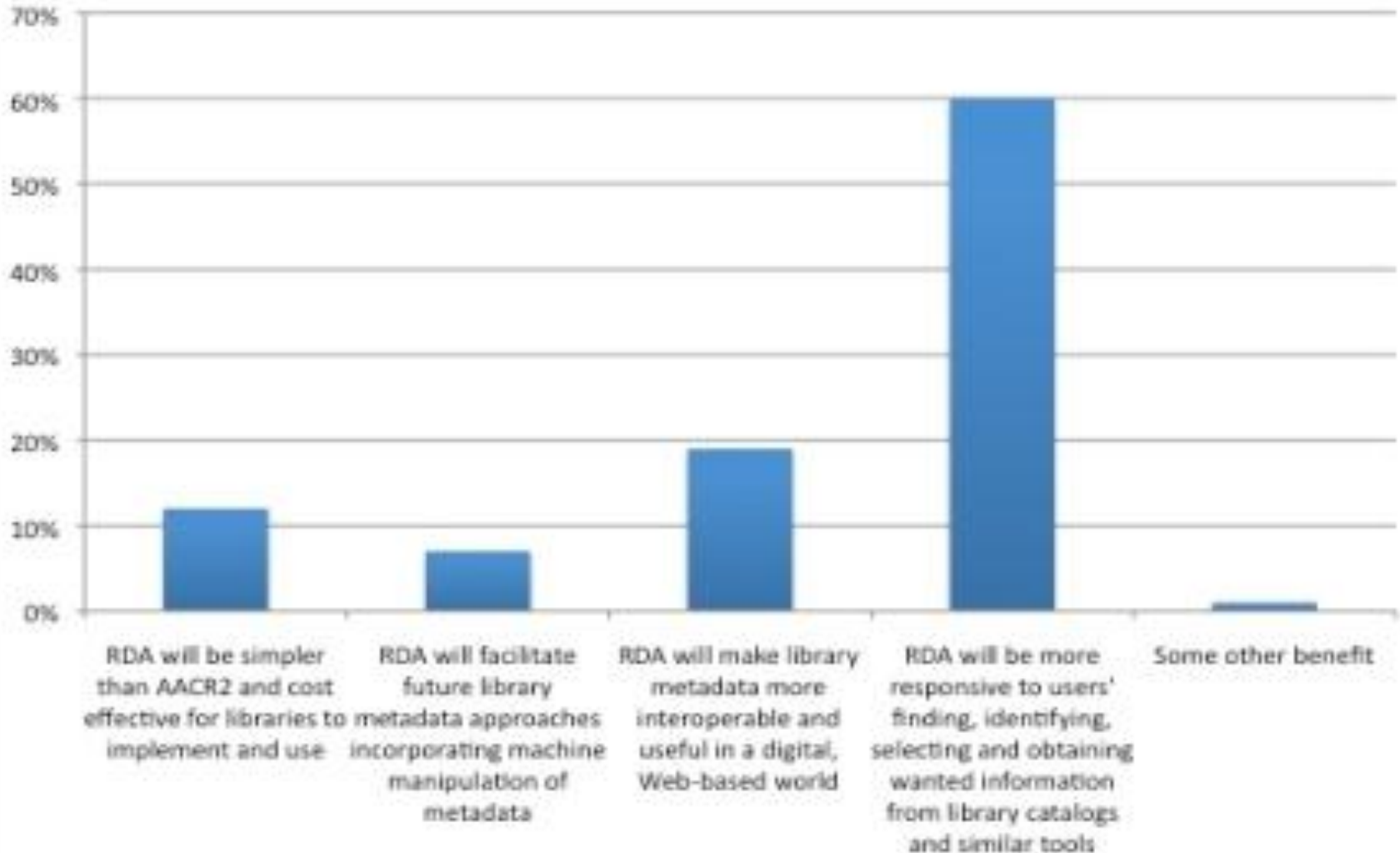
# Potential Benefits for Users

- Better meet user needs
  - Aligned with FRBR user tasks (find, identify, select, obtain)
  - Reflect attributes of, and relationships between, the entities defined in FRBR and FRAD
  - Examples of addressing FRBR and FRAD user tasks
    - Length of the film  
“if considered important for identification or selection”
    - Other persons associated with the work  
“if considered important for access”
    - Cataloger’s note  
“to justify the ... form of the access point”

# Potential Benefits for Users

- FRBR benefits
  - Bring like things together
  - Emphasis on relationships
  - Lend/borrow at work or expression level
- Opportunities for user services
  - More user-friendly catalogs and bibliographic data
  - Repurposing and linking of metadata to provide new user services

## What one intended benefit of RDA is the most important to your library?



\* An OCLC chart based on polling results from October 30, 2009 webinar on RDA

# What's Different About RDA?

# Not So Different

- Descriptive cataloging activities
  - Description, choice of access points, form of access points
  - Rules basically the same
- Compatible with legacy records
  - A few rules will change but the cataloger will continue to do basically the same thing
- MARC format
  - A few new MARC tags will be added but use of MARC will remain basically the same
- Existing ILS systems
  - Still using systems designed for AACR2 and MARC

# How Different Will Cataloging With RDA Really Be?

- Most rules/instructions are the same
- A few rules/instructions have changed, e.g.
  - Clear distinctions between content and carrier
    - GMD (245 \$h) replaced with content type, media type, carrier type
  - Take what you see, don't abbreviate, don't correct errors, etc. (better for reusing data)
  - Rule of 3 gone
    - No limitations on number of contributors in RDA
    - No more [et al.]
  - ISBD punctuation is optional but included for display
  - Only Core Elements

# What Will Look Different To Us?

- Terminology
  - FRBR terminology
  - Replace other outdated cataloging terminology
  - LC will document and distribute comparison of terms

Current term	RDA Term
Heading	Access point
Authorized heading	Preferred access point
See references	Variant access point
Authority control	Access point control
Uniform title	Preferred title
Chief source	Preferred source of information
No real equivalent—some possible parallels in MARC relator codes and relator terms	Relationship designator (indicates the nature of a relationship/role, e.g. author, arranger of music; abridgement of [work], contained in [work]; alternate identity, family member, employee)



# What Will Look Different To Us?

- Resources/tool/authority for rules and guidelines
  - Online only, RDA Toolkit
- Organization
  - Organized around FRBR user tasks and FRBR concepts
- Rules and instructions
  - A few new elements
    - File characteristics for digital materials
    - Video format characteristics
    - Custodial information for archival resources
    - Braille characteristics
- Has controlled vocabularies: content, media, and carrier types; mode of issuance; etc.
- New MARC fields to adapt to rules

# Examples of Content Type, Media Type, Carrier Type Fields

**110 2# \$a** System of a Down (Musical group)  
**245 10 \$a** Hypnotize / **\$c** System of a Down  
**336 ## \$a** performed music **\$2** rdacontent  
**336 ## \$a** two-dimensional moving image **\$2**  
rdacontent  
**336 ## \$a** text **\$2** rdacontent **\$3** liner notes  
**337 ## \$a** audio **\$2** rdamedia  
**337 ## \$a** video **\$2** rdamedia  
**337 ## \$a** unmediated **\$2** rdamedia **\$3** liner notes  
**338 ## \$a** audio disc **\$2** rdacarrier  
**338 ## \$a** video disc **\$2** rdacarrier  
**338 ## \$a** sheet **\$2** rdacarrier **\$3** liner notes

- <http://www.loc.gov/marc/changes-rda-337.html>

# **RDA Training and Implementation at CUL**

# RDA Training Committee

- Jean Pajerek, co-chair
- Tracey Snyder, co-chair
- Cecilia Sercan
- Sarah Ross
- Cynthia Rich
- Ardeen White

# Charge of the RDA Training Committee

- Identification of audience for training
- List of resources needed to train (like number of RDA online subscribers or RDA print copies, access to Voyager test system, etc)
- Collaborate and utilize Columbia's knowledge and experience with RDA (because of 2CUL collaboration)
- Schedule for training staff
- Completed training sessions on at least these issues:
  - Navigating the RDA toolkit; FRBR model introduction; Overview of RDA specific vocabularies; Understanding of Core RDA elements for all resources; Major rule changes from AACR2 to RDA with specific rule references; MARC changes & additions to accommodate RDA; Understanding of authority changes; Hands-on exercises creating bibliographic and authority records with RDA rules.
- Cohesive compilation of training materials used
- List of implementation questions that came up during training

# Implementation

- It looks like some parts of RDA will be implemented locally
  - Many years and much work to get here
  - International partnerships
  - It puts us on a path to a future and we need to start moving away from old data models and technologies

# Implementation

- Waiting for decision by Library of Congress and other national libraries
- Waiting for results of RDA testing period
- Implementation will most likely be gradual
  - No start date for everyone to change
  - Many factors will affect adoption rate

# Implementation of RDA

- Will have impact on Voyager
  - New MARC fields could be displayed in the future
  - Currently they do not appear in the current view even though there are RDA records in our catalog



# New RDA elements in the catalog

## *1968 en Compostela : 16 testemuños / baixo a coordinación de Ricardo...*

**LC Control No.:** 2010388989

**LCCN Permalink:** <http://lccn.loc.gov/2010388989>

**Type of Material:** Book (Print, Microform, Electronic, etc.)

**Main Title:** 1968 en Compostela : 16 testemuños / baixo a coordinación de Ricardo Gurriarán.

**Published/Created:** Santiago de Compostela : Universidade de Santiago de Compostela e Intercambio Cientifico, 2010, ©2010.

**Related Names:** [Gurriarán, Ricardo.](#)

**Description:** 431 pages : illustrations ; 21 cm

**ISBN:** 9788498872910

**Subjects:** [Santiago de Compostela \(Spain\) --History --20th century.](#)

**LC Classification:** DP402.S23 A15 2010

**Geographic Area Code:** e-sp---

**Quality Code:** pcc

**Content Type:** text

**Media Type:** unmediated

**Carrier Type:** volume



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**CALL NUMBER:** [DP402.S23 A15 2010](#)

Copy 1

-- **Request in:** Jefferson or Adams Building Reading Rooms

-- **Status:** Not Charged

# Want more examples?

## Library of Congress Catalog search

**Basic Search**   **Guided Search**

**Search Text:**

**Search Type:**

[ \* ] indicates search limits available

Scroll down for **Search Hints**

- Keyword (match all words)\*
- Title Keyword\*
- Author/Creator Keyword
- Subject Keyword
- Name/Title Keyword
- Series/Uniform Title Keyword

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- Expert Search (use index codes and operators)\*
- Title Begins With (omit initial article)\*
- Author/Creator Browse (enter last name first)
- Subject Browse
- Call Number Browse (LC Classification No.)
- Call Number Browse (Other Shelving Nos.)
- Number Search (LCCN-ISBN-ISSN)\*
- Author/Creator Sorted by Title Browse

100 records per page ▼



Questions?