



RDA :
a cataloguing code for the digital age

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Acknowledgment

This presentation is based in part on presentations prepared jointly with Chris Oliver.



Plan of presentation

- **Origins of RDA**
- **FRBR and FRAD models**
- **Differences with AACR2**
- **Record examples**

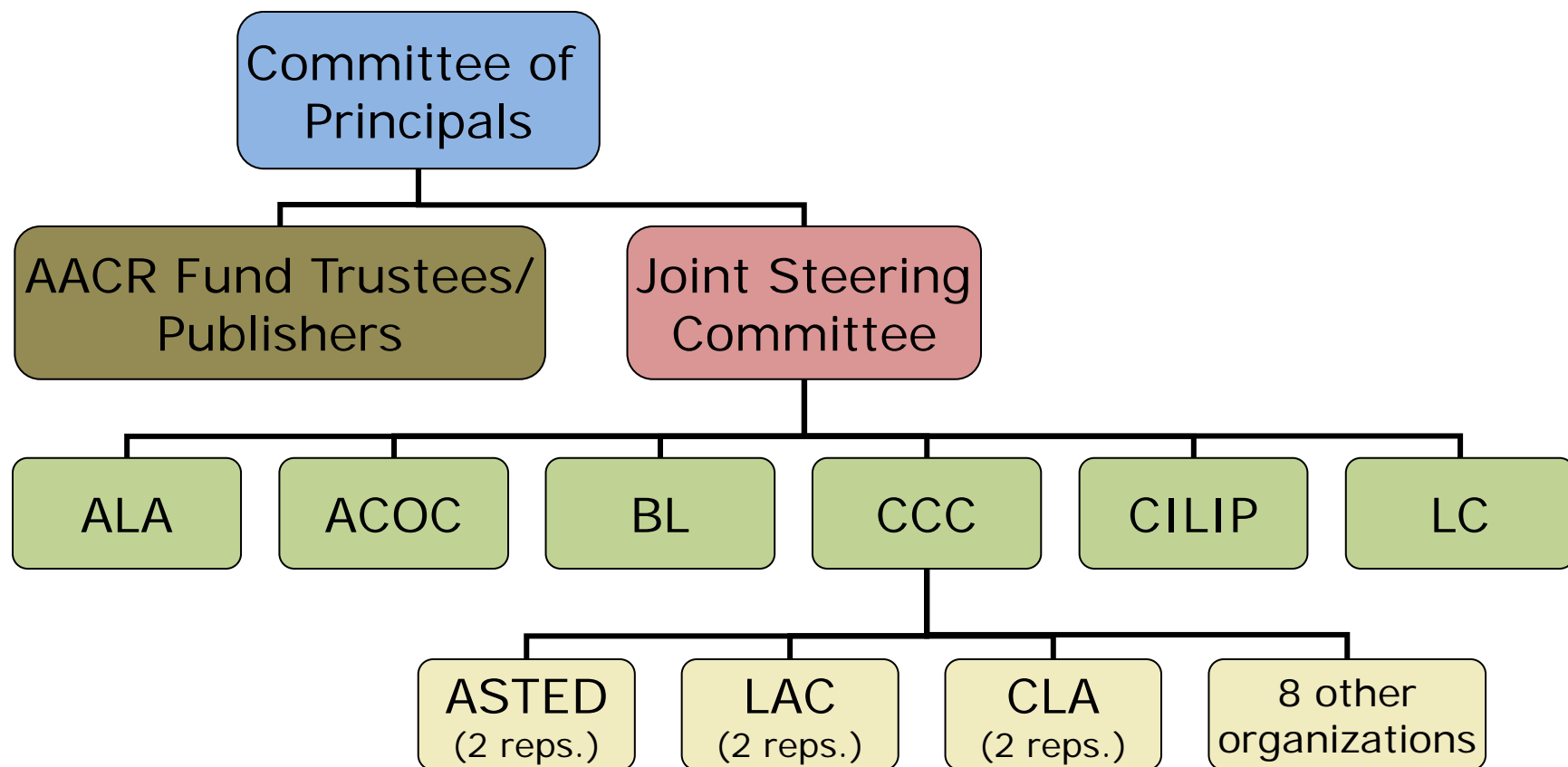
ORIGINS OF RDA



What is RDA?

- New standard for resource description and access
- Designed for the digital world
- Built on foundations established by AACR, which it supersedes
 - Last amendments to AACR2 were published in 2005
 - Keeps the best of AACR2 but goes forward

Who develops and finances RDA?





Why a new standard?

- Cataloguing environment has changed
- Problems with AACR2



IFLA documents

- *Functional Requirements for Bibliographic Records* (FRBR; 1998)
- *Functional Requirements for Authority Data* (FRAD; 2009)
- *Statement of International Cataloguing Principles* (ICP; 2009)





From AACR2 to RDA

- 2004: plans for a new edition

AACR3 : resource description and access

- 2005: new approach and new title

R | D | A

RESOURCE DESCRIPTION & ACCESS

Long term goals for RDA

(Source: Strategic plan for RDA, 2005-2009)

- The guidelines and instructions in RDA will be designed to:
 - Provide a consistent, flexible and extensible framework for both the technical and content description of all types of resources and all types of content
 - Be compatible with internationally established principles, models, and standards
 - e.g. **FRBR**, **FRAD** and **ICP**
 - Be usable primarily within the library community, but be capable of adaptation to meet the specific needs of other communities

Long term goals for RDA 2

(Source: Strategic plan for RDA, 2005-2009)

- Descriptions and access points produced through the application of RDA guidelines and instructions will:
 - Enable users to find, identify, select, and obtain resources appropriate to their information needs
 - Be compatible with descriptions and access points devised using AACR2
 - Be independent of the format, medium or system used to store or communicate the data
 - Be readily adaptable to newly-emerging database structures

Long term goals for RDA 3

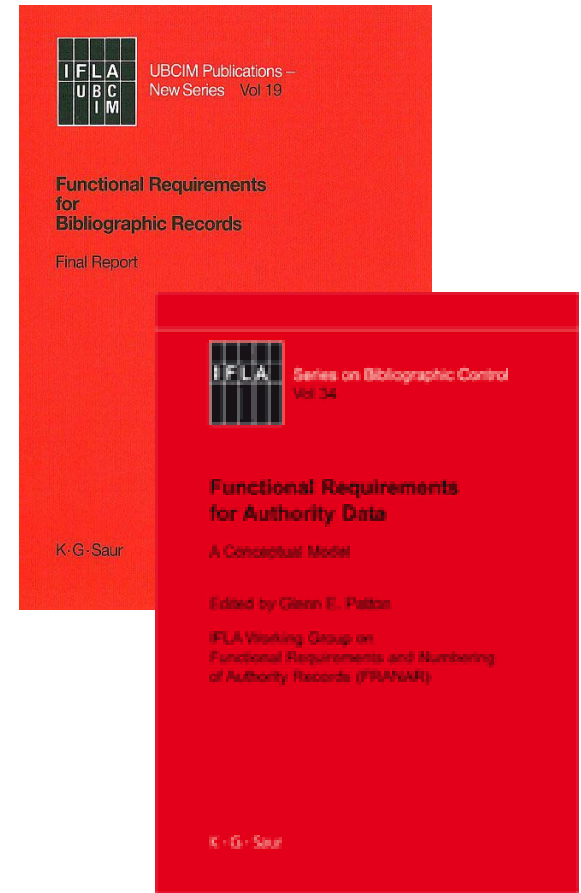
(Source: Strategic plan for RDA, 2005-2009)

- RDA will be
 - Optimised for use as an online tool
 - Written in plain English, and able to be used in other language communities
 - Easy and efficient to use, both as a working tool and for training purposes

FRBR & FRAD MODELS

FRBR & FRAD models

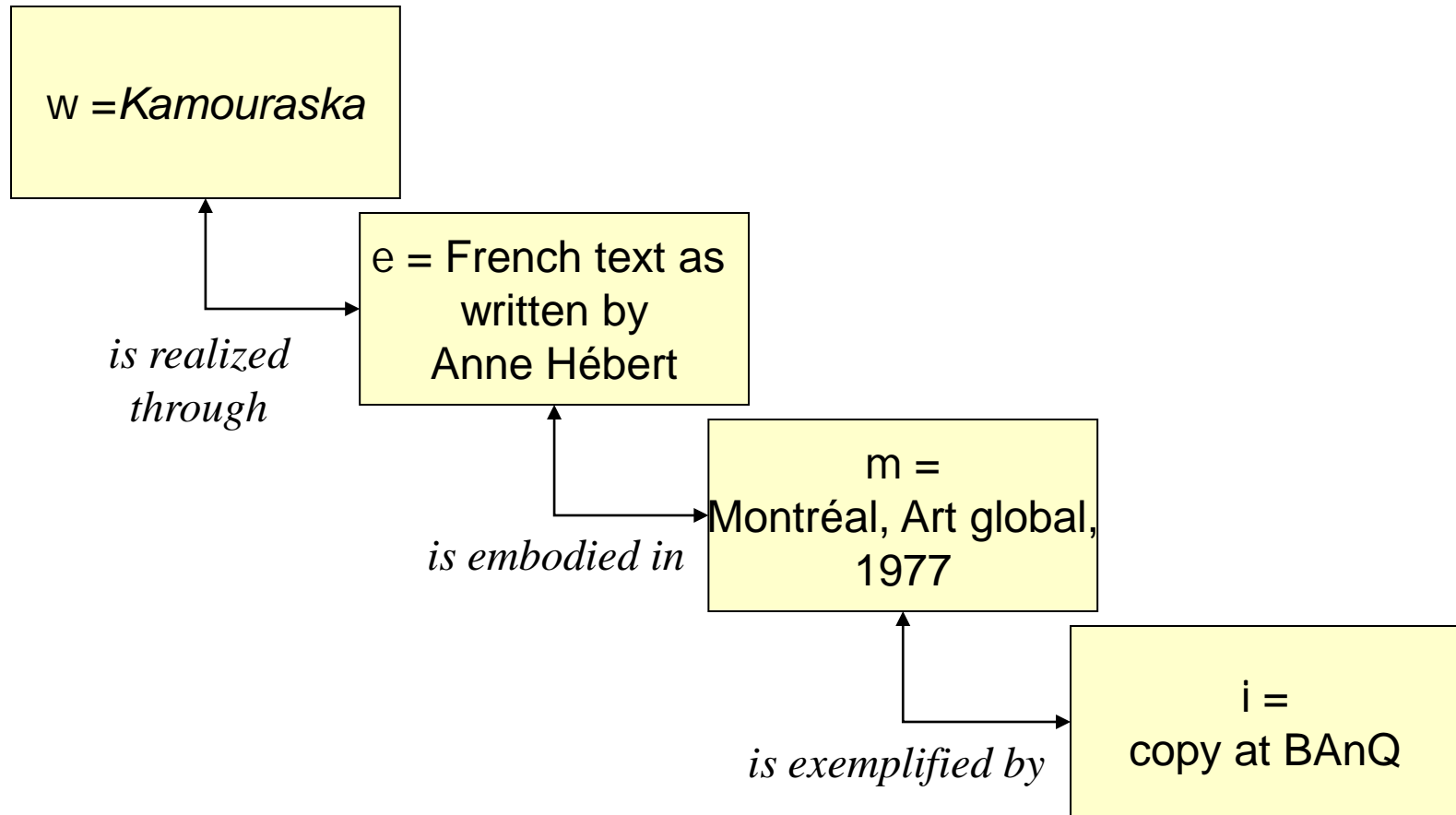
- Based on the analysis of bibliographic and authority records
- Entity-relationship models
 - Entities
 - Attributes of entities
 - Relationships - between entities
- They are the **key** to understanding RDA



FRBR entities

- **Group 1:** Products of intellectual or artistic endeavour
 - Work, Expression, Manifestation, Item
 - abstract*
 - tangible*
- **Group 2:** Entities responsible for the intellectual or artistic content, the physical production and dissemination, or the custodianship of the group 1 entities
 - Person, Corporate body (+ Family)
- **Group 3:** Subjects of works
 - Concept, Object, Event, Place (+ group 1 and 2 entities)

Examples of Group 1 entities



FRBR & FRAD MODELS

- Attributes of entities
 - E.g.: title, language, date, publisher, gender, profession, etc.
- Relationships
 - Links between entities
 - Assist users in navigating a catalog or a database
 - E.g.: adaptation of, translation of, illustrator, librettist, etc.

User tasks

FRBR

- Find
- Identify
- Select
- Obtain

FRAD

- Find
- Identify
- Contextualize
- Justify



DIFFERENCES WITH AACR2



Structure of AACR2

General introduction

Part I: Description

1. General rules for description
2. Books, pamphlets, and printed sheets
3. Cartographic materials
4. Manuscripts
5. Music
6. Sound recordings
7. Motion pictures and videorecordings
8. Graphic materials
9. Electronic resources
10. Three-dimensional artefacts and realia
11. Microforms
12. Continuing resources
13. Analysis

Part II: Headings, uniform titles, and references

21. Choice of access points
22. Headings for persons
23. Geographic names
24. Headings for corporate bodies
25. Uniform titles
26. References

Appendices A-D



Structure of RDA

Introduction

Attributes

Section 1. Recording attributes of manifestation & item

Section 2. Recording attributes of work & expression

Section 3. Recording attributes of person, family, & corporate body

Section 4. Recording attributes of concept, object, event & place [placeholder for concept, object and event]

Relationships

Section 5. Recording primary relationships between work, expression, manifestation, & item

Section 6. Recording relationships to persons, families, & corporate bodies

Section 7. Recording relationships to concepts, objects, events, & places [placeholder]

Section 8. Recording relationships between works, expressions, manifestations, & items

Section 9. Recording relationships between persons, families, & corporate bodies

Section 10. Recording relationships between concepts, objects, events, & places [placeholder]

Appendices A-L

Glossary



Structure of RDA 2

Section 1. Recording attributes of manifestation & item

Chapter 1. General guidelines on recording attributes of manifestations and items

Chapter 2. Identifying manifestations and items

Identify

Chapter 3. Describing carriers

Select

Chapter 4. Providing acquisition and access information

Obtain

Section 2. Recording attributes of work & expression

Chapter 5. General guidelines on recording attributes of works and expressions

Chapter 6. Identifying works and expressions

Identify

Chapter 7. Describing content

Select

Standard for the digital world

- Designed as a web tool
- Content standard independent from display and data structure standards
 - Instructions on presentation of data (order of elements, punctuation) provided in appendices
 - Goal is to make RDA more attractive to other metadata communities and facilitate exchange and reuse of metadata
- Set of metadata elements
 - More adaptable and extensible
 - Element = FRBR/FRAD attribute or relationship
 - E.g.: Dissertation note (AACR2) = 3 sub-elements in RDA (Academic degree, Granting institution or faculty, Year degree granted)

Example of instruction: element

9.16 Profession or Occupation

CORE ELEMENT

Profession or occupation is a core element for a person whose name consists of a phrase or appellation not conveying the idea of a person. For other persons, profession or occupation is a core element when needed to distinguish a person from another person with the same name.

9.16.1 Basic Instructions on Recording Professions or Occupations

9.16.1.1 Scope

Profession or occupation▼ is a profession or occupation in which a person works or has worked.

9.16.1.2 Sources of Information

Take information on the profession or occupation of the person from any source.

9.16.1.3 Recording Professions or Occupations

Record the profession or occupation in which the person works or has worked.

Indicate the source from which the information on profession or occupation was derived applying the instructions given under **8.12**

RDA.

Standard for the digital world 2

- Option to transcribe the element as it appears on the source of information, without modification, to facilitate automated capture and reuse of data
- Makes use of controlled vocabularies which can be recorded as terms or as codes
- Relationships can be recorded using identifiers and/or access points
- Persistent identifiers and URLs are mentioned
- Concept of “main entry” only used in the context of access points for works
 - Option to include all the creators in access points for works



New terminology

Obsolete AACR2 terms

- Collection
- Heading
- Main entry

- See reference
- Uniform title

New terms

- Compilation
- Authorized access point
- Authorized access point for a work (i.e. preferred title + authorized access point for the creator if applicable)
- Variant access point
- Preferred title (+ other distinguishing elements); conventional collective title

Better description of resources

- GMD is replaced by 3 elements
 - Content type (MARC field 336)
 - Media type (optional) (MARC field 337)
 - Carrier type (MARC field 338)
- Closed list of terms
- Using more than one term is allowed

Content type

A categorization reflecting the fundamental form of communication in which the content is expressed and the human sense through which it is intended to be perceived. For content expressed in the form of an image or images, content type also reflects the number of spatial dimensions in which the content is intended to be perceived and the perceived presence or absence of movement.

- Examples of terms
 - Cartographic image
 - Computer program
 - Notated music
 - Performed music
 - Spoken word
 - Text
 - Two-dimensional moving image

Media type

A categorization reflecting the general type of intermediation device required to view, play, run, etc., the content of a resource.

- Terms
 - Audio
 - Computer
 - Microform
 - Microscopic
 - Other
 - Projected
 - Stereographic
 - Unmediated
 - Unspecified
 - Video

Carrier type

A categorization reflecting the format of the storage medium and housing of a carrier in combination with the type of intermediation device required to view, play, run, etc., the content of a resource.

- Examples of terms
 - Audio disc
 - Computer disc
 - Microfiche
 - Microfilm reel
 - Object
 - Online resource
 - Slide
 - Videodisc
 - Volume

Examples

	AACR2	RDA		
	GMD	Content	Media (optional)	Carrier
Book and compact disc including spoken word with musical accompaniment	kit	text spoken word performed music	unmediated audio	volume audio disc
Hybrid disc (CD/DVD video)	sound recording or videorecording <i>(depending on the content deemed predominant)</i>	performed music two-dimensional moving image	audio video	audio disc videodisc
Streaming video	electronic resource	two-dimensional moving image	computer	online resource

Better description of resources 2

- New elements to better describe the technical aspects of electronic resources. E.g.:
 - Digital file characteristics (File type, Encoding format, etc.)
- Online resources identified as such. E.g.:
 - 1 online resource
- Description of both the original and the reproduction when the format of the reproduction parallels that of the original (e.g., microform or pdf). E.g.:
 - 3 microfiches (1 score (118 pages))



Internationalization

- RDA aims at eliminating religious and cultural biases, especially the Anglo-American bias
- Designed for English-speaking users but option to use other languages
- Option to use scripts, numerals and dates other than those used for the English language or in the Western world
- Metric units of measurement, with option to use another system instead
- Books of the Bible entered directly under "Bible"
 - "O.T." or "N.T." omitted before the title of the book

More user-friendly

- Errors and inaccuracies no longer corrected in transcribed elements
 - No more “[sic]” or “[i.e.]”
- Fewer abbreviations in general. E.g.:
 - volumes : illustrations (some coloured) ; 29 cm
 - **not** : v. : ill. (some col.) ; 29 cm
- Abbreviations no longer used in transcribed elements if not present in the source. E.g.:
 - Second edition
 - **not** : 2nd ed.
 - Wiley Publishing, Inc.
 - **not** : Wiley Pub.
- Copyright dates identified by © or ”copyright”

More user-friendly 2

- Latin abbreviations are abandoned
 - “et al.” replaced by description of information omitted. E.g.:
 - [and four others]
 - “i.e.” in physical description becomes “that is”
 - “S.I.” becomes “Place of publication not identified”
 - “s.n.” becomes “Publisher not identified”
 - “ca .” becomes “approximately”
- Conventions replaced by explanations. E.g.:
 - “[44] p.” becomes “44 unnumbered pages”
 - “+ p.” in physical description becomes “(incomplete)”



Fewer limitations

- No limits on the number of elements transcribed for the following elements:
 - statement of responsibility
 - Option to only transcribe the first and to indicate the omission, e.g. “[and four others]”
 - parallel title
 - place of publication
 - publisher
- No limits on the number of access points for works contained in compilations
- No limits on the number of access points for creators of works

Rules simplified

- List of core elements replaces the 3 levels of description in AACR2
- Instructions generalized as much as possible
 - Apply to all contents and carriers
 - Exceptions for some categories of resources remain but are fewer in number
- Pseudonyms: authorized access point established for each identity (except if only a pseudonym is used)



Rules simplified 2

Works of shared responsibility

AACR2: Main entry is under title if responsibility is shared among more than three persons or corporate bodies and principal responsibility is not attributed to any one, two, or three

RDA : Main entry is under the first-named person, family, or corporate body with principal responsibility for the work (or the first-named if principal responsibility is not indicated)

Collections of works by different persons or bodies

AACR2: Main entry is under the first named work if a collective title is lacking (with added entries for the other works if the item includes 2 or 3 works)

RDA: Access points for each work in the compilation (and/or devised title for the compilation)



New elements for persons, families and corporate bodies

- Examples of new elements:
 - Form of work (MARC field 380)
 - Gender (MARC field 375)
 - Profession or occupation (MARC field 374)
 - Place of residence (MARC field 370)
 - Prominent member of the family (MARC field 376)
 - Date associated with the corporate body (MARC field 046)

Example of authority record for a person (current practice)

040 ## \$a DLC \$b eng \$c DLC

100 1# \$a Ondaatje, Michael, \$d 1943-

670 ## \$a The dainty monsters, 1967: \$b t.p. (Michael Ondaatje)

670 ## \$a HighBeam encyclopedia, via WWW, Oct. 11, 2007 \$b (Ondaatje, Michael, 1943-, Canadian writer, b. Colombo, Sri Lanka (then Ceylon). Emigrating (1962) to Canada, he attended the Univ. of Toronto (B.A., 1965) and Queen's Univ., Ontario (M.A., 1967)

670 ## \$a Wikipedia, Oct. 11, 2007 \$b (Michael Ondaatje; Philip Michael Ondaatje, OC, b. 12 Sept. 1943; Sri Lankan Canadian novelist and poet; in 1954 he moved to England with his mother; after relocating to Canada in 1962, Ondaatje became a Canadian citizen)

Example of authority record for a person with RDA elements

(source: LC documentation for RDA test)

040 ## \$a DLC \$b eng \$c DLC \$e rda

046 ## \$f 1943

100 1# \$a Ondaatje, Michael, \$d 1943-

370 ## \$a Colombo, Sri Lanka \$v Wikipedia

370 ## \$e England \$s 1954 \$t 1962 \$u

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Michael_Ondaatje

370 ## \$c Canada \$e Canada \$2 naf \$s 1962

372 ## \$a novelists \$a poets \$2 lcsh \$s 1976 \$t 2010 \$v Wikipedia

372 ## \$a poetry editor \$u http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Michael_Ondaatje

373 ## \$a Order of Canada \$2 naf \$s 1988 \$v Wikipedia

373 ## \$a Foreign Honorary Member of the American Academy of Arts and Letters \$s 1988 \$t 2010 \$u

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Michael_Ondaatje

374 ## \$a professor of English

Example of authority record for a person with RDA elements

(cont'd)

670 ## \$a The dainty monsters, 1967: \$b t.p. (Michael Ondaatje)

670 ## \$a HighBeam encyclopedia, via WWW, Oct. 11, 2007 \$b (Ondaatje, Michael, 1943-, Canadian writer, b. Colombo, Sri Lanka (then Ceylon). Emigrating (1962) to Canada, he attended the Univ. of Toronto (B.A., 1965) and Queen's Univ., Ontario (M.A., 1967)

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Potential use of new elements in catalog displays

AACR2

Hudson, David

Hudson, David, 1937-

Hudson, David, 1977-

Hudson, David, didjeridu player

RDA

Hudson, David (Author of juvenile

Hudson, David (Didjeridu player)

Hudson, David, 1937-

Hudson, David, 1977-



Potential use of new elements in catalog displays

AACR2

Hudson, David

Hudson, David, 1937-

Hudson, David, 1977-

Hudson, David, didjeridu player

RDA

Hudson, David (Author of juvenile books)

Country: France

Field of activity: Author of juvenile books

Hudson, David (Didjeridu player)

Country: Australia

Field of activity: Didjeridu player

Hudson, David, 1937-

Affiliation: University of Iowa Libraries

Profession: Reference librarian

Hudson, David, 1977-

Affiliation: Department of Political Science & International Studies, University of Birmingham



Greater importance given to relationships

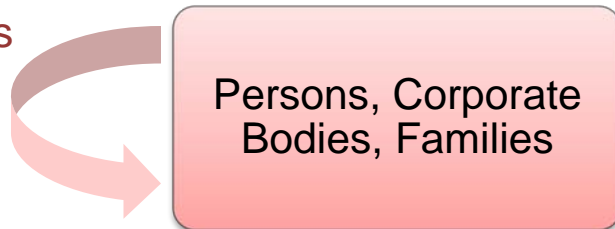


- adaptation of
- sequel to
- supplement of
- etc.

- author
- donor
- translator
- etc.



- descendants
- employee
- founder
- etc.



Implementation of RDA

- Timeline:
 - June 2010: First release
 - July 1, 2010- March 31, 2011:
 - U.S. National Libraries RDA Test
 - Other national libraries get ready for implementation (translation, training, etc.)
 - 2011: Implementation

EXAMPLES OF RECORDS

Call Number TK 5105.875 I6P47 2011

Author [Perran, Amanda](#) author

Title **Beginning SharePoint 2010 : building business solutions with SharePoint / Amanda Perran, Shane Perran, Jennifer Mason, Laura Rogers**

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[Web servers](#)

Alternate Author [Perran, Shane](#) author
[Mason, Jennifer](#) author
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LC Control No.: 2010513265

LCCN Permalink: <http://lcn.loc.gov/2010513265>

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

Personal Name: [Abbott, Philip, 1944-](#)

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Carrier Type: volume

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QUESTIONS?

