Appellations, Authorities, and Access

Gordon Dunsire

Presented to "Reconstructing RDA in the LRM: Aggregations, Appellations, and Authorities", Chicago, USA, 16 May 2017,
Overview

Aligning RDA with LRM

4-fold path for data capture and format

Nomens

Manifestation statements and transcription

Non-human entities

Topics for discussion
FRBR-LRM and RDA entities

Any RDA Thing: Covers all other types of entity

RDA refines LRM relationships as element sub-types (RDF sub-properties)
Nomens and appellations

RDA Entity has appellation Nomen

M1 has title proper N1 has nomen string “My title”

M1 has identifier ... N1 has title proper

M1 has identifier ... N2 has nomen string “0123-4567”

has identifier ... has nomen string
4-fold path for related entities

RDA Entity 1

“[Unstructured description]”

“[Structured description]”

“[Identifier]”

N1

RDA Entity 2

N2

N1

N2

has nomen string

has related entity

has appellation
4-fold path for attributes

LRM blurs the distinction between attributes and relationships – an echo of the 4-fold path

A relationship with string data (unstructured or structured description, or identifier) is like an attribute

An attribute with "thing" data (IRI), e.g. SKOS concept, is like a relationship
"Descriptions"

An unstructured description (path 1) has no internal structure that can be parsed by machine; only keywords can be extracted. Example: a transcription or a note

A structured description (path 2) has some form of internal or external structure. Example: An aggregated string composed of sub-element values
Example: A term from a vocabulary encoding scheme or authority file
Identifier (path 3)

"A nomen consisting of a code, number, or other string, usually independent of natural language and social naming conventions." (Draft)

Identifier is distinct from language-based "descriptions"

Identifier is "local": not unique at global level

Path 4:
International Resource Identifier (IRI) or URI is unique at global level
Implications for authority control

No need for "preferred" nomen (string) if local Identifier or global IRI is available for user task Identify

Human-readable nomens still required for user tasks Find and Explore

Emphasis shifts from "authority form" to maintaining multiple forms of nomens: cf VIAF
Nomen granularity and hierarchies

Current RDA elements form categories of nomens

Titles: essentially unstructured descriptions with no "authority"; hierarchical (sub-types)

Names: essentially structured labels (descriptions) with "authority"; hierarchical (sub-types)

Identifiers; no sub-types

No elements for access points: structured descriptions
Work to Nomen relationships

4-fold path
1: Unstructured
2: Structured
3: Identifier

[has] related nomen (work)
[has] subject (nomen)
[has] appellation of work
[has] represented name of creator (work)
[has] identifier for work
[has] title of work
[has] access point of work
[has] preferred title of work
[has] variant title of work

1: Unstructured
2: Structured
3: Identifier
LRM-E4-A4 Manifestation statements

A statement appearing in the *manifestation* and deemed to be significant for users to understand how the resource represents itself. ... *normally transcribed* from a source ... in a manifestation. Transcription conventions are codified by each implementation.

Principle of representation

User task: Identify
Non-human agents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title and statement of responsibility (ms)</th>
<th>Geronimo Stilton \ THE CHEESE EXPERIMENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&gt; Title proper (ms)</td>
<td>THE CHEESE EXPERIMENT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&gt; Statement of responsibility relating to title proper (ms)</td>
<td>Geronimo Stilton</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title proper</th>
<th>The cheese experiment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Represented name of creator (work)</td>
<td>Stilton, Geronimo</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Topics for discussion

Access points: structure and construction
- 4-fold path; sub-elements; guidance and instructions

"Name" authority control

Nomens of non-human entities in statements of responsibility
- relationship(s) with WEM for access

[l(tem): my dog chewed (modified) it!]
Thank you!

- rscchair@rdatoolkit.org
- http://access.rdatoolkit.org/
- http://www.rdaregistry.info/
- http://www.rda-rsc.org/