RSC Operations in 2021: A Return to “Normal”

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Today’s Topics

• 2021 highlights from the RSC Action Plan
• RSC meetings
  ▪ Schedule
  ▪ Agendas
• RDA change proposal process
  ▪ Fast tracks
  ▪ Discussion papers
  ▪ Proposals
RSC Plans for 2021

**RSC Action Plan 2021-2023**: Highlights

- Continue review of the Resources tab and development of Community resources and Community vocabularies
- Resolve pseudo-element issues [primarily original RDA 6.28-6.31]
- Review performance aggregates (amalgamation instructions) and initiate cleanup
- Begin BIBFRAME mapping
- Establish new Working Groups:
  - Extent
  - Place/jurisdiction
  - Names of corporate bodies in more than one language
  - Religious content
- Be responsive to user feedback
Quarterly Meeting Schedule

• Asynchronous meetings
  ▪ January 11-14, 2021
  ▪ April 12-15, 2021
  ▪ July 12-15, 2021
  ▪ Deadline for submitting agenda documents:
    ~3 weeks before the meeting starts

• In person (?) meeting
  ▪ October 11-15, 2021
    o Note: dates not firm; may change based on travel restrictions, a
      changed meeting location, or need to shift to a virtual meeting
  ▪ Deadline for submitting agenda documents:
    ~3 weeks before the meeting starts
RSC Meeting Agendas

• Asynchronous meeting agendas may include
  ▪ Brief reports from members on their activities since the last meeting
    ○ Including information sharing from the regions
  ▪ Review and approval of documents developed since the last meeting
  ▪ Discussion papers framing future work
  ▪ Proposals
  ▪ Examples: January 2021 agenda included
    ○ Review/approval of rolling 3-year Action Plan
    ○ Review/approval of updated RSC Operations documents
    ○ Recommendations for moving forward on Pseudo-elements
    ○ Discussion of next steps with Community resources
RSC Meeting Agendas

• In-person meeting agendas include
  ▪ Formal reports from members, working groups, and liaisons to outside groups
  ▪ Discussion papers and change proposals that would benefit from a more focused discussion
  ▪ Laying the groundwork for the next iteration of the rolling 3-year Action plan
  ▪ Status review/update of action items assigned to RSC members

• If the “in-person” meeting needs to be held virtually
  ▪ Meeting length will expand from 1 to 2 weeks
  ▪ Meeting style will blend synchronous and asynchronous approaches
RDA Change Proposal Process

• Still in a test-and-adjust phase

• Guidance to communities
  ▪ Detailed process in *Policies and Procedures for Updating RDA Content* (RSC/Operations/4)
  ▪ Formatting information in *Guidelines for Proposals, Discussion Papers, and Responses to Them* (RSC/Operations/5)

• Three possibilities
  ▪ Fast track
  ▪ Discussion paper
  ▪ Proposal

• Steps
  ▪ Initial paper
  ▪ RSC discussion and decision
  ▪ Implementation, when applicable
Fast Track Proposals

• Suggestions for improving consistency in wording, additions to vocabularies, and other changes without wider impact
  ▪ Capable of inclusion in RDA without negative impact on its users
  ▪ Must be technically compatible with RDA
    o Can confirm with RSC Technical Working Group

• May be submitted anytime to RSC Chair and RSC Secretary

• Originate with
  ▪ RSC members
    o Via working groups, regions, personal observations, etc.
  ▪ Users
    o Primarily via the “Submit Feedback” link in the Toolkit
Fast Track Proposals

• Normally discussed in the order received
• Short decision-making time frame: 2 weeks
  ▪ Currently only considering one (or one grouping) at a time
• Not publicly posted on RSC website, no formal responses
• Decisions made by RSC voting members
  ▪ Regional representatives may consult with their regions at their discretion
  ▪ Choices: Accept / Revise / Refer to the proposal process / Reject
  ▪ Simple majority required to pass
• Will be implemented in future Toolkit release
  ▪ May not be the “next” one based on timing
• No substantive differences from pre-3R process
Fast Track Proposals

• Approved so far this year
  ▪ Editorial consistency – Elements
    o Changed “that reflects” → “reflecting” in definitions for 4 categorization elements
    o Clarified definitions for date of capture, polarity, and bibliographic format
    o Revised 5 “letterer agent” elements for consistency and clarity
  ▪ Clarity – Guidance chapter
    o Modified two paragraphs in Fictitious and non-human appellations chapter
Discussion Papers

• Raise topics for RSC consideration to suggest a need for investigation of issues related to RDA development, to identify issues related to other rule-making bodies, etc.
  ▪ Done for complex proposed changes before going through the formal proposal process
    ○ Especially useful when more than one approach/solution is possible
    ○ Same as “briefing papers”, used near the end of the 3R Project

• May be submitted anytime to the RSC Chair and RSC Secretary
  ▪ Will be scheduled for an upcoming RSC meeting
    ○ This may not be the “next” meeting, based on the RSC’s workload and/or the complexity of the topic
Discussion Papers

• Originate with RSC members, RDA regional groups, or RDA users (via the Wider Community Engagement Officer)
  ▪ RSC may request such discussion papers
  ▪ Before submission, proposers consult the RSC Technical Working Group to confirm that recommendations are technically compatible with RDA

• Posted publicly on RSC website, with information about when it will be discussed

• RSC members may consult with each other before the official RSC meeting
  ▪ These discussions will not be captured formally
Discussion Papers

• Before the RSC meeting
  ▪ Regional representatives consult with the bodies they represent (NARDAC, EURIG, ORDAC)
    o Each region develops its own process for collecting feedback
    o For example, NARDAC will seek feedback from ALA, CCC, and LC
  ▪ All regional bodies expected to respond in some way
    o Looking to minimize the amount of effort and time frame for this step
    o Any formal response posted publicly on the RSC website
      • Need to have a response to each question in the paper
Discussion Papers

• Based on discussion, may be
  ▪ Referred back to the proposer/proposing group for more development or investigation based on the RSC discussion; may include developing a formal proposal
  ▪ Deferred to a later date
  ▪ Rejected

• Outcome of decisions will be in the meeting minutes
  ▪ And shared with the proposing group as appropriate
Discussion Papers

• Differences from the pre-3R era
  ▪ Accepted anytime
  ▪ Could be considered at any of the quarterly RSC meetings, not just the in-person meeting
  ▪ Consultation among RSC members permitted in advance of the meeting
  ▪ Development of a log to indicate briefly the agreement, disagreement, or general comments for discussion in advance of the meeting
Proposals

• Formal recommendations to change, enhance, or delete RDA content
• No requirement for a change proposal to start out as a discussion paper
  ▪ But that step is recommended for complex topics
• May be submitted anytime to the RSC Chair and RSC Secretary
  ▪ Will be scheduled for an upcoming RSC meeting
    □ This may not be the “next” meeting, based on the RSC’s workload and/or the complexity of the topic
Proposals

• Originate with RSC members, RDA regional groups, or RDA users (via the Wider Community Engagement Officer)
  ▪ RSC may request such proposals
  ▪ Before submission, proposers consult the RSC Technical Working Group to confirm that recommendations are technically compatible with RDA

• Posted publicly on RSC website, with information about when it will be discussed

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Proposals

• Before the RSC meeting
  - Regional representatives consult with the bodies they represent (NARDAC, EURIG, ORDAC)
    - Each region develops its own process for collecting feedback
    - For example, NARDAC will seek feedback from ALA, CCC, and LC
  - All regional bodies expected to respond in some way
    - Looking to minimize the amount of effort and time frame for this step
  - Formal responses posted publicly on the RSC website
    - Must contain explicit statement of acceptance/non-acceptance
    - Need to have a response to each recommendation in the proposal
Proposals

• During RSC meeting
  ▪ May be withdrawn by the proposer
  ▪ Otherwise will have discussion and vote
    ○ Choices: Accept / Revise / Refer for more work / Reject
    ○ Simple majority needed to pass

• Outcome of decisions will be in the meeting minutes
  ▪ And shared with the proposing group as appropriate

• Will be implemented in future Toolkit release
  ▪ May not be the “next” one based on complexity of making the agreed-upon changes
Proposals

• Changes from pre-3R procedures
  ▪ Accepted anytime
  ▪ Could be considered at any of the quarterly RSC meetings, not just the in-person meeting
  ▪ Consultation among RSC members permitted in advance of the meeting
  ▪ Development of a log to indicate briefly the agreement, disagreement, or general comments for discussion in advance of the meeting
  ▪ Looking to minimize efforts from regional representatives
    ○ No need for a formal response that simply says, “We agree.”
In the Works

• More fast track proposals
  ▪ Coming at a steady pace

• Formal proposals
  ▪ NARDAC’s Curator agent proposal
    o Undergoing review by RSC Technical Working Group before being sent on for RSC consideration
    o May be on RSC’s July agenda
  ▪ Renaming an element?
More Information

• RSC Action Plan 2021-2023
  ▪ http://rda-rsc.org/sites/all/files/RSC-Chair-2021-1.pdf

• RSC Meeting Calendar for 2021
  ▪ http://rda-rsc.org/node/648

• RSC Agendas
  ▪ http://rda-rsc.org/RSCmeetingagendas

• RSC Operations documents:
  ▪ http://rda-rsc.org/node/608
    o RSC/Operations/4 -- Policy and Procedures for Updating RDA Content
    o RSC/Operations/5 -- Guidelines for Proposals, Discussion Papers, and Responses to Them
Questions?

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