To:           RDA Board and RDA Steering Committee
From:        Renate Behrens, RSC Chair
Subject:     RSC Annual Report for 2023

This is the Annual report of the RDA Steering Committee to the RDA Board for the calendar year 2023. The report was prepared by Renate Behrens, RSC Chair, with assistance from the RSC Secretary, Anne Welsh, and input from the rest of the RSC. In particular, your attention is drawn to the individual annual reports of RSC members, published as Appendices 422-433 in RSC/Minutes/413-443.

This year, the RSC met four times, in January (asynchronously), May (in Chicago), July (asynchronously), and October (in Vienna). It was also happy to take part in the first joint meeting of the RDA Board and the RSC in Chicago in May. Public minutes are available on ALAIR for each of these meetings (RSC/Minutes/362-372 ; RSC-RDABoard/Minutes/000-009 ; RSC/Minutes/373-392 ; RSC/Minutes/393-412 ; RSC/Minutes/413-443). The RSC would like to formally thank the American Library Association (ALA) and the Die Österreichische Bibliothekenverbund und Service GMBH (ÖBVSG) for their generous hosting of our in-person meetings.

ÖBVSG also hosted and co-organised a successful hybrid training day, 'RDA: Think Globally, Act Locally'. It was lovely to meet colleagues from the region and to hear about RDA DACH from Barbara Pfeifer (DNB) and RDA in Austria from Christoph Steiger (MDW). We were also glad to hear a few words about the European context from Dr. Ahava Cohen, the RSC Representative for Europe, live from the National Library of Israel. Slides are also available from the presentations given by RSC members:

- RDA Toolkit Community Resources Update - James Hennelly, Director of ALA Digital Reference
- Making RDA Work For You: Leveraging the Semantic Coherency of the RDA Element Set - Damian Iseminger, Technical Team Liaison Officer
- Examples and examples development in the RDA Toolkit - Honor Moody, RDA Examples Editor
- Planning to Teach RDA - Elisa Sze, Education and Orientation Officer

2023 was the first year after the *RDA Board Strategic Plan 2020-2022* and this necessitated our publishing two Action plans, one before the publication of *RDA Board Strategic Plan 2023-2025* (RSC/Chair/2023/1) and one following its publication (RSC/Chair/2023/12). We are grateful to former RDA Board Chair, John Trevor-Allen for permission to publish RSC/Chair/2023/1, since we know that the wider RDA cataloguing community is always keen to be aware of the activities undertaking to develop RDA.

## RSC Action Plan 2023 Outcomes

**1  Develop RDA as a responsive and dynamic standard**

   a. Offer support to communities interested in developing discussion papers and proposals
*As well as updating the two operations documents to be followed when developing discussion papers and proposals (RSC/Operations/4 and RSC/Operations/5), in March 2023 Past Chair Kathy Glennan gave a webinar on How to Propose a Change in RDA (available on the RDA Toolkit YouTube channel; a PDF of the slides is also available on the RSC website).*

   b. Contribute to the development of the *Strategic Plan for RDA 2023-2025.*
*The RDA Board published its RDA Board Strategic Plan 2023-2025 in the middle of the year. As this followed the Joint Meeting of the Board and the RSC, there was plenty of opportunity for Board members to gather information from RSC members (RSC-RDABoard/Minutes/000-009).*

   c. Continue review of Community Resources area and communicate decisions to users.
*Ongoing. As the Director of ALA Digital Resources highlighted in his Annual Report (RSC/Minutes/413-443 Appendix 424), the infrastructure for Community Resources will be implemented in January 2024, with new content added to it in March or July 2024.*

   d. Provide support for training for those transitioning to the Official Toolkit.
*The Education and Orientation Officer, Elisa Sze, has been very busy in 2023, and her full annual report is worth reading in its entirety (RSC/Minutes/413-443 Appendix 427). In February 2023 she presented a webinar on Teaching RDA in the LIS Classroom (available on the RDA Toolkit YouTube channel; a PDF of the slides is also available on the RSC website). She drafted a handout, 'RDA Teaching and Training Tips' which was approved at the October 2023 meeting and will be published in early 2024. See also Section 2a: the Regional Representative for Oceania led a successful set of RDA Toolkit webinars for ORDAC on the topic of 'Finding Your Way with RDA' (Session 1 ; Session 2 ; Session 3)*

   e. Address placement, potential integration and functionality of Application Profiles within the Toolkit.
*Ongoing. There was a wide-ranging discussion of Application Profiles at the October RSC Meeting (RSC/Minutes/413-443 Item 438).*

   f. First the Technical Working Group, then the RSC:
      i  Prepare new guidance chapter on collection level description.
      ii  Begin BIBFRAME mapping

iii   Review the concept of performance aggregates (amalgamation instructions)
*The Technical Working Group continues to monitor Bibframe developments. As recently as the October 2023 meeting, the Technical Team Liaison Officer was tasked with "continu[ing] to advise the Chair on the timeframe in which collaboration on a Bibframe/RDA mapping is possible" ([RSC/Minutes/413-443](#) Item 429.1). In his Annual Report ([RSC/Minutes/413-443](#) Appendix 429) the Technical Team Liaison Officer stated that "The Technical Working Group plans to clear its remaining action items going into 2024. These would include submitting changes for Data Provenance guidance, preparing guidance for Collection Level Description, and providing a FAQ for developers on what constitutes RDA conformant metadata."*

g.   Begin planning for removal of soft-deprecated elements
*The RSC conducted [a survey on the current use of elements that have been soft-deprecated](#). Summarising the findings at the October 2023 Meeting, the Technical Team Liaison Officer reported that "One key finding was that 19 respondents were not aware of the soft-deprecated terms and 21 had not started to make planning for deprecation. 26/40 elements received responses that they were under consideration in planning"([RSC/Minutes/413-443](#) Item 417). He shared [RSC/TechnicalWG/2023/2](#), on which RSC members voted unanimously to defer to a future date a decision on deprecating the terms ([RSC/Minutes/413-443](#) Item 415). The RSC will continue to monitor use of the soft-deprecated terms and to raise awareness of them amongst the wider RDA cataloguing community.*

h.   Undertake a review to identify inconsistent language and use of terms.
*This action was deferred.*

i.   Toolkit development goals that impact the RSC:
   i   Consolidate the RSC website with other related Drupal sites, including development of space for regional committees and better sharing of content
   ii   Development of mapping tool
   iii   Implement Community Resources access for both CMS users and non-CMS users
*All of these activities are in progress. See the Annual Report from ALA Digital Reference ([RSC/Minutes/413-443](#) Appendix 424) for the latest published update. The latest developments will be shared by the Director of ALA Digital Reference at the January 2024 RSC Meeting.*

j.   Together with the RDA Board, review the status of countdown clock and community implementations of RDA (published as Item 2024 1a in [RSC/Chair/2023/12](#) and [RSC/Chair/2023/1](#))
*The RDA Board decided to commence the countdown clock in May 2026. This was announced [via the RDA Toolkit Blog](#) on 23 May and [the RSC website's News and](#)*

*Announcements page on 24 May 2023. The Director of ALA Digital Reference also announced it on RDA-L on 23 May 2023.*

**2   Increase the adoption of RDA**

a. Continue to support regional groups
*RSC members were active across all three Regions. As mentioned at 1d, the Regional Representative for Oceania led a successful set of RDA Toolkit webinars for ORDAC on the topic of 'Finding Your Way with RDA' (Session 1 ; Session 2 ; Session 3). Presentations were given at a range of regional meetings and conferences, including the NARDAC Spring Forum and the EURIG Annual Meeting. There is a list of presentations given in 2023 by RSC members at* http://www.rda-rsc.org/node/735 *and in the section on Outreach in this report.*

b. Investigate an affiliate RSC membership status for regions not yet represented on the RSC, with an eye toward moving those regions to full membership status
*The RDA Board's 'Strategic Plan for 2023-2025' includes the aim to "investigate new business models in response to user needs and development priorities" (Item 3.2).*

c. Provide orientation and support for RSC Representative from Latin America and the Caribbean when appointed.
*In its Joint Meeting in May, the RDA Board and RSC discussed the desirability of an orientation package for new members (RSC-RDABoard/Minutes/000-009 Item 006). This was further discussed at the October 2023 RSC Meeting (RSC/Minutes/413-443 Item 436). A first draft has been prepared for discussion at the January 2024 RSC Meeting.*

**3   Provide relevant governance**

a. Recruit or re-appoint individuals to the following RSC positions: RDA Examples Editor, Wider Community Engagement Officer
*Charlene Chou agreed to stay on for a second term as Wider Community Engagement Officer; Jessica Grzegorski was appointed as RDA Examples Editor; following approval by the RDA Board, the position of Education and Orientation Officer was made permanent and Elisa Sze agreed to continue in it.*

b. Review existing protocols and assigned liaisons with other information standards groups, considering new alignment(s) with IFLA.
*RSC/Chair/2023/3/rev - Protocol between the RSC and the IFLA Committee on Standards (CoS) has been approved by the RSC and ratified by the IFLA Advisory Committee on Standards. It will be published as soon as final approval by the IFLA Governing Body has been received (RSC/Minutes/413-443 Item 434.1).*

## RDA Toolkit

There were three Toolkit releases in 2023, in March, July and September.

**27 March 2023**

"Minor changes to English language RDA were made for the purpose of clarity and consistency. Revisions to the Guidance: Data Elements provide more explanation about the relationship and application of element supertypes and subtypes.

The Finnish translation was updated to make it consistent with the English language version in this release. Policy Statements from the Library of Congress – Program for Cooperative Cataloging, the British Library, the Music Association Best Practices, the National Library of New Zealand, and the Suomolaiset linjaukset were also updated" (March 2023 RDA Toolkit Release | RDA Toolkit). RDA Toolkit subscribers can also access 'Notes on the March 24, 2023 RDA Toolkit Release'.

**26 July 2023**

Implemented RSC/Places/WG/2023/1/Decisions. The full history of the change from Working Group proposal to Decisions document at http://www.rda-rsc.org/node/743, and individual documents have been archived on ALAIR.

"The release includes an enhancement to the Toolkit display that freezes the page title, navigation breadcrumbs, and the Policy Statements drop-down menu at the top of the page when scrolling. This change came at the suggestion of several users who wanted to see the title and breadcrumbs persist at the top of the page to help keep their bearings in longer pages and to easily switch from one set of policy statements to another" (July 2023 RDA Toolkit Release | RDA Toolkit).

RDA Toolkit subscribers can also access 'Notes on the July 26, 2023 RDA Toolkit Release'.

**28 September 2023**

The focus for editing the English text for this release was on responding to minor changes in response to user reports (corrections to typos and formatting, changes for consistency, and fixes of broken links).

"There are two significant updates – the introduction of a new alternative Guidance menu and completion of the French language translation of official RDA.

The new 'Orientation Guidance Menu' arranges topics in the Guidance menu thematically to improve user experience of the Toolkit, especially for new cataloguers and educational users. The thematic groups are 'About RDA', 'Implementations Considerations', and 'Additional Guidelines'. The default Guidance menue is the alphabetical one that has always been part of the official Toolkit …

This release also sees the completion of the initial French translation of the official RDA Toolkit that began a year ago. This release is based on the September 2022 version of the original English instructions and version 4.1.1 of the RDA Reference data published on GitHub. The publication of the first translated pages were posted in September 2022, with subsequent updates in July 2023 and September 2023" (September 2023 RDA Toolkit Release | RDA Toolkit). RDA Toolkit subscribers can also access 'Notes on the September 28, 2023 RDA Toolkit Release'.

## RDA Registry

The RDA Registry contains vocabularies that represent the RDA entities, elements, and controlled terminologies as RDA element sets and RDA value vocabularies in Resource Description Framework (RDF). Data contained in the Registry populate the Glossary, vocabulary encoding scheme term lists, and sections of each element page in the RDA Toolkit.

From the Technical Team Liaison Officer's Annual Report, it is worth noting that this year he "Worked with the ALA Liaison Officer and Dakota to resolve long-standing bugs in the generation of RDA Reference" (RSC/Minutes/413-443 Appendix 429).

The RDA Registry produced 9 GitHub releases or pre-releases in 2023, beginning with 5.0.10 in March and 5.0.18 to support the Release that will be released in January 2024:

**Release v5.0.10, 6 March 2023**

"This release supports the March 2023 issue of RDA Toolkit" (Release Release v5.0.10 · RDARegistry/RDA-Vocabularies · GitHub).

**Release v5.0.11, 9 June 2023**

"This is to support the upcoming release of the July 2023 issue of the RDA Toolkit. Another release should follow shortly (Release Release v5.0.11 · RDARegistry/RDA-Vocabularies · GitHub).

**Release v5.0.12, 21 June 2023**

"This release supports the July 2023 issue of RDA Toolkit. It incorporates changes approved at the May 2023 meeting of the RDA Steering Committee. The changes are documented in RSC/Places/WG/2023/1/Decisions" (Release Release v5.0.12 · RDARegistry/RDA-Vocabularies · GitHub).

**Release v5.0.13, 29 June 2023**

"This release fixes an error in the comments for published concepts rdaterm:1069, rdaterm:1102, and rdaterm:1012 in RDATerms.xml. The comment indicated that the concept was deprecated" (Release Release v5.0.13 · RDARegistry/RDA-Vocabularies · GitHub)

**Release v5.0.14, 6 September 2023**

"This release supports the September 2023 issue of RDA Toolkit" (Release Release v5.0.14 · RDARegistry/RDA-Vocabularies · GitHub).

**Release v5.0.15, 8 September 2023**

"This release makes updates to the unconstrained element set and corrects errors in the Catalan translations of the element sets and value vocabularies" (Release Release v5.0.15 · RDARegistry/RDA-Vocabularies · GitHub).

**Release v5.0.16, 22 September 2023**

"This release makes updates to the Finnish translations of RDA Vocabularies" (Release Release v5.0.16 · RDARegistry/RDA-Vocabularies · GitHub).

**Release v5.0.17, 27 September 2023**

"This release supports the Finnish translation of the September 2023 issue of RDA Toolkit" (Release Release v5.0.17 · RDARegistry/RDA-Vocabularies · GitHub).

**Release v5.0.18, December 2023**

"This release supports the December 2023 [i.e. January 2024] issue of RDA Toolkit" (Release Release v5.0.18 · RDARegistry/RDA-Vocabularies · GitHub).

## RDA Content

The following proposals and Fast Tracks were approved in 2023:

    1   **RSC/PlacesWG/2023/1: Jurisdictions, Governments and Courts in RDA**

In its first proposal, the Place/Jurisdiction Working Group examined the treatment of jurisdiction as "a place that is governed by a law, regulation, constitution, court rule, or other legislation enacted by a corporate body that is a government" in RDA and proposed changes RDA to harmonize this concept with elements related to corporate bodies that are governments and courts.

The RSC discussed this proposal at length in its public session in May 2023, and approved three of its seven recommendations. The original proposal, RSC/PlacesWG/1, is available on the RSC website and with a stable URI in the institutional repository. The discussion at the May Meeting is recorded as Item 380 in RSC/Minutes/373-392 (and with stable URI in the repository).

The three approved recommendations in RSC/PlacesWG/1/Decisions (website | repository) were implemented in the RDA Toolkit in July 2023.

## 2    RSC/LanguagesWG/2023/1: Preferred names and official languages of corporate bodies, governments, and places in RDA

The Official Languages Working Group was charged with analysing the concept of *official language* for corporate bodies, and specifically to consider the text in four sections of RDA:
- Corporate Body: preferred name of corporate body
- Corporate Body: category of corporate body
- Corporate Body: category of government
- Place: preferred name of place

The original proposal, RSC/LanguagesWG/1, is available on the RSC website and with a stable URI in the institutional repository. The discussion at the July Meeting is recorded as Item 409 in RSC/Minutes/393-412 (and with stable URI in the repository).

Following discussion in July 2023, RSC/LanguagesWG/2023/1/Decisions (website | repository) was created in September 2023 with the intention of implementation in the January 2024 release of the RDA Toolkit, but following discussion of RSC/Places/WG/2023/2 in October 2023, it was decided to complete implementation of the proposals from the Places/Jurisdiction Working Group first. This will avoid confusion between the three proposals dealing with the Place and Corporate Body entities (RSC/LanguagesWG/2023/1; RSC/PlacesWG/1 ; RSC/PlacesWG/2). It also avoids implementation of individual proposals piecemeal.

## 3    RSC/PlacesWG/2023/2: Revision of Corporate Body: jurisdiction governed and Place: jurisdiction governed of

In May 2023, RSC/PlacesWG/2023/1 made several recommendations for removing ambiguity concerning the use of the term jurisdiction in RDA. Recommendations 4 and 7 from the proposal were withdrawn at the meeting due to RSC objections (RSC/Minutes/372-392 Item 380.4) and so the Place/Jurisdiction Working book considered the best way to deal with the issues and returned in October 2023 with a fresh proposal.

RSC/PlacesWG/2023/2 is available on the RSC website and with a stable URI in the institutional repository. The discussion in the meeting is recorded as Item 418 in RSC/Minutes/413-443 (and with stable URI in the repository).

All three recommendations were approved by the RSC, with the additional change of wording from "place governed of" to "place governed by" to reflect the more usual preposition used in standard English. RSC/PlacesWG/2023/2/Decisions (website | repository) was implemented in the January 2024 RDA Toolkit release.

## 4    RSC/ReligionsWG/2023/1: Religious Titles

The Religions in RDA Working Group was charged to identify examples of religious and Western bias in the toolkit. One of the issues which we identified was the presence of problematic options related to access points for persons. These options are specific to one religion and their application to other religions is often unclear. Even if there were a clear parallel in another religion, the options assume enough awareness of the tenets of Catholicism to know what would be parallel. Furthermore, the fact that all of the options relate to one religion is inherently biased. A comprehensive list which would include all religions would be impractical to create and would always be incomplete. Therefore, the options should be removed. Instructions on the inclusion of titles for specific religions should be community based and not part of base RDA.

RSC/ReligionsWG/2023/1 is available on the RSC website and with a stable URI in the institutional repository. The discussion at the July Meeting is recorded as Item 408 in RSC/Minutes/393-412 (and with stable URI in the repository).

Its recommendations were approved on a majority vote on the understanding that all these options were covered in RDA by the general option (06.58.35.33) to "Include an appropriate designation associated with a person in a language preferred by the agent who creates the metadata." There was one absence and one acceptance. The RSC accepted Past Chair Kathy Glennan's suggestion (RSC/Minutes/393-412 Item 408.6) to delay implementation until the resolution of issues dealing with the elements term of rank or honour or office and creator corporate body of work and the glossary term official communication.

RSC/ReligionsWG/2023/1/Decisions (website | repository) was implemented in the January 2024 release of the RDA Toolkit.

### 5    RSC/ReligionsWG/2023/2: Proposal to Revise Term of Rank or Honour or Office

Proposed changes to the instructions for the element Person: term of rank or honour or office (http://rdaregistry.info/Elements/a/P50110). This is related to tasks 2 and 3 of the charge (RSC/Chair/2023/4) to review instructions that address religious agents and to consider where general, internationally applicable instructions should be placed and how they should be framed. This proposal eliminated some conditions, condition options, and options that are specific to Christian denominations from base RDA, added a new general condition and condition option group that is not specific to Christianity, and generalized the condition group on terms of address for religious vocation. It also proposed a change to the definition of the element to make it applicable to religious denominations beyond those in Christianity.

The original proposal, RSC/ReligionsWG/2023/2, is available on the RSC website and with a stable URI in the institutional repository. The discussion in the meeting is recorded as Item 419 in RSC/Minutes/413-443 (and with stable URI in the repository).

RSC/ReligionsWG/2023/2 consisted of 3 recommendations. They were all approved by voting members of the RSC, with some changes to the wording proposed by the working group. RSC/ReligionsWG/2023/2/Decisions (website | repository) records the wording approved by the RSC on 17 October, and implemented in November 2023 for the next release of the RDA Toolkit in January 2024.

### 6    FT2023-01 Definitions of designation and designation of versions

Revised the definition of these terms in order to make consistent. Approved by all voting member of the RSC and implemented in the July 2023 Toolkit release.

### 7    FT2023-02 Definitions for "music expression" / "music for expression"

Revised the definitions of these terms in order to make them consistent with the corresponding definitions for "music work" and "music for work". Approved by majority (one voting member of the RSC was absent) and implemented in the January 2024 Toolkit release.

## RDA Examples

2023 was the final year of Honor Moody's term as RDA Examples Editor, and her annual report was published at RSC/Minutes/413-443 Appendix 426. Her update to the *RDA Examples Editorial Guide* was approved at the October 2023 RSC Meeting, published as RSC/ExamplesEditor/2023/1 on the RSC website and archived to ALAIR.

As well as adding new examples to base RDA, the Examples Editor assessed examples in Original RDA, transferring examples as is or modifying as needed. She also consulted with RDA translators on the development of examples in RDA translations.

Having established the Examples Working Group and assisted in the recruitment of the new RDA Examples Editor, Jessica Grzegorski, Honor has agreed to stay on as a member of the Examples Working Group and aid Jessica's transition into her new role.

## RDA Translations

The Translations Team Liaison Officer's Annual Report was published as RSC/Minutes/413-443 Appendix 430 and highlights the annual meeting of the Translations Working Group at the 2023 EURIG Members' Meeting in Athens, and the outreach activities undertaken with communities interested in beginning translation of RDA, including Romania and Ukraine.

The Director of ALA Digital Reference is also active in working with new translation communities. One highlight of 2023 has been the agreement with ABINIA for a Spanish language translation of RDA.

## Policy Statements

The Policy Statement Writers continued to meet online every two months throughout 2023. In January 2024 Policy Statements from the National Library of New Zealand (NLNZ) and from Library and Archives / Bibliothèque et Archives Canada (LAC/BAC) were published on the Toolkit. The latter has involved the creation of Policy Statements in both French and English and the development of the RDA Toolkit to accommodate dual-language display.

## RSC Membership

*The RSC in May 2023 at ALA Headquarters. Left-to-right: Elisa Sze (Education and Orientation Officer), Charlene Chou (Wider Community Engagement Officer), Anne Welsh (RSC Secretary), Ahava Cohen (Europe Representative), Renate Behrens (RSC Chair), John Trevor-Allen (Chair of the RDA Board), Damian Iseminger (Technical Team Liaison Officer), Robert Maxwell (North America Representative), Honor Moody (RDA Examples Editor), Kathy Glennan (Past Chair of the RSC), Szabolcs Dancs (Translations Team Liaison Officer), Charlotte Christensen (Oceania Representative), James Hennelly (ALA Digital Reference, publisher of the RDA Toolkit). Photo by Jennifer Gongorek (ALA Digital Reference)..*

Following a year as RSC Chair Elect, Renate Behrens became RSC Chair on 1 January 2023, with Kathy Glennan staying on as Past Chair for one year, until 31 December 2023.
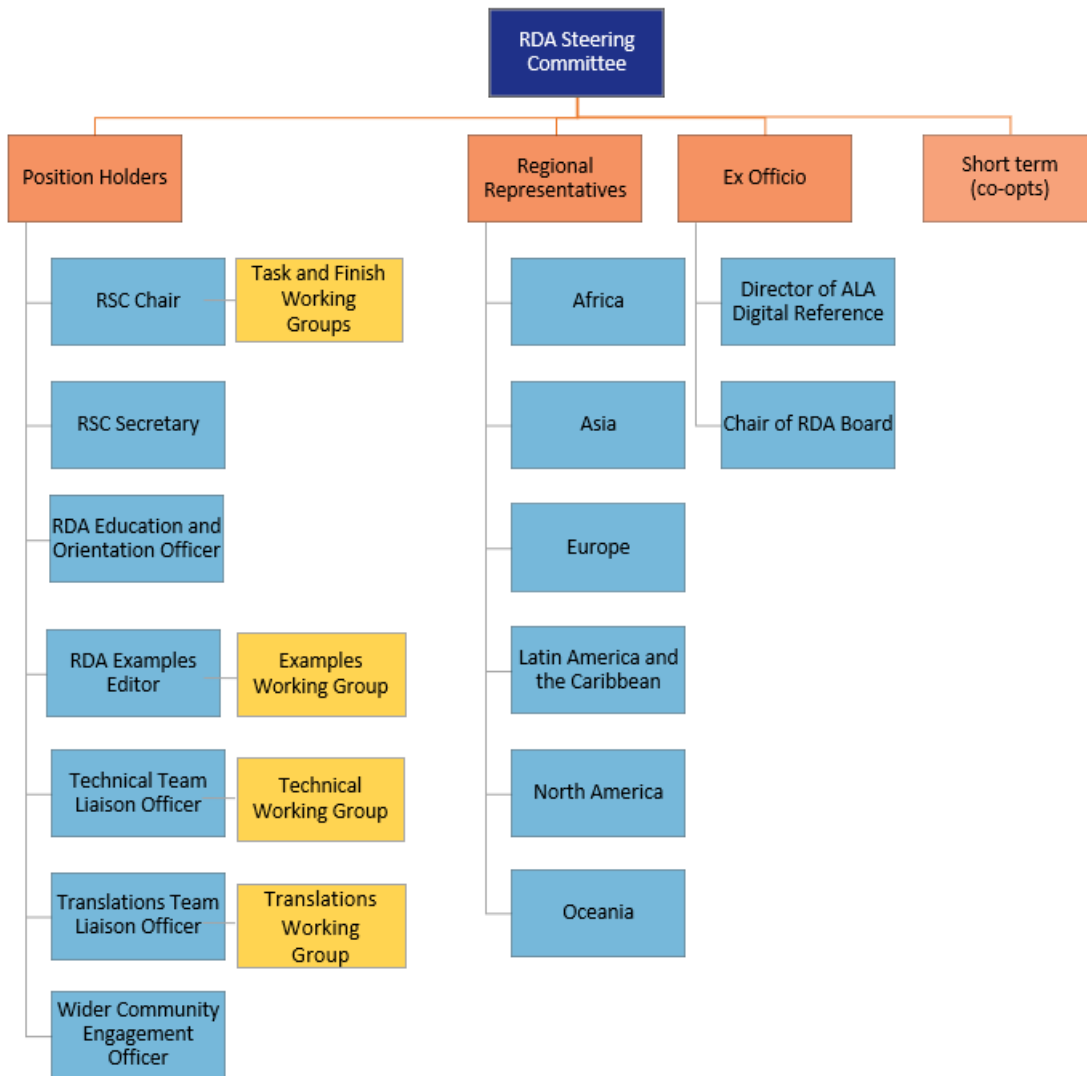
After 6 months as RSC Secretary Elect, Anne Welsh succeeded Linda Barnhart as RSC Secretary on 1 January. Szabolcs Dancs succeeded Daniel Paradis as Translation Team Liaison Officer.

2023 also saw Charlotte Christensen (formerly Backup Oceania Representative) succeed Melissa Parent as Oceania Representative. We welcomed Jack Ennis-Butler as Backup Oceania Representative.

Wider Community Engagement Officer, Charlene Chou, accepted a second term until December 2025.

RSC/Chair/2023/6 was approved by the RDA Board, and the Education and Orientation Officer position, which was instituted as a co-opted temporary role in 2021, was established as permanent. Elisa Sze accepted the offer to continue as Education and Orientation Officer until

December 2025 in the first instance. This change has been implemented in the RSC Organization Chart 2024, published on the RSC website on 15 January 2024, and here:



As reported in the section above on RDA Examples, Honor Moody completed her term as RDA Examples Editor. She is succeeded by Jessica Grzegorski, and the RSC is grateful to Jessica for stepping into this role and to Honor for staying on as a member of the Examples Working Group and easing Jessica's transition.

The Chair of the RDA Board, an ex officio member of the RSC, John Trevor-Allen (CILIP), finished his term on 31 December 2023. He is succeeded by Colleen Barbus (American Library Association).

## Working Groups

**Examples Working Group**

Following approval of RSC/Chair/2023/2 by the RDA Board, a new Standing Working Group on Examples was established in July (RSC/Chair/2023/8) and its members increased in October (RSC/Chair/2023/8/rev). Further members were recruited in December and these will be ratified at the January 2024 meeting (RSC/Chair/2024/2). Further information about the Working Group and its activities can be found on its webpage.

**Technical Working Group**

The Technical Working Group has members from Hungary, Spain, the UK and the USA. The current chair is Damian Iseminger, who acts as the RSC Technical Team Liaison Officer. Its charge document, RSC/Chair/2023/9 (website | repository) requires it to "assist the RSC in developing RDA in technical areas such as models, structures, semantics, and standards; assist ALA Digital Reference in developing and maintaining the RDA Registry; [and] assure technical conformance with the RDA ontology as requested by communities and users" (section 4).

It also has oversight of the RDA/MARC21 Alignment Task Force, whose membership and charge is set out in RSC/Chair/2023/10 (website | repository).

The annual report of the Technical Team Liaison Officer (RSC/Minutes/413-443 Appendix 429) covers the activities of the Technical Working Group in 2023 and is worth reading in full. In particular it is worth noting that "Technical advice and support has been given to members of policy statement agencies, the Translations Working Group and to members of the [wider] cataloguing community," highlighting the wide reach of this group. The Technical Team Liaison Officer has also "worked with the ALA Liaison Officer and Dakota to resolve long-standing bugs in the generation of RDA Reference."

Updates to the Registry are noted in the RDA Registry section above.

**Translations Working Group**

The Translations Working Group consists of members representing translations (or partial translations) into Arabic, Catalan, Danish, Dutch, Estonian, Finnish, French, German, Greek, Hungarian, Italian, Latvian, Norwegian, Portuguese, Spanish and Turkish. Its charge document, RSC/Chair/2023/11 (website | repository) requires it to "support and advise the RSC in the development of RDA for non-Anglophone communities" (section 3).

The current Chair is Szabolcs Dancs, who acts as the RSC Translations Team Liaison Officer. His Annual Report was published as RSC/Minutes/413-443 Appendix 430, and highlights activities outlined in the RDA Translations section above.

The annual meeting of the Working Group took place on 4 May in Athens (and online) as part of the EURIG business meeting.

**Task-and-Finish Working Groups**

Throughout 2023, the RSC continued to have its maximum number of four Task-and-Finish Working Groups:

### 1  Extent

The Extent Working Group has expert members from Canada, Scotland, Switzerland and the USA, and is chaired by Thomas Brenndorfer. Damian Iseminger (Technical Team Liaison Officer) is an ex officio member. It has met online throughout its first two years and is working towards a discussion paper for the RSC in 2024, covering the topics outlined in section 4 of its charge document, RSC/Chair/2023/7 (website | repository):

- Manifestation: extent of manifestation
- Expression: extent of expression
- Expression: duration
- Manifestation: dimensions
- Manifestation: dimensions of cartographic image
- Manifestation: dimensions of still image
- Work: extent of representative expression
- Work: duration of representative expression

RSC/Chair/2024/3 will supersede RSC/Chair/2023/7 and will be ratified by voting members of the RSC during its January 2024 meeting.

### 2  Official Languages

The Official Languages Working Group consisted of expert members from Belgium, Canada, Israel, Luxembourg, Switzerland and the USA. Szabolcs Dancs (Hungary) was ex officio from 2023 when he took over from Daniel Paradis (Canada) as Translations Team Liaison Officer. Daniel Paradis stayed on as a full member of the group. The Chair was Peter Rolla.

Its work (as set out in RSC/Chair/2023/5 (website | repository) concluded with the passing of RSC/LanguagesWG/2023/1 – Preferred names and official languages of corporate bodies, governments, and places in RDA (see above).

### 3 Place/Jurisdiction

The Place/Jurisdiction Working Group was chaired by Esther Scheven (Germany) and included expert members from Israel and the USA. Damian Iseminger (Technical Team Liaison Officer) was an ex officio member.

It completed its work (as set out in RSC/Chair/2022/3 (website | repository) with two proposals: RSC/PlacesWG/2023/1, implemented in the July 2023 Toolkit Release (see above), and RSC/PlacesWG/2023/2, implemented in January 2024 Toolkit Release (see above).

### 4 Religions in RDA Working Group

The Religions in RDA Working Group has expert members from Germany, Israel and the USA. Its ex officio member is Charlene Chou (Wider Community Engagement Officer). Originally chaired by Kate James, it was co-chaired in 2023 by original group member David Roth and Kate James.

RSC/ReligionsWG/2023/1 was approved at the July 2023 RSC Meeting with the instruction that implementation be postponed until the resolution of certain issues (see above), which were then discussed in RSC/ReligionsWG/2023/2 and approved at the October 2023 RSC Meeting (see above). RSC/ReligionsWG/2023/1/Decisions and RSC/ReligionsWG/2023/2/Decisions were both implemented in the January 2024 Release of the RDA Toolkit.

The RSC was always aware that the group's tasks, set out in RSC/Chair/2023/4 (website | repository), were likely to take longer than its initial period of appointment. RSC/Chair/2023/4 will be superseded by RSC/Chair/2024/4, which will be ratified by voting member of the RSC at their January 2024 meeting, with David Roth as Chair.

## Collaboration with Other Groups

The RSC has always had formal liaisons with other bodies concerned with cataloguing standards, *viz*.:

- RSC/Chair/5 - Protocol between the RSC and the ISBD Review Group
- RSC/Chair/12 - Protocol between the RSC and the FRBR Review Group
- RSC/Chair/13 - Protocol between the RSC and the ISSN International Centre

- RSC/Chair/15 - Protocol between the RSC and the Library of Congress Network Development and MARC Standards Office
- RSC/Chair/22 - Protocol between the RSC and the Permanent UNIMARC Committee

In 2023, the RSC Chair started the process to update the RSC's liaison with IFLA, consolidating RSC/Chair/5, RSC/Chair/12 and RSC/Chair/22 into RSC/Chair/2023/3 - Protocol between the RSC and the IFLA Committee on Standards (CoS). This was approved by the IFLA Advisory Committee on Standards at its meeting during WLIC and by the RSC at its meeting in October 2023 (RSC/Minutes/413-443 Item 434.1). It will be published as soon as the RSC Secretary receives notification that it has been ratified by IFLA's Governing Body.

## Outreach

Members of the RSC continued to contribute to the RDA Toolkit Webinar series and to provide presentations across all three Regions and beyond. These are listed on the 2023 Presentations page of the RSC website and, for archival purposes, here:

Renate Behrens, 'ISBDM and RDA', IFLA WLIC, Rotterdam, 22 August.

Renate Behrens, 'Neues and Altes aus dem RSC', AG AV Ressourcen, 11 July.

Renate Behrens, 'Nur was sich ändert bleibt. Die Standards RDA und ISBDM', Congress Bibliosuisse, Zurich, 3 November. Also available from conference website.

Renate Behrens, 'RDA and Authority Data', VIAF Annual Meeting, 28 September.

Renate Behrens, 'RDA: An International Path to Community-driven Solutions', XII Encuentro de Catalogación Metadatos RDA: Experiencias sobre la catalogación y organización de la información con RDA, Mexico City, 6 September.

Renate Behrens, 'RSC Report', EURIG Annual Meeting, Athens, 5 May.

Renate Behrens, 'The RSC Working Groups', NARDAC Update Forum, 14 November. Video recording available on the RDA Toolkit YouTube channel.

Renate Behrens, 'Standards in Changing Times', EURIG Annual Meeting, Athens, 4 May.

Renate Behrens, 'Standards in Changing Times', WLIC 2023 Satellite Meeting: Universal Bibliographic Control at the Crossroads – The Challenges of Unifying IFLA Bibliographic Standards, 18 August. Also available from the conference website.

Renate Behrens and Barbara Pfeifer, 'RDA DACH und die DACH-Dokumentationsplattform', BiblioCon 2023, Hannover, 25 May.

Charlene Chou, 'Introduction to Official RDA Toolkit', Bibliographic Services Committee, Joint University Libraries Advisory Committee, Hong Kong, 15 December.

Charlene Chou, 'RDA Plus', National Central Library Taiwan RDA Training, 27 October. Also available on the NCL website.

Charlene Chou, 'RDA Updates, March 2022-March 2023', Council on East Asian Libraries (CEAL) Cataloging Workshop, 13 March. Also available on the workshop event page.

Charlotte Christensen, 'Finding Your Way with RDA – Session 1', RDA Toolkit Webinar, 7 June 2023. Video recording available on the RDA Toolkit YouTube channel.

Charlotte Christensen, 'Finding Your Way with RDA – Session 2', RDA Toolkit Webinar, 14 June 2023. Video recording available on the RDA Toolkit YouTube channel.

Charlotte Christensen, 'Finding Your Way with RDA – Session 3', RDA Toolkit Webinar, 21 June 2023. Video recording available on the RDA Toolkit YouTube channel.

Ahava Cohen, 'Hey, you! Cataloging and Grammatical Gender', NARDAC Spring Forum, 3 April. Video recording available on the RDA Toolkit YouTube channel.

Ahava Cohen, 'Report from the Europe Representative to the RSC', EURIG Annual Meeting, Athens, 5 May.

Ahava Cohen, 'To Boldly Go: RDA in Non-Latin Scripts', EURIG Annual Meeting, Athens, 4 May.

Kathy Glennan, 'How to Propose a Change to RDA', RDA Toolkit Webinar, 27 March. Video recording available on the RDA Toolkit YouTube channel.

Kathy Glennan, Damian Iseminger and Keith Knop, 'RDA Changes in Theory and Practice', Music Library Association (MLA), St Louis Missouri, 2 March. Also available from *Humanities Commons*.

James Hennelly, 'RDA Community Resources', CILIP Metadata Group Conference RDA Day, Birmingham, 8 September.

James Hennelly, 'RDA Toolkit: Construido para hoy y mañana' = 'RDA Toolkit: Built for Today and Tomorrow', XII Encuentro de Catalogación Metadatos RDA: Experiencias sobre la catalogación y organización de la información con RDA, Mexico City, 7 September.

James Hennelly, 'What's New (and Upcoming) with RDA Toolkit', RDA Toolkit Webinar, 19 December. [Video recording available on the RDA Toolkit YouTube Channel](#).

Honor Moody, '[Examples in the RDA Toolkit](#)', NARDAC Spring Forum, 3 April. [Video recording available on the RDA Toolkit YouTube channel](#).

Elisa Sze, '[Teaching RDA in the LIS Classroom](#)', RDA Toolkit Webinar, 24 February. [Video recording available on the RDA Toolkit YouTube channel](#).

Elisa Sze and Thomas Brenndorfer, translated into Spanish by Ángela Quiroz Urbierna, 'Cómo manejar los conceptos y la jerga en el nuevo RDA', RDA Toolkit Webinar, 14 June 2023. [Video Recording available on the RDA Toolkit YouTube channel](#).

John Trevor-Allen, 'The RDA Board's Strategic Plan: Improving our Governance, Growth, and Outreach', [XII Encuentro de Catalogación Metadatos RDA: Experiencias sobre la catalogación y organización de la información con RDA](#), Mexico City, 8 September.


**Outreach Day**

[The outreach day co-organised with OBVSG, RDA: Think Globally, Act Locally](#) on 16 October included the following presentations from RSC members and leaders within the DACH region:

Barbara Pfeifer, '[RDA DACH](#)'.

James Hennelly, '[RDA Toolkit Community Resources Update](#)'.

Damian Iseminger, '[Making RDA Work for You: Leveraging the Semantic Coherency of the RDA Element Set](#)'.

Honor Moody, '[Examples and Examples Development in the RDA Toolkit](#)'.

Christoph Steiger, '[RDA in Austria](#)'.

Elisa Sze, '[Planning to Teach RDA](#)'.


# Process and Communication

The RSC website remains the primary source of information for news from the RSC, especially:

- http://rda-rsc.org/news - news and announcements
- http://rda-rsc.org/documents#newjscdocs – recently posted documents
- http://rda-rsc.org/node/701 - additions and changes to the website

The RSC Secretary also posts calls for hosts, announcements of the publication of agenda and minutes and appointments of new RSC members to RDA-L, a mailing list maintained on ALA Core Connect. (You do not have to be a member of ALA to participate in RDA-L, although a free login for the website is required).

The *IFLA Metadata Newsletter* usually features news from the RSC compiled by the RSC Secretary.

ALA Digital Reference publishes Toolkit and selected RSC news at https://www.rdatoolkit.org/news.

Regional Representatives cascade news from the RSC to their communities.