International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions

Cataloguing Section
FRBR Review Group

Meeting Report
Gothenburg, Sweden, Thursday, August 12, 2010

Business meeting attended by 8 members, 14 liaisons and observers (see Appendix A).

1) Welcome and Announcements
      The WG on Aggregates had two meetings scheduled during the conference:
      Thursday Aug. 12, 16:00-18:00 (Room G2)
      Saturday Aug. 14, 15:00-16:15 (Room G2)

2) Chair's report
      2.1) FRAD publication and lack of online version
      Glenn Patton obtained permission for the RG to use the Word and PDF versions of FRAD for further work on developing the models on condition that access is controlled. We have implemented this control via our Review Group working wiki. Having the files has been essential to continuing our work. However, the lack of a freely available online version is a barrier to implementation and uptake by other groups.
      2.2) FRSAD
      The controversy over the approval process for FRSAD (approved by a vote of the Classification and Indexing Section, ratified by the Professional Committee) has highlighted the absence of clear procedures for the approval of reports. The PC is aware of the need for an agreed upon written procedure common to all sections.
      Now that FRSAD is officially approved, it falls under the FRBR Review Group for maintenance. This enables us to focus on all three models at once in working on a consolidation.
      FRSAD has been published online as of June 2010, print publication is also planned. For future work the RG will need access to the Word file.
      2.3) Translations of FRBR and FRAD
      There were no new translations of FRBR completed this year, however, several translations of FRAD have been completed (French, Spanish, Chinese) and more are planned (including Swedish, Italian and Portuguese). Any group interested in translating FRAD must contact IFLA Headquarters for permission and then can be provided with the Word file by Glenn Patton.

2.4) Finances / special project funds

The RG received 1500 euros per year for 2009 and 2010 to work on harmonising models with other communities. The final expenditures for 2009 came to 1555 euros (55 euros overspent, due to currency exchange variations), this covered some of Maja's expenses for the May 2009 London meeting, and the airfare (booked and paid in 2009) for Pat and Gordon's attendance at the January 2010 Helsinki meeting. For 2010 to date, 855 has been spent (covering the remainder of Pat and Gordon's expenses for Helsinki), leaving a balance of 645 euros for the rest of 2010.

Requests for special project funds for 2011 and 2012 need to be done in fall 2010, agreed to make a request for 3000 euros per year funding to support consolidation of the models.

2.5) Presentations and publications

Pat included an introduction to FRSAD in a presentation on the FRBR family of models at the June 2, 2010 RDA preconference to the Canadian Library Association conference in Edmonton.

The Helsinki workshop on January 28, 2010 included updates on our models and on the VMF project.

Eeva is preparing an article for an international archival journal.

The "What is FRBR?" document prepared by Barbara Tillett is well appreciated and has been translated into a number of languages. A "What is FRAD?" companion document would be welcomed.

2.6) FRBR Bibliography

Even though we have intended to update the bibliography in the last two years, it has not been possible to devote the time to it. The RG proposes to consider it "suspended" and concentrate on other priorities. The existing document will remain available, but we will no longer solicit contributions. We will edit the text on the website accordingly. Potentially the bibliography could be revived as a project of the Bibliographic Standards core activity if there was staff support from that office.

2.7) Communications

A listserv only for FRBR Review Group members and official liaisons was created so that any member can distribute information to the whole group.

2.8) Membership structure and reporting lines

The approval of FRSAD has raised questions on how best to ensure appropriate representation from all relevant constituencies on the FRBR Review Group. This issue was raised at the SC meetings. The procedure governing RG membership is a (former) Division IV paper adopted in 2005, its status is unclear until re-written under the new structure. Currently both the FRBR and ISBD Review Groups are attached to the Cataloguing Section. It may now be relevant (due to maintenance of FRSAD) that FRBR formalise a relationship with Classification & Indexing. Under that 2005 document, it could be done by having both sections vote on the members, although the process in case of disagreement is unclear.

However, the hoped-for establishment of the new Core Activity on Bibliographic Standards would likely have a structural impact on Review Groups, etc. Thus the FRBR RG members do not feel ready to make any proposals regarding a structure at this point.

2.9) Section Action Plans

Starting this year Sections are required to create very brief Action Plans linked to IFLA priorities. The FRBR section of the current Strategic Plan links to IFLA strategic direction 3: goals 3a, 3b, 3c and 3d (goal 3.1) and in part direction 4: 4c (the liaising function with outside groups). FRBR RG has an ongoing relationship with CIDOC CRM SIG, and is starting to work with ICA Committee on Best Practices and Standards.

3) Reports from IFLA task groups

3.1) IFLA's role in Bibliographic Standards (G. Patton/B. Tillett)

This Task Group reported to the PC in December, among its recommendations is the establishment of a new Core Activity to coordinate, and give greater visibility to, IFLA's standards work, currently dispersed in various sections, RGs and core activities. The FRBR RG would need to have a very close relationship with the new Core Activity.

3.2) Namespace technical issues (G. Dunsire)

The recommendations of this Task Group interrelate with the previous one. The first recommendation is that IFLA needs a Technical coordinating group under the Bibliographic Standards Core Activity. In the interim, the Task Group will continue to act. Gordon and Barbara met with the IFLA Web Manager about immediate technical needs for the FRBR namespace declaration. The Web Manager envisages a standards portal to improve access to the standards documentation without needing to know which part of IFLA each standard attaches to administratively.

4) Updates from other projects and groups

4.1) Report on Vocabulary Mapping Framework project (G. Dunsire)

The first stage of this EU project is completed, seeking funding for a second stage. VMF uses a hub and spoke model to map one RDF vocabulary to any other RDF vocabulary. Thus each new vocabulary can be added with a single mapping. The first stage comprised creating this framework, finding the paths between the vocabulary is the goal of stage 2.

4.2) Other relevant efforts

The IT Section is sponsoring the creation of a Semantic Web SIG.

The W3C created a Library Linked Data incubator group in May 2010 to develop a report, including use cases. The discussion list is presently very active.

Rom Murray from LC used visualisation tools to represent the FRBR structure as a networked graph, he presented this to CC:DA at ALA in June.

5) Reports from Working Groups

5.1) WG on Aggregates (E. O'Neill)

The WG hopes to move forward on its report during its upcoming meetings. The final report of the WG is due for 2011. The report needs to cover approaches to modelling aggregates and suggest any amendment to the FRBR text that is deemed appropriate.

5.2) WG on FRBR/CRM dialogue

FRBRoo version 1.0.1 was issued in early 2010, incorporating technical

corrections approved during the FRBR-CRM Harmonisation meeting in January 2010 in Helsinki. The group's next task is to expand FRBRoo to include FRAD and FRSAD entities, attributes and relationships. The next meeting is scheduled for December 20-22, 2010 in Nuremberg.

The exchanges with representatives of the archival community at the January meeting in Helsinki were very positive and informative. Preliminary steps were taken to set up an archival/museum/library harmonisation group to coordinate further work to harmonise the three community viewpoints at the same time. When the ICA Committee met in May in Paris they felt that their involvement might be premature at this point, additionally, they are in the midst of a 4-year work cycle, the next cycle will start only in 2012, making it difficult for them to engage in a new project now.

6) Other business

No other business was raised.

Meeting 2 (Brainstorming meeting)
Sunday Aug. 15, 12:45-14:45

Attended by 8 members, 15 liaisons and observers (see Appendix A).

The meeting focused on the consolidation of the three models of the FRBR family. Members raised issues and areas to be worked on, examining the models in pairs (FRBR-FRAD/FRBR-FRSAD/FRAD-FRSAD) looking at entities, attributes and relationships under each.

Appendix A

List of participants

Name	Institution	Country	Status	Meeting
Autio-Tuuli, Marjatta	National Library of Finland	Finland	observer	Aug. 15
Bélair, Jo-Anne	Université Laval	Canada	observer, chair of the Classification & Indexing Section	Aug. 15
Boulet, Vincent	Bibliothèque nationale de France	France	observer	Aug. 12
Cato, Anders	National Library of Sweden	Sweden	member of the WG on Aggregates, chair of the Cataloguing Section	Aug. 12 Aug. 15

Chandrakar, Rajesh	Information and Library Network (INFLIBNET) Centre	India	member	Aug. 12 Aug. 15
Dunsire, Gordon	Strathclyde University	UK	member	Aug. 12 Aug. 15
Escolano Rodriguez, Elena	National Library	Spain	observer, chair of ISBD RG	Aug. 15
Förster, Frank	University of Kiel	Germany	observer	Aug. 15
Galvao, Rosa	National Library of Portugal	Portugal	observer	Aug. 12
Gustavsson, Bodil	Stockholm University Library	Sweden	observer	Aug. 15
Hengel, Christel	German National Library	Germany	observer	Aug. 12
Hostage, John	Harvard Law School	USA	ex-officio, liaison between Cataloguing Section and CC:DA	Aug. 12 Aug. 15
Kananen, Katri	National Library of Finland	Finland	observer	Aug. 15
Leppanen, Eeva-Lusa	National Library of Finland	Finland	observer	Aug. 15
Leresche, Françoise	Bibliothèque nationale de France	France	member	Aug. 12 Aug. 15
Luukkanen, Sinikka	National Library of Finland	Finland	observer	Aug. 15
Magliano, Cristina	ICCU	Italy	observer	Aug. 12
Martini, Patrizia	ICCU	Italy	observer	Aug. 12
Mercum, Tanja	University of Ljubljana	Slovenia	observer	Aug. 15
Murtomaa, Eeva	National Library of Finland	Finland	member, member of the WG on Aggregates	Aug. 12 Aug. 15
O'Neill, Ed	OCLC	USA	chair of the WG on Aggregates	Aug. 12 Aug. 15

Paradis, Daniel	Concordia University	Canada	observer	Aug. 12
Patton, Glenn	OCLC	USA	Chair of FRANAR	Aug. 12 Aug. 15
Riva, Pat	Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec	Canada	Chair of FRBR RG	Aug. 12 Aug. 15
Roe, Sandy	Cataloging & Classification Quarterly	USA	observer	Aug. 12
Säfström, Miriam	BTJ	Sweden	member	Aug. 12 Aug. 15
Sandelin, Rinja	Abo Akademis bibliotek	Finland	observer	Aug. 15
Seppala, Marja-Luisa	National Library of Finland	Finland	observer	Aug. 15
Sniezko, Leszek	Nukat Center	Poland	observer	Aug. 12
Stewart, Marg	Library and Archives Canada	Canada	Ex-officio, liaison between Cataloguing Section and RDA/JSC	Aug. 12
Tillett, Barbara	Library of Congress	USA	member, member of the WG on Aggregates	Aug. 12 Aug. 15
van Spanje, Daniel	OCLC EMEA		observer	Aug. 12 Aug. 15
Žumer, Maja	University of Ljubljana	Slovenia	member, member of the WG on Aggregates and WG on FRBR/CRM Harmonisation, co-chair of FRSAR	Aug. 12 Aug. 15