

## Transcription in Rare Books Cataloguing

The arrival and implementation of RDA certainly poses new questions regarding the application of these rules on early printed material. One of these questions concerns the transcription of title and impressum from these resources. In Sweden the cataloguing rules for early printed books follow ISBD (consolidated ed. 2011). The rules for transcription there include a certain amount of normalization, in a way that is not completely satisfactory, we would argue, neither for the libraries nor for the users. The paper discussing transcription at the RDA and Rare Materials Seminar in Edinburgh last November did not suggest solutions to this problem, but in fact advocated mixing transcription and normalization quite randomly. With the implementation of RDA in Sweden in January 2017 we would therefore see some simple improvement possibilities.

In our paper we would like to discuss the advantages and disadvantages of an idea concerning transcription according to RDA, which would focus on the double purposes of *identifying* and *finding* a resource. For the first purpose to be met we suggest that a record should include a transcription of the title which follows the original very closely, preferably with as little normalization as possible (some normalization will always be inevitable). This would also be in accordance with the RDA-principle 'take what you see'. For the second purpose we suggest that a field should also be included where the title is rendered completely normalized, since users searching catalogues are more likely to use words in normalized spellings than in the original ones.