



Newsletter of the LIASA Interest Group for Bibliographic Standards	Vol. 5, no. 3 (October 2008)
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Table of contents

- **IGBIS relaxes originally**
- **FRBR, ISBD, AACR2 & RDA**
- **The NLSA's move to open source software: a cataloguer's perspective**
- **IME ICC5 proceedings published**
- **Do you know enough about... ?**

Editorial comment

Welcome to IGBIS day at LIASA and relax with us!

In this issue we take a brief look at FRBR, ISBD, AACR2 & RDA, open source software and its impact on cataloguing, the IME ICC5 proceedings and more information regarding RDA.

Please contribute to *LIASA IGBIS-in-touch* by sending articles or snippets of information of interest to fellow IGBIS members to: susan.battison@nlsa.ac.za

'Be wise, standardise'

LIASA Interest Group for Bibliographic Standards

"IGBIS relaxes originally"

- 9:00 - 9:30: AGM and announcement of new IGBIS Committee
- 9:30 - 9:45: Dewey Editorial Policy Committee (EPC) : Report back
- 9:45 - 10:00: IFLA guidelines for OPACS
- 10:00 - 10:30 Break
- 10:30 -12:30: "IGBIS relaxes originally" with
 - Danie Marais, Sigrun Paschke and Beverly Rinkwest
 - Ou Boslappers Band

*Danie received the Ingrid Jonker and the Eugene Marais prizes in 2007 and will read a few of his poems which have been translated into English.
Sigrun Paschke and Beverly Rinkwest composed music to Danie's poems.
The Ou Boslappers Band will entertain with a different kind of music*

FRBR, ISBD, AACR2 & RDA

The recent IGBIS workshop evaluations highlighted some confusion that cataloguers have regarding the relationships between FRBR (Functional Requirements for Bibliographic Descriptions), ISBD (International Standard Bibliographic Description) and AACR2.

What came first – FRBR, ISBD or AACR2?

ISBDs were published first, then came AACR2 to replace AACR and finally FRBR made its appearance – and this may be the source of confusion. In an ideal world logically FRBR should have been developed first, followed by ISBD and finally individual cataloguing codes.

FRBR, which is a *conceptual model of the information/bibliographic universe*, underlies all cataloguing principles and rules, however this model was only developed within the past two decades. While the FRBR Study Group pursued its charge to "recommend a basic level of functionality and basic data requirements for records created by national bibliographic agencies" most revisions of ISBD were suspended. Mapping between FRBR attributes and relationships and ISBD elements was completed by Tom Delsey in 2004 (1).

The ISBD dates from 1969, as a result of an International Meeting of Cataloguing Experts. The latest ISBD is the consolidated edition published in 2007 and discussed at the 2008 LIASA IGBIS Workshop. The ISBD (originally published separately for each format) regularizes the form and content of bibliographic descriptions and is used by bibliographic agencies, national and multinational cataloguing codes and individual libraries. One aim was to enable record sharing (1).

From the ISBD various cataloguing codes, such as AACR2, RAK (German cataloguing rules), were developed. ISBD is embedded in the bibliographic description rules (AACR2 Part 1), but not in the rules regarding access points (AACR2 Part 2).

If you are looking for a metaphor to describe these relationships we could use the human body – the skeleton, the muscles and the skin; FRBR being the skeleton providing the underlying structure, ISBD the muscles covering this structure and providing form to the skin which represents the cataloguing codes. As each person looks different, so each cataloguing code looks different, however, the typical person has a head, two arms, two legs, hands and feet, likewise the underlying principles of FRBR and ISBD remain the same

And then comes RDA...

RDA looks to FRBR for cataloguing principles, but does not prescribe the way in which information in a bibliographic record should be displayed – ISBD punctuation will be one way in which such information may be displayed, but note that ISBD elements are embedded within RDA's descriptive cataloguing sections.

1. <http://www.ifla.org/VII/s13/isbdrg/>

Susan Battison with suggestions from the IGBIS Committee

The National Library of South Africa's move to open source software: a cataloguer's perspective

Along with the move of the NLSA to its new building on the corner of Andries and Struben Streets, the staff have also had to move from a Windows environment to an open source environment. The NLSA is described as the 'pioneers' of open source software implementation within the government sector by installing the Suse Linux operating system.

The implementation team soon realised that library software applications are more complex than just word processing, spreadsheet, presentation or database programmes and that some applications do not run on Linux, including Connexion Client and DBText (used for original cataloguing and the maintenance of our cataloguing manual respectively).

To overcome this VMWare (Virtual machine software) has been loaded onto our PCs through which we can access these two interfaces. The VMWare gives access to a MSWindows desktop through which we access Connexion Client and DBText. This gives a few extra steps to the logging in process and swapping between the windows is something to get used to. The subfield delimiter on Connexion Client does not print correctly. We also experienced a problem to access DBText in the editing mode, but this has since been resolved.

Fortunately Millennium does run on the open source operating system, but it 'feels' slightly different and we have had to readjust the fonts. We have also experienced problems with message boxes not displaying properly. To rectify this we have to close the box and perform the same function again (sometimes more than once).

So, in short: yes it's doable, yes, it's frustrating at times; yes, cataloguers can adapt again; but no, it is not all smooth sailing – but change seldom is 'a smooth ride'.

Now just to get our heads around OpenOffice.org Writer, Calc, Impress and Draw...

Susan Battison

IME ICC5 proceedings published

The proceedings of IME ICC5 were launched during IFLA in August 2008. From the K.G. SAUR website:

IFLA Cataloguing Principles: Steps towards an International Cataloguing Code, 5 Report from the 5th IFLA Meeting of Experts on an International Cataloguing Code, Pretoria, South Africa, 2007

Ed. by Tillett, Barbara B. / de Klerk, Tienie / van der Walt, Hester / Cristán, Ana Lupe
K. G. SAUR

July 2008. 24 x 17 cm. VIII, 524 pages. Hardcover. RRP Euro [D] 99.95 / for USA, Canada, Mexico US\$ 160.00. Special price for IFLA members Euro [D] 79.95 / for USA, Canada, Mexico US\$ 128.00.

Series: IFLA Series on Bibliographic Control ; 35
ISBN 978-3-598-24283-0

Do you know enough about ... ?

RDA

On 8 August 2008 presentations on RDA were made by Barbara Tillet, Deidre Kiorgaard, Gordon Dunsire, Anders Cato, Renate Gompel, and Pam Gatenby at an IFLA pre-conference meeting. An RDA demonstration was also presented. See these presentations at <http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/jsc/rda.html#presentations>

Other presentations are also available on this site.

And for those not subscribed to Autocat, from a message posted by Marjorie Bloss (RDA Project Manager) a high level time line:

- 4th quarter calendar 2008 - Full draft of RDA is sent out for constituency review
- Late January 2009 - end of constituency review
- 2nd quarter calendar 2009 - RDA content is finalized
- 3rd quarter calendar 2009 - RDA is released
- 3rd and 4th quarters calendar 2009, possibly into 1st quarter calendar 2010 - Testing by national libraries
- 1st and 2nd quarters calendar 2010 - Analysis and evaluation of testing by national libraries
- 3rd-4th quarters calendar 2010 - RDA implementation

Current IGBIS membership: 119 members

Visit the LIASA IGBIS Website:

http://www.liasa.org.za/interest_groups/igbis.php

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Next issue to be published March 2009