RBMS RDA Editorial Group Report, June 2023

Submitted by Liz Adams and Jessica Grzegorski, chief editors of Descriptive Cataloging of Rare Materials (RDA Edition) (DCRMR)

Updates

Three group members will rotate off at the end of this term on June 30: keepers of the text kalan Knudson Davis and Matthew Murphy and editor Brittney Washington. We thank them for their dedication, service, and expertise. Jessica Grzegorski will rotate off co-chief editor duties at the end of this term but remain on the Editorial Group as a volunteer for the coming year.

Thanks to the work of kalan Knudson Davis, the [DCRMR repository](#) has a freshly minted digital object identifier (DOI). The repository as a whole now has a DOI, and each major release of DCRMR will also have a separate DOI. Users can now unambiguously cite specific releases of DCRMR, and it will be easier to refer to the standard in academic and other contexts where DOIs are common.

Two current Editorial Group members and one former member are leading a workshop, "Cataloging Rare Books with Descriptive Cataloging of Rare Materials (RDA Edition)," at the RBMS 2023 Conference in Bloomington, IN, on Tuesday, June 27, 9:30 am-3:30 pm. Jessica Grzegorski, Elizabeth Hobart, and Brittney Washington will introduce rare book cataloging with DCRMR, provide a brief history of the standard and how it differs from previous standards, and discuss major elements of the catalog record (e.g., title, physical description, notes). The workshop will include several hands-on exercises. We gratefully acknowledge the planning and additional work that Liz Adams contributed to the creation of the workshop as a member of our team.

Incorporation of instructions from *Descriptive Cataloging of Rare Materials (Graphics)* (DCRM(G)) into DCRMR

The internal review for the DCRM(G) incorporation into DCRMR is ongoing. We have formed three subgroups to look at areas of the text that were extensively updated as part of the incorporation. These subgroups are for:

- Chapter 5 (Production, Publication, Distribution, and Manufacture)
  - The current release of DCRMR does not include any instructions related to production, as it covers published books only at this time. With the addition of DCRM(G), which includes instructions for still images that may be unpublished, there will now be instructions in place for all elements related to production.
- Chapter 6 (Physical Description)

- ○ This subgroup is tasked with evaluating the structure of the chapter and reviewing all instructions for inconsistencies and clarity.
- Examples
  - ○ This subgroup has two tasks: 1) develop criteria to evaluate examples in DCRMR to ensure that they are respectful to peoples and cultures that are often underrepresented in collections; 2) review all examples added as part of the DCRM(G) incorporation using the above criteria and to ensure that each example is representative of its associated instruction.

We expect the work of the subgroups to continue through the summer and possibly the fall. The chief editors and other members of the Editorial Group will then complete a brief round of internal review before we submit the text for BSC review.

RBMS Policy Statements

Members of the subgroup that is drafting policy statements for the RDA Toolkit completed an initial round of internal review of the statements written to date in May 2023. The RBMS Policy Statements are designed to be brief, lightweight statements that direct catalogers using the Toolkit to relevant instructions for rare materials in DCRMR. Although we have not yet addressed all of the options that we would like to in the Toolkit, the subgroup drafted about 900 statements.

The whole Editorial Group will next review the policy statements, probably beginning this summer. BSC members will then have an opportunity to review and vote on the statements before they are published in the RDA Toolkit. Because both RDA and DCRMR are integrating resources that will change over time, the work of drafting and updating RBMS Policy Statements will be ongoing.