

RBMS RDA Editorial Group Report, June 2024

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

Updates

Two members are rotating off the Editorial Group at the end of June 2024: Keeper of the text, Amy Tims, and Tammy Druash. We thank them for their dedication, service, and expertise. Liz Adams will rotate off of chief editor duties at the end of the term but will remain as a volunteer. The chief editors for the 2024-2025 cycle will be Laura Doublet (continuing from 2023-2024 cycle) and Jessie Sherwood (incoming).

As of June 1, 2024, there are over 10,000 records coded DCRMR in OCLC Connexion!

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

Chapter 6 subgroup (Physical description)

In June 2023, a subgroup consisting of Laura Doublet (convener), Yoonha Hwang,, Amy Tims, and Liz O'Brien was tasked with reviewing chapter 6, to ensure clarity and consistency of instructions and the overarching structure of the chapter. The review of the content concluded in May 2023, and the subgroup has passed along the updated chapter to the Keepers for ingestion into the development repository. The group has also shared a separate spreadsheet documenting potential changes to examples in the chapter to the Examples subgroup. Next steps for the subgroup will be to review the structure of chapter 6.

Examples subgroup

A separate Examples subgroup was also charged in June 2023 with two tasks: 1) developing criteria to evaluate examples in DCRMR to ensure that they are respectful to peoples and cultures that are often underrepresented in collections; 2) reviewing 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. Members also verified as much as possible that all examples included were for identifiable material. Group members are: Erin Blake, Tammy Druash, Rebecca Flore, Jessica Grzegorski, Iris O'Brien, and Liz Adams (convener).

The Editorial Group voted to approve the "[Criteria for DCRMR Examples](#)" at its December meeting. The subgroup finished its review of examples in June 2024. There were some examples identified as either problematic (e.g., not in keeping with our newly minted criteria) or problems (e.g., example doesn't match instruction). The subgroup will now look for new examples.

Early letterforms and symbols and Brevigraphs

As mentioned at the last BSC meeting, the Brevigraph group consisting of Erin Blake, Deborah Leslie, Bob Maxwell, Jessie Sherwood, and Amy Tims (Ex Officio) has revised the [Early letterforms and symbols and Brevigraphs tables](#). A new glossary definition for “brevigraph” was also created. These revisions depart from DCRM(B) and the current iteration of DCRMR. We are seeking feedback from BSC on these changes. Links to the documents are found below. Please only use **Suggest mode** or add a **comment** in the Google Docs. Please also be aware that this is a draft document, and that we will reformat the images for quality prior to publication. We would like to have any feedback by the end of Monday, July 1, 2024.

Early letterforms and symbols and Brevigraphs

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1_zziK1-eIGbn8LvO9yROAP0XITpQOIDnDUEjx89An4o/edit?usp=sharing

Glossary definition

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1F5z_SJfaN2ZJ8LuFtw1cviSk7C3Tt0MoEd0U-qnusj8/edit?usp=sharing

Roles/Norms documentation

In an effort to increase transparency, the chief editors have drafted documentation describing the time commitments and responsibilities of Editorial Group members and the processes/work associated with the Group. The chief editors solicited feedback from Editorial Group members and plan to include this documentation on the DCRMR Wiki.

As part of this work, the Editorial Group has also worked to draft norms related to how we interact with each other and the Group. These norms are found below:

- Recognize that we are a group composed solely of volunteers with professional obligations and personal lives extending far beyond our work with DCRMR. When members need to step back from their duties, we honor their decisions; when members are ready to return, we welcome them back.
- Acknowledge that our working day may not look like those of other editors; no editor is obligated to respond to an email immediately.
- We strive to work in community with each other; we acknowledge disagreements and strive to listen for understanding. We respect the opinions of other editors.