

RBMS RDA Editorial Group Report - June 2022

Submitted by Jessica Grzegorski and Elizabeth Hobart, DCRMR co-editors

Updates

There have been no membership changes since the March 2022 report. Two group members will rotate off on July 1. Amy Brown will conclude her editorial group term after four years of service. Elizabeth Hobart will also conclude her term as a member of the editorial group and as co-editor. She served on the editorial group for four years, three as editor or co-editor.

Four Editorial Group members will present a seminar, "Rare Book Cataloging with the New RDA Toolkit and Descriptive Cataloging of Rare Materials (RDA Edition)," at RBMS 2022. Deborah J. Leslie will present on the history of rare materials standards. Elizabeth Hobart will introduce DCRMR. kalan Knudson Davis will discuss standard development using GitHub. Jessica Grzegorski will share future directions and next steps for the standard. Amy Tims will moderate. The session will be held on Wednesday, June 22 at 4:30 pm Eastern.

Ongoing Work

The Editorial Group has begun incorporating instructions for graphic materials into DCRMR. Work has begun on most chapters, including the introduction and general rules. The group hopes to make graphic instructions ready for use by 2023. Additional DCRM manuals will be incorporated subsequently, with the order still to be determined.

Work is also underway on drafting policy statements for the RDA Toolkit. These policy statements will serve as a bridge from RDA to DCRMR. The Editorial Group plans to add an initial batch of policy statements to the RDA Toolkit in late 2022.

A small group is reviewing the early letterforms and brevigraphs tables and updating as needed. This group includes two Editorial Group members, Deborah J. Leslie and Erin Blake, joined by outside experts. The group is also in the process of reviewing all note instructions in DCRMR to ensure that instructions are coded as either required or optional.

DCRMR Projects in Need of BSC Feedback

Glossary

Editorial Group members are in the process of completing the first iteration of the glossary for DCRMR. The glossary terms and definitions come, for the most part, from the previous DCRM manuals. Group members have examined the previous terms and worked to harmonize definitions where there are discrepancies among the manuals. They are also revising definitions, as needed, either for clarity or to align with RDA terminology. Some of these

revisions include changing terms such as “publication” to broader and more RDA-aligned terms such as “resource.” The first iteration of the glossary will cover terminology that applies broadly to multiple formats or to rare books only. We will add other format-specific terms to the glossary as we incorporate instructions for the remaining five DCRM formats.

The Editorial Group expects to submit the new glossary to BSC members for feedback this summer before incorporating it into DCRM. For the most part, BSC will review and address terms and definitions that differ from those in the previous DCRM glossaries rather than the entire glossary.

DCRMR examples font

Since the early stages of DCRM, the Editorial Group has engaged in vibrant discussions about font choices for the DCRM text and the formatting of examples, as summarized in GitHub issues [#54](#) and [#49](#). After the conclusion of the public review of DCRM, the group was able to revisit these issues. In December 2021 and January 2022, Keeper of the Text kalan Knudson Davis and Editorial Group members Deborah J. Leslie and Liz O’Keefe explored fonts and formatting options for the text of examples in DCRM and made several recommendations to the group.

At our last Editorial Group meeting in April, members agreed on implementing the recommended sans-serif IBM Plex Sans font for the examples. However, the group was divided on whether the weight, or boldness, of the font should be 400 (“normal” weight) or 500 (slightly bolder). We request that the BSC examine the two possible font weights below in preparation for voting on the issue at the June BSC meeting. (In the two samples below, the affected text appears immediately after the element tags “Date of publication:” and “Note on publication statement:”.)

Sample of DCRMR example text in IBM Plex Sans font (400 weight):

5.23.31.2 Chronograms. If the date appears only in the form of a chronogram, substitute for it the date in arabic numerals in square brackets. If the supplied date includes day/month, use the pattern: day, month, year. Always make a [Note on publication statement](#) explaining the source of the date. Include transcription of the original chronogram in the note if considered important (see [5.24.36.1](#)).

Example:

Date of publication: [1758]

Note on publication statement: Date of publication derived from chronogram in statement of responsibility

(Comment: Chronogram already transcribed in statement of responsibility as: "PetrVs AnICh AgriCoLa DoMo OberperfassensIs")

Example:

Date of publication: [1650]

Note on publication statement: Date of publication derived from chronogram in colophon: Der FrIeD Vnsers Herrn IesV ChrIstI behVte Vns Herten VnD SInn, Von Ietzt an, bIss In EVVIgkeIt

Sample of DCRMR example text in IBM Plex Sans font (500 weight):

5.23.31.2 Chronograms. If the date appears only in the form of a chronogram, substitute for it the date in arabic numerals in square brackets. If the supplied date includes a day/month, use the pattern: day, month, year. Always make a [Note on publication statement](#) explaining the source of the date. Include transcription of the original chronogram in the note if considered important (see [5.24.36.1](#)).

Example:

Date of publication: [1758]

Note on publication statement: **Date of publication derived from chronogram in statement of responsibility**

(Comment: Chronogram already transcribed in statement of responsibility as: "PetrVs AnICh AgriCoLa DoMo OberperfassensIs")

Example:

Date of publication: [1650]

Note on publication statement: **Date of publication derived from chronogram in colophon: Der FrIeD Vnsers Herrn IesV ChrIstI behVte Vnsere Herten VnD SInn, Von Ietzt an, bIss In EVVIgkeIt**