

Report on the FRBR Working Group's Meetings Berlin, August 4 & 6 2003

The FRBR Working Group had two meetings on the occasion of the IFLA Conference in Berlin, on August 4th and August 6th. 25 participants from 11 countries (all of them situated in Europe or North America) attended at least one of these two meetings (see Annex A).

The first meeting was more an information session than a working or “brainstorming” session. After the agenda was approved, the chair of the group read his report of activities for 2002-2003 and made a number of announcements:

- Sophie Felföldi’s suggestion that the FRBR listserv be hosted by IFLA;
- *Cataloguing & Classification Quarterly* will publish a special theme issue devoted to FRBR, due by the end of 2004;
- The ALA/ALCTS Annual Conference included a session on FRBR and a session on ISBDs on June 22nd; Glenn Patton and Lynne Howarth made short reports of these sessions: about 400 people attended the FRBR session and a follow-up is planned next year in Florida during the last week of June as a one day and a half preconference; Olivia Madison’s presentation at the ISBD session addressed, among other issues, the relationships between FRBR and ISBDs;
- On the occasion of the “Extreme Markup Languages 2003” Conference in Montréal, a research group of the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, will make a presentation, on August 6th, titled: *An XML document corresponds to which FRBR Group 1 entity?* The abstract of this presentation reads: “... identification of the [XML] document with either of the two plausible candidates turns out to be difficult – and these difficulties illuminate both the nature of FRBR entities, and the nature of markup...” (for more info, see: <http://www.mulberrytech.com/Extreme/wednesday.html>);
- The Central Massachusetts Regional Library System organizes a brand new workshop, titled: *FRBR and the future of the Online Public Access Catalog*, on August 28th in Southborough, Mass. (for more info: <http://www.eventkeeper.com/code/events.cfm?curOrg=CMRLS>);
- On the occasion of the “Informatie 2003” Conference in Brussels, at the Royal Library, Luc Lannoy will give a presentation on FRBR; the abstract (in Dutch) addresses such topics as “How can records with a traditional structure and FRBR-records go together into one catalogue?” (more info: http://www.vvbad.be/03_activiteiten/Informatie_2003/I2003_proVr.html);
- The ASIST (American Society for Information Science & Technology) Annual Meeting in Long Beach, Calif., next October, will include a session on the “Work” concept, organized by Richard P. Smiraglia, with FRBR-related presentations by Allyson Carlyle, Ed O’Neill and Thom Hickey, and Patrick Le Boeuf (info: <http://www.asis.org/Conferences/AM03/abstracts/Wed-830-1.html>);
- During the Frankfurt Conference (International Meeting of Experts for an International Cataloguing Code), Françoise Pellé, director of the International ISSN Center, suggested that the FRBR model be revisited in order to improve its adequacy with regards to continuing resources, in the perspective of the revision of the ISSN standard in two years;
- According to Sophie Felföldi’s statistics, the *FRBR Final Report* in PDF format is the fifth most consulted page in IFLANET!

Then Dick Miller, from the Lane Medical Library in Stanford, Calif., made a presentation of the XOBIS (XML Organic Bibliographic Information Schema) project. The figures he distributed and the paper he read will be made available on the XOBIS Web site, and links to these documents will be added to the FRBR Web site.

The second meeting was entirely devoted to two major topics: rewording of point 2 of the Cataloguing Section's Strategic Plan, and definition of a new structure for the Group.

Strategic Plan:

The following wording was adopted:

Goals

2. Promote the Functional Requirements for Bibliographic Records (FRBR) study and its recommendations, and take follow-up actions to develop new descriptive standards and standards for access points, and to develop a new approach to the bibliographic universe.

Actions

2.1 Liaise with rule-makers, particularly IME ICC (International Meeting of Experts for an International Cataloguing Code), in order to have the main principles of FRBR reflected in cataloguing codes, and with other IFLA units and other relevant groups, in order to assure widespread awareness of and use of FRBR.

2.2 Identify and assist in resolving conflicting operational definitions and application of the FRBR model.

2.3 Explore provision of practical guidance and documented practices for using FRBR.

2.4 Continue representation on the IFLA Working Group on Functional Requirements and Numbering for Authority Records (FRANAR), that expands FRBR to authorities.

2.5 Maintain the FRBR model and expand the modelling effort in order to cover all kinds of resources relevant to library information, and all functions expected from library catalogues.

2.6 Promote the training and teaching of the FRBR principles through clear examples and recommendations.

2.7 Strive to ensure consistency with communities that are developing and maintaining international standard identifiers.

2.8 Promote dialogue with other information organizing communities that have developed or are developing conceptual models.

A new structure for the Group:

The current “Working Group on FRBR” is transformed into a “core group” that enters into the IFLA category of so-called “Other Groups” – that is, it is regarded as a long-term group.

It is accordingly renamed: “FRBR Review Group”.

The FRBR Review Group may create working groups as needed for special assignments, with approval of the Cataloguing Section’s Standing Committee, in order to assure connection to the Strategic Plan.

Its Terms of Reference read as follows:

- “Provide a guideline to apply the FRBR conceptual model to the activity of cataloguing (bibliographic and authority record creation) in close cooperation with the FRANAR Working Group and the IME ICC (International Meeting of Experts for an International Cataloguing Code) participants;
- Expand the FRBR Website on IFLANET to promote the model and encourage its use in all information organizing communities (libraries, archives, museums, rights management, computer and software industry, Internet communities, etc.);
- Develop a revision to the FRBR model – both entity-relationship and object-oriented models to be published by IFLA and made available on IFLANET.”

The FRBR Review Group consists of 8 to 10 members (“Core Group”), who are appointed for 2 years and can be renewed once. These members should reflect the widest international representation as possible (which goal is not attained for the time being). The core group can also include outside consultants for specific deliverables; these outside consultants can on some occasions be paid, in which case the Group would have to request some funding from IFLA. Members of the FRBR Review Group should primarily comprise IFLA members and mostly Standing Committee and Section members belonging to IFLA.

The chair of the FRBR Review Group is appointed for 2 years, and can be renewed once. The chair’s tasks include reporting for *SCATNews* as a routine, in addition to reporting during the IFLA Conference, and conducting work through email and phone calls.

For the first year with this new structure, the roster of the FRBR Review Group reads as follows:

Alan Danskin,
Lynne Howarth,
Patrick Le Boeuf (chair),
Edward O’Neill,
Glenn Patton,
Barbara Tillett,
Carol Van Nuys,
Maja Žumer;

with Tom Delsey as possible consultant, as needed.

The FRBR Review Group proposes the creation of the 5 following working groups, to be approved by the Cataloguing Section’s Standing Committee, with the following suggested members and chairs (note: all of them have not been consulted yet; their formal acceptance is required before the present report is made available on the Website):

- Working Group on the Expression entity:

Anders Cato,
Vinod Chachra,
Gunilla Jonsson,
Cristina Magliano,
Eeva Murtomaa,

Edward O'Neill or Thom Hickey,
Glenn Patton (chair?).

— Working Group on Continuing Resources:

Janifer Gatenby (chair),
Agneta Holmenmark,
Judy Kuhagen,
Françoise Pellé,
Regina Reynolds,
Carol Van Nuys.

— Working Group on teaching and training:

Mauro Guerrini,
Lynne Howarth,
Gerhard Riesthuis,
Maja Žumer (chair).

— Working Group on subject relationships and classification:

(No suggested members for the time being; Ulrike Junger has manifested her interest).

— Working Group on FRBR/CRM dialogue:

Mauro Guerrini,
Patrick Le Boeuf (chair),
Glenn Patton,
Gerhard Riesthuis,
Barbara Tillett,
Maja Žumer,

with correspondants: Allyson Carlyle, Knut Hegna, Dan Matei, Richard Smiraglia, Elaine Svenonius,
and Tom Delsey as consultant.

This last Working Group is appointed in connection with the invitational Joint FRBR/CRM Meeting that is scheduled for November 24-26, 2003 in Paris, Bibliothèque nationale de France, and currently in the process of being organized by Martin Doerr and Patrick Le Boeuf.

Annex AList of participants:

Name	Institution	e-mail address	08/04	08/06
Cato Anders	National Library of Sweden	anders.cato@kb.se	X	X
Chachra Vinod	VTLS	chachrav@vtls.com	X	
Danskin Alan	British Library	alan.daskin@bl.uk	X	X
Frodl Christine	Die deutsche Bibliothek	frodl@dbf.ddb.de		X
Hengel Christel	Die deutsche Bibliothek	hengel@dbf.ddb.de	X	X
Holmenmark Agneta	National Library of Sweden	agneta.holmenmark@kb.se		X
Howarth Lynne	FIS – University of Toronto	howarth@fis.utoronto.ca	X	X
Jonsson Gunilla	National Library of Sweden	gunilla.jonsson@kb.se	X	X
Larsson Christer	National Library of Sweden	christer.larsson@libris.kb.se	X	
Le Bœuf Patrick (chair)	National Library of France	patrick.le-boeuf@bnf.fr	X	X
Magliano Cristina	ICCU	c.magliano@iccu.sbn.it	X	X
McCallum Sally	Library of Congress	smcc@loc.gov		X
Miller David	Curry College, Mass.	dmiller@curry.edu	X	
Munkebyaune Anne	Bibsys	anne.munkebyaune@bibsys.no	X	X
Murtomaa Eeva	Helsinki University Library	eeva.murtomaa@helsinki.fi	X	X
O'Neill Ed	OCLC	oneill@oclc.org	X	X
Patton Glenn	OCLC	patton@oclc.org	X	X
Riesthuis Gerhard	University of Amsterdam	g.j.a.riesthuis@uva.nl	X	X
Riva Pat	McGill University	pat.riva@mcgill.ca		X
Santamauro Britta	Yale University	britta.santamauro@yale.edu	X	X
Thurston Patricia	Yale University	patricia.thurston@yale.edu	X	X
Tillett Barbara	Library of Congress	btil@loc.gov	X	X
Van Nuys Carol	National Library of Norway	carol.vannuys@nb.no	X	
Vestlie Marit	National Library of Norway	marit.vestlie@nb.no		X
Žumer Maja	National & University Library of Slovenia	maja.zumer@nuk.uni-lj.si	X	X

Represented countries: Canada, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Netherland, Norway, Slovenia, Sweden, United Kingdom, United States of America.