PCC Task Group on Linked Data Best Practices

The PCC Task Group on Linked Data Best Practices will help put into practice some recommendations from other task groups. It grew out of the work of the PCC Task Group on URIs in MARC, which is focusing on implementation issues during its third and final year. This includes development of best practices for inclusion of URIs in MARC records for the cataloger and vendor community. Guidelines for use of MARC URI fields and subfields will give both libraries and data providers a clear set of objectives to work toward. The PCC Task Group on URIs in MARC has outlined the areas needing best practices.

In addition, the PCC BIBFRAME Task Group has identified recommended best practices for working with BIBFRAME, several of which overlap with the list of issues outlined by the Task Group on URIs in MARC. These recommendations came out of the work of sub-groups that mapped the BIBCO and CONSER standard record to BIBFRAME.

The PCC Task Group on Linked Data Best Practices will bring in broader perspectives and expertise from the PCC community to review these areas and develop best practices. This will also help lay the foundation for continuing best practices work related to the use of URIs.

Charge:

The PCC Task Group on Linked Data Best Practices is charged to review the list of issues outlined by the PCC Task Group on URIs in MARC and the recommendations of the PCC BIBFRAME Task Group and develop best practices.

- Determine which aspects of the BIBFRAME recommendations should influence best practices in MARC, and which aspects of the MARC best practice issues would also be applicable in BIBFRAME.
- Determine which of the best practice issues are more urgent and should be prioritized. Address these high-priority issues in a preliminary report, leaving the remaining issues for the final report.

List of areas needing best practices, from the PCC Task Group on URIs in MARC:

1. Work identifiers in MARC 758

2. Multiple $0/$1

3. 33X

4. Subfield order

5. Use of $0 vs. $1

6. URIs vs. string identifiers (cf. 024 recommendation for DCM Z1)

7. Using FRBR-constrained predicates with non-FRBR entities

8. URIs for different subfields

9. Related identifiers

Best Practice Recommendations from BIBFRAME Task Group Report, November 2017:

- **Actionable data**: PCC "should encourage the provision of actionable data in addition to the transcribed data required by current RDA instructions wherever feasible."

  - **Dates as actionable data:** Another element worth noting is BIBFRAME's date property which has a recommended value of a literal. As is noted in the CONSER report, "there are mechanisms for 'typing' certain kinds of literals to make them machine actionable. Dates may be presented in linked data as 'typed literals' that are machine actionable (e.g. "1999"^^xsd:gYear or "1999"^^<http://id.loc.gov/datatypes/edtf>)." The BIBCO group agrees with the CONSER group's recommendation that this kind of typing be used for dates wherever possible. (CONSER and BIBCO)

  - **Identifiers:** Another area to be investigated is that of identifiers. Currently most of the types of identifiers for manifestation (http://id.loc.gov/ontologies/bibframe.html#c_Identifier) have a value of literal which is further discussed in the LC specification on Identifiers (http://www.loc.gov/bibframe/docs/pdf/bf2-identifiers-apr2016.pdf). In the linked data environment, where possible, these identifiers should be represented as URIs rather than literal strings. (BIBCO)

  - **ISSNs:** Currently, the ISSN is treated as a manifestation identifier, and is represented in BIBFRAME coding by using a blank node and the ISSN as a literal. When ISSN become available as linked open data (as indicated in the current ISSN strategic plan), we recommend linking to the ISSN URIs rather than representing them as literals. (CONSER)

  - **Publication, Production, Distribution, and Manufacture:** We recommend that the PCC adopt a best practice of providing actionable links as well as transcribed data for the Publication, Production, Distribution, and Manufacture elements whenever possible. (CONSER)

- **RDA Registry**:

  - **Role terms**: Recommend that BIBFRAME use "role terms from the RDA Registry to avoid creating blank nodes" for Creator; Other Person, Family, or Corporate Body Associated with a Work; and Contributor. (CONSER and BIBCO)

  - **Content, media, and carrier types:** We recommend a PCC best practice of using the value vocabularies for content, media, and carrier type from the RDA Registry. (CONSER)

  - **Frequency:** As with the vocabularies for Content, Media, and Carrier type, we recommend a PCC best practice of using the value vocabulary from the RDA Registry for the Frequency element whenever possible. (CONSER)

- **Recording changed carriers:** In a linked data environment, we recommend recording changed carriers only in a separate extent property associated with a date, as demonstrated in Option 2 of the sample code document for Extent and Dimensions. (CONSER)

- **Specific BF property over general bf:note property**: "Where it is possible to do so, PCC should adopt a best practice to use a specific BIBFRAME property rather than the more general bf:note property" and where a specific property does not exist, "recommend using the RDA registry vocabulary of specific note types." (CONSER and BIBCO)

- **"has form of work":** We recommend using the RDA property rdaw:P10004 'has form of work' instead of the broader bf:genreform. (CONSER)

- **Place of origin for a work**: Given that places associated with the work are normally recorded in more detail elsewhere, and that determining a true place of origin for a work is neither straightforward nor particularly meaningful for serials that have changed their place of publication, we do not recommend recording this element routinely for all serials. (CONSER)

- **ISSN-L**: Since the BIBFRAME work encompasses FRBR expressions and since instances are identified by ISSN, we suggest that ISSN-L be associated with BIBFRAME works. (CONSER)

Reports to: PCC Policy Committee.

Timeline:
Initial progress report to the Policy Committee by October 15, 2018. Final report by April 15, 2019.

Group members:

Jennifer Baxmeyer (Princeton University) (Co-chair)

Chiat Naun Chew (Harvard University) (Co-chair)

Bryan Baldus (OCLC)

Christine DeZelar-Tiedman (University of Minnesota)

Nancy Fallgren (National Library of Medicine)

MJ Han (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign)

Stephen Hearn (University of Minnesota)

Nancy Lorimer (Stanford University)

Honor Moody (Harvard University)

Terry Reese (Ohio State University)

Adam Schiff (University of Washington)

Jackie Shieh (George Washington University)

Jodi Williamschen (LC)