PCC Relationship Labels

Overview

On December 23, 2019 the LC-PCC Task Group on Element Labels in beta RDA Toolkit issued its final report with recommendations, which were accepted by the PCC Policy Committee. One of the main goals was to enable the use of "user friendly" relationship labels in cataloging practice under Official RDA.

This series of metadata guidance documents (MGDs) embodies Final Report recommendation 2: "Use element labels from a new vocabulary that the PCC community will create and maintain as a part of the application profile and policy statements." It is intended to be used with metadata guidance documentation related to recording relationships. PoCo has decided to use "deverbalized unconstrained elements" as in the RDA registry but it still isn't clear exactly what those forms are since the registry gives verbalized forms. This document gives the forms. The Final Report only gives guidance and in some cases ambiguous results can arise. For this reason this document includes a PCC-approved relationship label to use with every currently available relationship element.

This series of MGDs is only concerned with relationship labels, but gives additional information about definitions and inverses as an aid to understanding the relationships. It is not concerned with implementation issues (e.g. whether in a given instance use of relationship labels is required, strongly encouraged, or discouraged; whether relationship labels from outside RDA may be used; what capitalization and punctuation conventions to follow), which will be found in other metadata guidance documentation.

Principles of Decision on Relationship Labels

Principles of decision on individual labels include:

1. The relationship label must be user friendly, i.e. clear and understandable to general users of the database, not just catalogers.
2. If the name of the RDA relationship element is user friendly and in accord with other principles listed here, use it.
3. If a label is in current use and is in accord with other principles listed here, use it. PoCo has encouraged elsewhere the continuation of current practice as much as possible under Official RDA. (This is also TG recommendation 2e.)
4. Use "highest level" elements both for agents and WEMI entities unless this results in a label that is not user friendly.
   a. PoCo has agreed to label agent relationships at the highest level (e.g. *author* not *author person*).
   b. This document extends that principle to WEMI entities, e.g.
      composer of not *composer person of work of*;
      adapted as motion picture screenplay not *adapted as motion picture*

> *screenplay work*;
> *appendix*, not *appendix work*;
> *part*, not *part work*.

     i.   This is in the spirit of Final Report recommendation 1: "Do not use the element labels for MARC encoding that is a one-to-one match or other close equivalent in both the bibliographic and authority formats."

     ii.   In MARC encoding for authority records there is a one-to-one match between the domain (e.g. a 110 field represents a corporate body) and the range (e.g. a 500 with first indicator "1" represents a person; more complex situations such as forms for works and expressions are also clear from coding) so it is not necessary for the relationship label to bear the burden of identifying the type of entity at either end of the relationship. The MARC fields "adequately convey" the entity types involved.

     iii.   In bibliographic records the domain and range in many cases will be ambiguous no matter what the relationship label is. Indeed the exact instance of an entity that is the domain for a relationship is often quite ambiguous. For example, a record describing a manifestation with two expressions each with different translators--the inclusion of a relationship label "translator" with a 700 field describes a relationship, but to which expression? The relationship label, no matter how specific, cannot identify the domain in this case. Naming a WEMI entity in the label will not solve this problem.

     iv.   Avoiding naming the WEMI entity in the relationship label is also in accord with the principle of user friendliness. Many of the full element names containing WEMI entity names are quite unfriendly, e.g. "part work".

  c. Subparagraphs "a" and "b" mean that some different relationship elements will use the same label; e.g.

> *author person* and *author corporate body* both use *author*.
> *abridged as work* and *abridged as expression* both use *abridged as*.
> *creator person of work*, *creator person of expression*, *creator corporate body of work*, *creator corporate body of expression*, *creator family of work, creator family of expression* all use *creator*.

  d. This applies when the WEMI term comes at the beginning or middle of the element name: *commentary in*, not *expression commentary in*

  e. User friendliness combined with dropping the agent name occasionally requires modification of the remaining word:

> *sponsoring person of work* uses *sponsor*
> but *issuing person* remains *issuing person* (no suitable English word to replace the participle)

5. Avoid parenthetical qualifiers (e.g. original RDA's *digest of (work)* => *digest of work* => *digest of*)

6. In most cases use "body" rather than "corporate body". This is a more user-friendly term for non-librarian users.

Judgment Call in Contradictory Cases

As usual with the application of principles, applying one may contradict another. In these cases a judgment was made as to what is the most "user friendly" (the fundamental cataloging principle of "convenience of the user")

> *User-friendly prepositions*
> In a few cases the preposition with the relationship element for specific performer types and other elements seemed wrong for a user-friendly label in normal English syntax:
>
> > **actor in** not **actor of**
> > > Actor in: Star wars (Motion picture) [plus additional expression elements]
> >
> > **dancer in** not **dancer of**
> > > Dancer in: Baryshnikov, Mikhail, 1948- Nutcracker [plus additional expression elements]
> >
> > **instrumentalist in** not **instrumentalist of**
> > > Instrumentalist in: Mahler, Gustav, 1860-1911. Symphonies, no. 1, D major [plus additional expression elements]
> >
> > **onscreen participant in** not **onscreen participant of**
> > **panelist in** not **panelist of**
> > **puppeteer in** not **puppeteer of**
> > > Puppeteer in: Muppet Christmas carol (Motion picture) [plus additional expression elements]
> >
> > **speaker in** not **speaker of**
> > **voice actor in** not **voice actor of**
> > > Voice actor in: Muppet Christmas carol (Motion picture) [plus additional expression elements]
> >
> > **performer of** seems fine
> > > e.g.
> > > Performer of: Rodgers, Richard, 1902-1979. Sound of music. Climb ev'ry mountain
> > > Performer of: Bach, Johann Sebastian, 1685-1750. Matthäuspassion
> > > Comment: Performer *in* doesn't work for the Climb ev'ry mountain example; *in* or *of* work equally well for Matthäuspassion. Are there cases like this for actor, dancer, instrumentalist, puppeteer or voice actor where "in" doesn't work very well?
> >
> > Similarly, **singer of** should retain "of"
> > The **conductor of** labels also seem fine

Relationship Labels in WEMI, Person, Corporate Body, Family, Place

This MGD comprises relationship elements pertinent to *Work, Expression, Manifestation, Item, Person, Corporate body, Family*, and *Place*. Since the formal entities RDA entity, Agent, Collective agent, Nomen, and Timespan are not yet used in PCC bibliographic in access

fields, nor are PCC authority records yet created for them, working out the relationship labels for those entities, and relationships to them, have been left to a later date.

Labels are referred to as "relationship labels" in this document. "Element labels" is too broad, comprising labels for attribute, appellation, and external relationship elements as well as relationship elements.

The available relationships in Official RDA, with RDA definitions, PCC relationship labels, and inverses, are:

Relationship elements used in WORK NARs and bibliographic records

Work to Work

Work to Expression

Work to Manifestation

> Note: links from works to manifestations are not currently possible because authorized access points for manifestations are not made in PCC practice

Work to Item

> Note: links from works to items are not currently possible because authorized access points for items are not made in PCC practice

Work to Person

Work to Family

Work to Corporate body

Work to Place

Relationship elements used in EXPRESSION NARs and Bibliographic records

Expression to Work

Expression to Expression

Expression to Manifestation
>   Note: links from expressions to manifestations are not currently possible because authorized access points for manifestations are not made in PCC practice

Expression to Item
>   Note: links from expressions to items are not currently possible because authorized access points for items are not made in PCC practice

[Expression to Person](#)

[Expression to Family](#)

[Expression to Corporate body](#)

[Expression to Place](#)

Relationship elements used with MANIFESTATION (bibliographic records only)

Authority records: Currently Manifestation to Entity relationships are not recorded in NACO practice. Links from manifestations to entities (and vice versa) are not currently possible in NARs because authorized access points for manifestations are not yet made in PCC practice.

Bibliographic records: Manifestation to Agent relationships are currently recorded in PCC bibliographic records; inverse Agent to Manifestation relationships are not recorded.

Bibliographic records: Manifestation to WEMI relationships are currently recorded in PCC bibliographic records in linking fields; inverse WEMI to Manifestation relationships are not recorded. [MGDs for linking field relationship labels NOT DONE this round].

[Manifestation to Person](#)

[Manifestation to Family](#)

[Manifestation to Corporate body](#)

Relationship elements used with ITEM (bibliographic records only)

Authority records: Currently Item to Entity relationships are not recorded in NACO practice. Links from items to entities (and vice versa) are not currently possible in NARs because authorized access points for items are not yet made in PCC practice.

Bibliographic records: Item to Agent relationships are currently recorded in PCC bibliographic records; inverse Agent to Item relationships are not recorded.

Bibliographic records: Item to WEMI relationships are currently recorded in PCC bibliographic records in linking fields; inverse WEMI to Item relationships are not recorded. [MGDs for linking field relationship labels NOT DONE this round].

[Item to Person](#)

[Item to Family](#)

[Item to Corporate body](#)

Relationship elements used in PERSON NARs

[Person to Work](#)

[Person to Expression](#)

[Person to Manifestation](#)

> Note: currently Person to Manifestation relationships are not recorded in PCC practice. Links from persons to manifestations in NARs are not currently possible because authorized access points for manifestations are not made in PCC practice. Note: Manifestation to Person relationships are currently recorded in PCC bibliographic records, but not authority records. *See* [Manifestation to Person](#).

[Person to Item](#)

> Note: currently Person to Item relationships are not recorded in PCC practice. Links from persons to items in NARs are not currently possible because authorized access points for items are not made in PCC practice. Note: Item to Person relationships are currently recorded in PCC bibliographic records, but not authority records. *See* [Item to Person](#).

[Person to Person](#)

[Person to Family](#)

[Person to Corporate body](#)

[Person to Place](#)

Relationship elements used in CORPORATE BODY NARs

Corporate body to Work

Corporate body to Expression

Corporate Body to Manifestation

> Note: currently Corporate body to Manifestation relationships are not recorded in PCC practice. Links from corporate bodies to manifestations in NARs are not currently possible because authorized access points for manifestations are not made in PCC practice. Note: Manifestation to Corporate body relationships are currently recorded in PCC bibliographic records, but not authority records. *See* Manifestation to Corporate body.

Corporate body to Item

> Note: currently Corporate body to Item relationships are not recorded in PCC practice. Links from corporate bodies to items in NARs are not currently possible because authorized access points for items are not made in PCC practice. Note: Item to Corporate body relationships are currently recorded in PCC bibliographic records, but not authority records. *See* Item to Corporate body.

Corporate body to Person

Corporate body to Family

Corporate body to Corporate body

Corporate body to Place

Relationship elements used in FAMILY NARs

Family to Work

Family to Expression

Family to Manifestation

> Note: currently Family to Manifestation relationships are not recorded in PCC practice. Links from families to manifestations in NARs are not currently possible because authorized access points for manifestations are not made in PCC practice. Note: Manifestation to Family relationships are currently recorded in PCC bibliographic records, but not authority records. *See* Manifestation to Family.

Family to Item

> Note: currently Family to Item relationships are not recorded in PCC practice. Links from families to items in NARs are not currently possible because authorized access points for items are not made in PCC practice. Note: Item to Family relationships are currently recorded in PCC bibliographic records, but not authority records. *See* Item to Family.

Family to Person

Family to Family

Family to Corporate body

Family to Place

Relationship elements used in PLACE NARs

[Place to Work](#)

[Place to Expression](#)

[Place to Manifestation](#)

Note: currently Place to Manifestation relationships are not recorded in PCC practice. Links from places to manifestations in NARs are not currently possible because authorized access points for manifestations are not made in PCC practice. Place to Manifestation relationships are also not recorded in PCC bibliographic records.

[Place to Item](#)

Note: currently Place to Item relationships are not recorded in PCC practice. Links from places to items in NARs are not currently possible because authorized access points for items are not made in PCC practice. Place to Item relationships are also not recorded in PCC bibliographic records.

[Place to Person](#)

[Place to Family](#)

[Place to Corporate body](#)

[Place to Place](#)

Update History

Date	Action
2022-01-31	Initial release