FRBR: Coming Soon to YOUR Library?

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Back to the Future
ALCTS Preconference,
ALA Annual Meeting, Orlando
June 25, 2004

FRBR: It’s Coming!

How do we know when it gets here?

... and what should we be doing in the meantime?
Dealing with “FRBR Phobia”

- What will we need to know?
- What questions should we ask?
- How can we explain FRBR to others?

Topics for Today: FRBR and...

- FRBR and Cataloging: AACR
- FRBR and Systems Vendors
- FRBR and New Possibilities

...Joint Steering Committee Format Variation Working Group
FRBR and Cataloging: Incorporating FRBR into AACR

- Joint Steering Committee for the Revision of AACR
  - FRBR terminology: work, expression, manifestation, item.
- Incorporating the entity expression into AACR:
  Format Variation Working Group

JSC Format Variation Working Group (FVWG)

- International: US, UK, Canada, Australia
- Charge: Focus on AACR and the FRBR Group 1 entity expression
- Liaison to system vendors implementing FRBR
- [http://www.collectionscanada.ca/jsc/current.html#ForVarWG](http://www.collectionscanada.ca/jsc/current.html#ForVarWG)
FVWG Experiment: Can We Catalog an Expression?

Is it feasible to change the basis for a catalog record from a manifestation to an expression?

FVWG: Can We Catalog an Expression?

- Most group members: NO!
  - Not the way most libraries operate
  - We start by purchasing, and then cataloging, a manifestation.
- Sound archivist: YES!
  - The performance is the expression
  - Link all recordings of that performance to it
Cataloging Expressions: Why Didn’t it Work?

- Not enough info. at the time of cataloging
  - title of the expression?
  - date of the expression?
- If only one manifestation of an expression in the catalog, cataloger may not know:
  - if other manifestations exist, and if so...
  - how the first one relates to others
- May needlessly complicate the cataloging process

Cataloging an Expression?

FVWG recommendation:

- Libraries should keep cataloging manifestations (mostly)
- Expression-level access can be achieved through collocation of search results
Expressions: From Cataloging to Collocation

- System-created collocation
  Explore what systems can do with expression-level data already in MARC records (e.g. VTLS, OCLC, RLG)

- Cataloger-created collocation
  Propose new rules for AACR for constructing headings for expressions (Chapter 25)

Rules for Creating Headings for Expressions in AACR: Why?

- Show relationships between records
- Move toward rules for how a catalog should function
- Demonstrates that collocation at the expression level is an important function of the catalog
- Force an online system to collocate expressions if system won’t do it any other way
Specific Uses of Headings for Expressions

- Useful for small, but important, subsets of library materials
  - Large collections in a specific area
  - Local research interest
  - Many expressions of the same work
  - Many manifestations of the same expression
- More specific related-work headings (related expression headings)

Headings for Expressions (FVWG Proposals)

- Replace ambiguous term *uniform title* with another term?
  - *constructed title*
- Add elements to the end of a work heading (uniform title) to identify and differentiate expressions
Possible Additions to Headings for Expressions

- Language
- Edition statement
- Mode of expression (e.g. Sound)
- Date of expression: date of performance, translation, etc.
- Name of editor, translator, performer (show relationship to Group 2 entity)

Possible Headings for Expressions

- Homer. Iliad. English (Pope)
- Berlioz, Hector, 1803-1869. Symphonie fantastique. Sound (Solti)

...Order of elements, punctuation still being discussed!
Problems with Headings for Expressions

- How to make the rules clear and easy to use?
  - What elements to add? In what order? What punctuation?
- Predetermined strings are limiting
  - Every possible solution eliminates all of the others
  - Different users have different needs

Preparing for FRBR within AACR

- Become comfortable with terminology for the Group 1 entities
  - work
  - expression
  - manifestation
  - item
- Focus on what’s most new and challenging: expression
FRBR Within AACR: Questions to Consider

- What is a work?/What is an expression?
  - What’s theoretically rigorous?
  - What will help users?
- Where might headings for expressions be useful in my library?
- Is my system vendor thinking about this?

Format Variation Working Group and System Vendors

- FRBR liaisons – 10 vendors
- FRBR Implementer’s Group
  - Meetings facilitated by OCLC
  - Varying levels of commitment, expertise regarding FRBR
- WG members provided feedback to
  - VTLS – Virtua, LC Music Catalog
  - OCLC – “FISH” prototype, WorldCat via FirstSearch redesign (ongoing)
- MARBI Discussion Paper (2002-DP08)
FRBR and Systems Vendors

What is YOUR system vendor doing related to FRBR?

FRBR Interface Questions for Your System Vendor

- What does the FRBR user interface look like?
- Will users see a FRBR-like structure?
- How do users navigate search results?
- Is vendor doing usability testing on a FRBR user interface?
More Questions for Your System Vendor

- What record structure do you use: “FRBR-Like” (e.g. VTLS) or MARC?
- Can MARC records be extracted?
- How will FRBR affect cataloging interface?
- How are links made and maintained between records?

What if Your System Vendor Isn’t Implementing FRBR?

- Lobby them! Get other institutions interested!
- Make a list of problems that FRBR would help solve
- Restate old problems in terms of FRBR
- Look for other ways to incorporate FRBR or parts of it at your library
FRBR at the University of Rochester

or, Why Wait for Your System Vendor to Implement FRBR?

University of Rochester Web Projects

- User-centered web design
- Alternatives to cumbersome online catalog searches
- Use data already in our MARC records to create websites designed to meet specific UR users’ needs
Buried Treasure in our MARC Records

- Relator Information ($e and $4)
- Shows relationships between Group 1 and Group 2 entities in a predictable place in the record
- May refer to manifestation being cataloged, or to work or expression represented in it

Example 1
UR Video/DVD Collection

- Circulating collection: for research AND casual viewing
- “What directors do you have represented in your collection?”
- Use relator info., etc. in MARC records to create browse lists
- [http://www.library.rochester.edu/index.cfm?page=videos](http://www.library.rochester.edu/index.cfm?page=videos)
Example 2
UR Audio Recordings

- Relator Information
  - Users choose *performers or composers*
  - Problematic: $4 cmp not used for composers so...
  - Absence of $4 = composers
  - Some false drops, more data cleanup.

- [http://www.library.rochester.edu/index.cfm?PAGE=1333](http://www.library.rochester.edu/index.cfm?PAGE=1333)
Other Useful FRBR Data

- Browse by Primary Language (videos and DVDs)
  - expression-level attribute
- Browse by Genre
  - work-level attribute
  - videos and DVDs: mostly LC genre list
  - audio CDs: local list ("record store categories": Jazz, Classical, etc.)
The Real Truth

- UR website project designers didn’t know about FRBR!
- Project concept based on user needs
- Demonstrates viability of FRBR model regarding user tasks/needs

Talking About FRBR To Our Colleagues at Home

- Look for existing situations, and relate them to FRBR
- Restate user problems in terms of FRBR
- Use visual examples to explain FRBR when appropriate
A Visual FRBR Example

Results Display of a Keyword Search for Susan B. Anthony
Susan B. Anthony Keyword Search – Top Relevance Hits

1. Biography
2. Biography
3. Biography
4. Susan B. Anthony Preservation District
5. Her Writings
6. Biography
7. Biography
8. Biography
9. Correspondence
10. Virgil Thomson opera recording
11. Biography
12. Proceedings of her Trial
13. Virgil Thomson opera recording
14. Music from the Ken Burns film
15. The Ken Burns film
16. Biography
17. Biography
18. Analysis of her writings
19. Women’s Studies Newsletter
20. Her papers
21. Biography

University of Rochester Libraries
VOYAGER CATALOG

You Searched: Susan B. Anthony

Results:
- Resources by Susan B. Anthony
- Resources about Susan B. Anthony
FRBR: May Already be at Your Library!

- Catalogs already contain some elements of FRBR
- There’s more to FRBR than entities and attributes: emphasis on the user
  - User tasks: find, identify, select, obtain
  - What are our users trying to achieve?
- User-centered design
Is FRBR Really Coming?

It’s already here!