

To: Joint Steering Committee for Development of RDA
From: Kathy Glennan, ALA Representative to the JSC
Subject: Attributes of manifestations: Instructions for more than one instance of an element

ALA thanks DNB for this proposal to clarify the instructions for manifestations that have more than one instance of an element. We have a mixed reaction to the proposal: while we generally support the proposal, some share the concerns ACOC has raised in their response. If the JSC approves this proposal, we support the modification of the example in 2.8.2.4 suggested in the LC response.

Beyond Core: Record Some or All Occurrences?

ALA concurs with DNB's observation that the current wording of these instructions can lead to differing interpretations about whether or not RDA requires an "all-or-nothing" approach to recording additional instances of a given element. Thus we agree that these instructions need to be clarified. We believe that RDA's intention is to allow for selective recording of additional instances. Indeed, the JSC recently approved the addition of an example for the optional omission at 2.4.1.5, which shows the recording of the first and fourth names in a statement of responsibility without specifically indicating that the second and third names have been omitted.

Modifying 0.6.1

In lieu of modifying 0.6.1, ALA recommends that RDA be evaluated to find and correct other situations like the one ACOC identified in 2.5.2, where the Designation of Edition is core, but instructions indicate that recording more than one designation is optional. It is our belief that the core element designation was intended only for the first instance in all of these situations. If that is the case, we see no need to add a conditional clause to the 4th paragraph of 0.6.1.

Similar Instructions Affected

If this proposal is accepted, ALA recommends making similar changes to 2.12.7.3 (Recording Parallel Statements of Responsibility Relating to Series) and to 2.12.15.3 (Recording Parallel Statements of Responsibility Relating to Subseries).