

**Program for Cooperative Cataloging  
Standing Committee on Training  
Pilot Group on CONSER Policies  
Preliminary Assessment of Deliverables  
April 14, 2023**

Some of the issues discussed and recommendations that the Pilot Group expects to make are listed below beneath the appropriate tasks quoted from our charge. We invite SCS and PoCo's feedback on these issues and recommendations.

**1. Determine when/how to apply the WEM lock to serials (including monographic series) especially with regard to translations and different formats, in MARC and BIBFRAME**

The Pilot Group expects to recommend that the WEM lock should, in general, be applied to serials (including monographic series), but in a way that will produce results similar to current cataloging for versions in different formats (see 2. below).

The Pilot Group expects to recommend that the WEM lock should be applied to translations and language editions of serials in a way that will change the cataloging results. Each version will be treated as a separate work, with a unique AAP based on its preferred title. This will be a change from our current FRBR-based practice of using the AAP of the original language edition as the basis for the AAP of the translation.

In the context of serials cataloging, the Pilot Group expects to recommend that we continue our current practice of creating provider-neutral descriptions for electronic resources, Print on Demand (POD) reproductions and photocopies.

In the context of serials cataloging, the Pilot Group expects to recommend that we continue our current practice of cataloging microform reproductions of print resources by recording descriptive elements for the print version and giving details of the microform reproduction in a note.

The Pilot Group expects to recommend that we continue to allow the CONSER single record option (*CONSER Cataloging Manual* 31.2.3).

We note that we will need to develop guidance for appropriate recording of the ISSN-L in the context of Official RDA.

**2. Determine whether serial authorized access points must be unique in bibliographic descriptions in MARC and BIBFRAME, and in the LC/NACO Authority File (NAF)**

The Pilot Group considered and will not recommend using unique serial authorized access points for each separate serial work under the WEM lock in Official RDA; for example, we will not recommend returning to our earlier practice of using different, unique AAPs for the print and online versions of a serial.

The Pilot Group considered and will not at this point recommend using a unique value of **Work: *appellation of work group*** to group versions of a serial (for example print and online, or even larger groups across editions and title changes). In the longer run, this could be a more satisfactory way of modeling serial relationships than our current 1-to-1 linking fields and the AAP practice proposed immediately below. But at the moment there are no corresponding MARC 21 or BIBFRAME elements available, so this option might be better explored and developed after the adoption of Official RDA.

The Pilot Group expects to recommend using an identical AAP but unique IRIs for all serial works (under Official RDA), other than translations, that have up to now been treated as expressions of a single work (under Original RDA). We believe this will satisfy the requirements of Official RDA. In our current environment, creation of a separate CONSER record will constitute assigning a unique IRI to that serial work. Initial conversion of our data to BIBFRAME will result in the creation of an actual IRI for each work, which could then be preserved using appropriate new coding to ensure successful future conversion between MARC and BIBFRAME as needed. The identical AAPs for these works would allow us to continue indexing them in our catalogs with the same sort of grouping that has up to now been found satisfactory and appropriate for users' needs.

Treating print and online versions of the same serial as separate works with identical AAPs will mean that our current SARs would now represent two different actual or potential works. The [LC-PCC Metadata Guidance Document for Vocabulary Encoding Schemes \(VESs\)](#) indicates that SARs will continue to be created and maintained in MARC. The Pilot Group will need to learn more about how controlled series access is represented in BIBFRAME before it will be able to recommend any change in practice for SARs.

**3. Identify and write policy and practice documentation to be updated (LC-PCC Policy Statements, Metadata Guidance Documentation, Descriptive Cataloging Manual Z1, CONSER Cataloging Manual, Provider-Neutral Guidelines, etc.), and make recommendations on consolidating documentation into the LC-PCC PSs or the MGDs where possible, to reduce the multiple sources of serials documentation.**

The Pilot Group is ready to begin this work, but would like SCS to review our expected recommendations above (1. and 2.) before we start.

**4. Collaborate with other PCC committees and task groups to review and confirm mapping specifications between BIBFRAME and MARC for serials, and to identify areas where further development or best practices are required; collaborate with the OCLC CONSER group for tasks such as reviewing test data, etc.**

The Pilot Group has identified the groups below (both within and outside PCC) as stakeholders in the description of serial resources in BIBFRAME and MARC in the new context of Official RDA. We will continue to develop this list and look forward to collaborating with them.

In particular, groups that have already implemented description of serials in BIBFRAME will need to be made aware of the implications of PCC's decisions regarding the WEM lock.

**Continuing Resource BIBFRAME cataloging in practice:**

- Share-VDE: Anna Lionetti, [anna.lionetti@casalini.it](mailto:anna.lionetti@casalini.it) or Tiziana Possemato, [tiziana.possemato@atcult.it](mailto:tiziana.possemato@atcult.it)
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- PCC Working Group on Metadata Application Profiles (Sinopia): Nancy Lorimer, [nlorimer@stanford.edu](mailto:nlorimer@stanford.edu) or TJ Kao, [tjkao@ucdavis.edu](mailto:tjkao@ucdavis.edu)

**BIBFRAME/MARC conversion and data interoperability:**

- BIBFRAME Interoperability Group: Ian Bigelow, [ian.bigelow@ualberta.ca](mailto:ian.bigelow@ualberta.ca)
- PCC Task Group on BIBFRAME-to-MARC Conversion: Liz Miraglia, [emiraglia@ucsd.edu](mailto:emiraglia@ucsd.edu)
- PCC Linked Data Advisory Committee: Paloma Graciani Picardo, [paloma.graciani@austin.utexas.edu](mailto:paloma.graciani@austin.utexas.edu)
- Network Development and MARC Standards Office (NDMSO): Sally McCallum, [smcc@loc.gov](mailto:smcc@loc.gov)
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