



UNIMARC STRATEGIC PROGRAMME

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES 2016

UNIMARC Maintenance

The 26th Permanent UNIMARC Committee Meeting took place on April 4-6 2016 at the National Library of Portugal. Seven members of the PUC attended, plus the Director of the Programme, representing 7 countries (Croatia, France, Italy, Portugal, Slovenia, Russia and USA). The Meeting was chaired by Maria Inês Cordeiro as interim Chair of the PUC. Mr. Gordon Dunsire, Independent Consultant, Scotland, and RSC Chair, attended part of the meeting.

Most of the work was concentrated on 10 proposals discussed, 7 being approved, in UNIMARC/B coded data fields mostly. The topic of the *Guidelines for Archives* (UNIMARC Guidelines No. 10), already published, was approached to highlight the need for more diversified examples. It was decided to consolidate and publish on the PUC website all the UNIMARC updates approved in the period 2012-2016.

UNIMARC in RDF Project

Another subject treated was the UNIMARC in RDF Project, in progress. Gordon Dunsire presented the issues of dealing with coded data, underlining the need for improving the value vocabularies of the format, in order to overcome inconsistencies and to get better alignment with other standards' vocabularies in specific areas such as music where agreement among different agencies - PUC, IAML, LC, the Music Library Association (MLA) and RDA – would be desirable.

Leadership of the Strategic Programme and the PUC

This topic was again discussed but the subject remains with no concrete solutions so far. For the time being, but provisionally, Maria Inês Cordeiro, with assistance from Rosa Galvão, will continue as Programme Chair and interim PUC Chair. Members of the PUC were informed about and discussed the exchanges of information with the Committee of Standards regarding the "Review of the Management and Representation of IFLA Permanent Standards Review Groups (FRBR, ISBD, and the UNIMARC Core Activity)".

Seminar "Unleashing UNIMARC to the Semantic Web: UNIMARC in RDF"

On the afternoon of April 6, Mr. Dunsire and Ms. Willer presented this seminar to an open audience of around fifty attendees. This was an opportunity to provide Portuguese professionals with an introduction to the topic of bibliographic data and the semantic web, as well as to disseminate information about the project of expressing UNIMARC in RDF being developed and published in the Open Metadata Registry (OMR).



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UNIMARC at IFLA 2016

At IFLA 2016, there was no UNIMARC open session. The PUC held its usual informal meeting during the Conference, that took place on the 17th of August, with five members present plus two observers and the RSC Chair, Gordon Dunsire.

Subjects discussed were in continuation of the April PUC meeting, especially the topics of music vocabularies, leadership of the PUC, CoS developments and governance of standards' groups. The idea of establishing a protocol between PUC and RSC was put forward to strengthen cooperation, in the same line already established between RSC and the Library of Congress Network Development and MARC Standards Office (NDMSO).

RSC meeting in Frankfurt 7-11 November 2016

UNIMARC was invited to attend this RSC meeting and Maria Inês Cordeiro was present from 8-10, as an observer, together with representatives of other standards - IFLA FRBR, PRESSoo and ISBD Review Groups, FRBR Consolidation Editorial Group (attending virtually) and the ISSN International Centre.

There was a session specific for the exchange of information among the groups represented. The common need to address implications of the IFLA LRM was emphasised and the advantage of establishing a protocol between the PUC and RSC was reaffirmed. Ideally this should be materialised by the end of 2016 or beginning of 2017.

UNIMARC future meetings

The 27th meeting of the PUC is not yet scheduled but should take place in March/April 2017. The venue may Lisbon or elsewhere, depending on changes that may occur in the leadership of the PUC.

Maria Inês Cordeiro

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