Moving to Linked Data: Cataloguing Outside the (MARC) Box

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INTRODUCTION

Linked data for libraries has been getting a lot of attention lately. With the development of the LOD cloud, more libraries are looking to make their data available through linked data. The Resource Description Framework (RDF) and the Linked Data platform ( triple pattern matching) are used to represent and publish data on the web. The LOD cloud is a network of linked data that allows for the interoperability of data across different sources.

Linked Data for libraries offers several benefits, including improved data sharing, enhanced data discovery, and increased visibility of library collections. However, the transition from MARC to linked data requires significant changes to library systems and processes.

THE TRANSITION

The transition to linked data involves several key steps:

1. **Metadata Transformation**: Converting existing MARC records into linked data formats, such as RDF.
2. **Data Integration**: Integrating linked data with other data sets to create a more comprehensive and interconnected data network.
3. **User Interface**: Developing user interfaces that can leverage linked data to provide more detailed and accurate search results.

WHAT CAN WE DO NOW: A NEW APPROACH TO WORKFLOW

With the development of the OCLS Cataloguing Workflow, libraries are better equipped to handle the transition to linked data. The workflow uses a FRBR WEMI (Work, Expression, Manifestation, Item) structure to outline the process of resource description, while emphasizing RDA's underlying FRBR model.

The workflow is divided into several steps:

**Step 1: Content First**

- Identify and describe the content first, rather than focusing on bibliographic records.
- Use identifiers whenever possible.
- Emphasize the use of authorized access points.

**Step 2: WEMI**

- Describe the work first, followed by the expression, manifestation, and item.
- Use FRBR Group 1 elements (WEMI) to outline the description process.
- Build upon existing RDA content standards.

**Step 3: AAR, Identifiers, and Relationships**

- Use identifiers to enhance the visibility of library data.
- Build relationships among data sets.
- Prepare for upcoming metadata needs.

REFERENCES