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Resource Description and Access (RDA) Cataloging Policy For the University of Rhode Island

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Resource Description and Access (RDA) Cataloging Policy For the University of Rhode Island

1. Introduction

The Library of Congress, in association with other national and international libraries, have agreed to implement new cataloging rules that will replace the Anglo-American Cataloging Rules, 2nd edition (AACR2) in April of 2013. As a result, the University of Rhode Island will also change its cataloging rules to reflect these major changes and remain current with proper national policies and procedures.

2. System and Consortium Impacts

The University of Rhode Island Libraries currently uses Innovative Interfaces, Inc.'s Sierra ILS system, which appears to conform to many aspects of RDA. We will continue to work with Innovative to ensure that our ILS garners the most out of our RDA records. OCLC currently accepts RDA records and provides links to the RDA toolkit and templates.

The University of Rhode Island, as a member of the Higher Education Library Information Network (HELIN) Consortium, will follow the rules and procedures deemed appropriate for a shared catalog. The HELIN Catalog Affinity Group has adopted the majority of RDA rules and will continue to update and make changes when necessary.

3. Current Implementation

The implementation of RDA will take affect when it becomes the standard rule for cataloging, April 2013.

Copy catalogers will continue to accept AACR2 records that are quality Library of Congress records (DLC) and conform to AACR2 rules. No retrospective cataloging will be done to change records to the new standard.

Records that need to be altered and original cataloging will conform to RDA standards, as outlined in the RDA Training procedures.

4. Resources

Catalogers will have access to the online RDA manual, called the RDA Toolkit. Online training resources are also available through the Library of Congress website. The University will also consider purchase of paper handbooks, manuals and training materials upon request.

In house training will continue in order to keep catalogers abreast of the newest changes and standards that take affect. Any catalogers that wish to attend workshops and conferences that deal with RDA training and implementation are encouraged to do so.

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