

Linked Data Advisory Committee Charge

Revised April-May 2020, finalized February 2021

Charge:

Action 2.1 of [PCC Strategic Directions, 2015-2017](#) called for the establishment of a “new advisory committee with representatives from within and outside the library community to guide how the linked data movement will impact PCC standards and policies, and to target areas where the PCC is ideally situated to make specific contributions to this evolution.” The Linked Data Advisory Committee was subsequently formed in April 2016.

Progressing from the previous strategic plan, [PCC Strategic Directions January 2018-December 2021](#) acknowledges that “it is time to move beyond knowledge and skills related to linked data at a theoretical level and into implementation. Building on the PCC’s strong tradition of providing training for metadata creators, active experimentation and piloting of linked data practices will help inform policy decisions, training, and operationalizing such practices.” In order to support practical implementations of linked data within PCC libraries, LDAC will focus on remaining questions that have inhibited the use of linked data in production environments.

Reporting to the PCC Policy Committee, the PCC Linked Data Advisory Committee is charged to:

1. Advise the PCC on specific issues and questions regarding the transition from creating traditional (i.e., MARC-based) bibliographic data to linked data, where the focus shifts to identifying things and asserting relationships between them to meet specific use cases. This will be accomplished through white papers, topical meetings with PCC chairs, committees, and task groups, and informal conversations as needed. Operational effectiveness with clear communication channels are critical for embedding LDAC into the various PCC operations. LDAC will serve as a central resource in support of PCC linked data efforts, and consultation with LDAC will be written into the charges for PCC task groups whenever appropriate. Standing committees and task groups participating in linked data initiatives should actively seek out LDAC involvement (rather than requiring LDAC to insert itself into existing discussions). The Committee will:
 - a. collaborate with PCC task groups to ensure that understanding of the issues is consistent and complementary (whether it be to assess tools or develop functional requirements or vocabularies, etc.) and recommend best practices for using Linked Data in cooperative cataloging;
 - b. respond to questions about linked data from PoCo;
 - c. comment on drafts of reports or work plans being developed by the PCC as they relate to linked data; and
 - d. advise the PCC Steering Committee on courses of action it can take in support of cooperative cataloging in a linked data environment.

2. Develop mechanisms to inform the larger PCC community about linked data issues and developments, identify potential partnerships with external communities, and leverage expertise within the extended linked data community to advise on library domain needs. The Committee will:
 - a. monitor the PCC discussion list and respond to questions related to linked data, as appropriate;
 - b. establish communication channels with experts in the wider linked data community to consult on outstanding questions and develop partnerships around specific challenges;
 - c. support the PCC Standing Committee on Training in hosting online discussions, meetings, and/or presentations with the PCC community, others from the library domain, and experts from the semantic web community around specific topics related to linked data in libraries.
 - d. investigate, with the [PCC Strategic Directions January 2018-December 2021](#) in mind, how the PCC should change to maintain its leadership role in the new environment.
3. Each year that it is in place, LDAC will submit a work plan to the PCC Policy Committee by April 15 and will provide an activities report by October 15. The Linked Data Advisory Committee will be considered ongoing until such time as linked data considerations are routinely handled by standing committees.

Work Plan:

Drawing on various communities, LDAC will work within the PCC to articulate the desired functions of library metadata and its curation in the twenty-first century, and how linked data may serve these functions (e.g., inventory, discovery, and providing context to library collections).

LDAC will work with the PCC Policy Committee to establish annual priorities and long-term goals for the committee, in alignment with the strategic directions of the PCC. Broadly speaking, LDAC's scope of work includes reviewing and advising on the work of the PCC in the following areas, among others:

1. Standards such as RDA, BIBFRAME, and others in a linked data context
2. Strategies to share, store, edit, create, and measure the impact and quality of our metadata in a linked data context
3. The development of linked data application profiles
4. The transition from legacy approaches to new paradigms (e.g., authority control versus identity management)
5. The technical infrastructure needed for linked data implementation

PCC Linked Data Advisory Committee Core Members:

Note: The wide range of questions both anticipated and unanticipated is such that the Linked Data Advisory Committee (LDAC) will consist of core members with an extensive pool of advisers that the committee chairs will convene for advice or to serve on subcommittees as needed. Membership will be one year with the option to renew.

Stakeholder/Role	Name
Co-Chair, Harvard	Christine Fernsebner Eslao
Co-Chair, Yale	Timothy Thompson
University of Alberta	Ian Bigelow
UCLA	Paromita Biswas
OCLC	John Chapman
NLM, PoCo Liaison	Nancy Fallgren
LC	[TBD]
Princeton, Steering Liaison	Jennifer Baxmeyer
NYU	Gabriel Mckee
Temple	Holly Tomren
Washington State	Lihong Zhu