BIBFRAME 2.0
Identifiers and Notes
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This is one of a set of draft specifications for BIBFRAME 2.0. It was developed by the Library of Congress in consultation with invited experts. Comments welcome.

BIBFRAME Identifiers

A BIBFRAME Resource may have several identifiers. An Instance may have, for example, an ISBN; a Work might have an ISTC. There are many of these types of identifiers for BIBFRAME resources: 'nbn', 'system number', 'doi', 'ismn', 'issn', 'istc' , 'lccn' and more.

Along with the identifier value itself, the identifier type must be conveyed. An ISBN may have value 1455502626, but knowing that an identifier has value 1455502626 is more useful if it is also known that the identifier is an ISBN.

1.0 Approach

In BIBFRAME 1.0, identifiers are supplied via property (or subproperty of) bf:identifier. The identifier type and string are conveyed as in this example:

```
bf:isbn    [      a                  bf:Identifier ;
                  bf:identifierValue    "1455502626"  ]  .
```

There are roughly 35 or so of these identifier properties corresponding to identifier types, or "schemes". All of the specific identifier properties are subproperties of bf:identifier.

These 35 or so identifier properties do not cover all possible identifier types. For an identifier type for which there is no property, **bf:identifier** is used, and the identifier scheme is indicated as shown in the following example, via property **bf:identifierScheme** (using hypothetical identifier scheme 'xyz').

```
bf:identifier  [  a                  bf:Identifier ;
                  bf:identifierScheme  "xyz" ;
                  bf:identifierValue    "1234567890"  ] .
```

Proposal for 2.0

1. Eliminate all specific identifier properties (bf:isbn, etc.).
2. Retain the general identifier property bf:identifier, but rename it bf:identifiedBy. Its range is (existing) class bf:Identifier.
3. Classes will be defined corresponding to identifier types; these will be defined outside of the BIBFRAME namespace, but will be subclasses of bf:Identifier. Thus for any given note, the class indicated will be either:
   a. a subclass of bf:Identifier, indicating the Identifier type; or
   b. bf:Identifier, if there is no such subclass.
4. Replace bf:identifierValue with rdf:value.
5. Replace bf:identifierScheme with bf:scheme.

The first example above could be rewritten as follows:

```
bf:identifiedBy  [ a          identifier:Isbn  ;
                   rdf:value   "1455502626"  ] .
```

The prefix "identifier:" is used to mean http://id.loc.gov/vocabulary/identifiers/ so identifier:Isbn means http://id.loc.gov/vocabulary/identifiers/Isbn.

The example is not intended to prescribe that identifier classes must always be identified by a term within http://id.loc.gov/vocabulary/identifiers/. Any appropriate identifier vocabulary may be used.

The second example above would be rewritten as follows:

```
bf:identifiedBy   [ a           bf:Identifier ;
                    bf:scheme   "xyz"  ;
                    rdf:value    "1234567890"  ] .
```

BIBFRAME Notes

BIBFRAME note types will be treated in the same manner as identifiers: the note type would be conveyed by class rather than property.

1.0 Approach

In BIBFRAME 1.0, notes are supplied via property (or subproperty of) bf:note. The identifier type and string are conveyed as in this example:

```
bf:creditsNote    "Produced by John Andrew Schreiner"  .
```

Proposal for 2.0

1. Eliminate all specific note properties (bf:creditsNote, bf:awardNote, bf:contentNote, etc.)
2. Retain the general note property, bf:note. Its range is (new) class bf:Note.
3. Classes will be defined corresponding to note types; these will be defined outside of the BIBFRAME namespace, but will be subclasses of bf:Note. Thus for any given note, the class indicated will be either:
   a. a subclass of bf:Note, indicating the note type; or
   b. bf:Note, if there is no such subclass.
4. The content of the note is expressed by rdf:value, property of bf:Note.
5. Define bf:noteType, property of bf:Note, to indicate the note type for 3b.
6. The note in the example above is expressed as:

```
bf:note [   a                note:Credits  ;
            rdf:value        "Produced by John Andrew Schreiner" ]  .
```

The prefix 'note:' is used for http://Id.loc.gov/vocabulary/noteTypes .   (Currently this is a fictitious URI for a vocabulary of note types however it is planned to put up this vocabulary at id.loc.gov.)

Following is an example of a "binding" note, and assumes that there is no known class for type 'binding'.

```
bf:note [   a                bf:Note   ;
            bf:noteType      "binding" ;
            rdf:value        "Late 16th century blind-tooled binding, dark brown calf"   ]  .
```

Following is the same note, but there is no intent to provide a type.

```
bf:note [   a                bf:Note   ;
            rdf:value        "Late 16th century blind-tooled binding, dark brown calf"   ]  .
```