The background features a solid red color with several 3D geometric shapes. A large white sphere is positioned at the top center. Below it, a white rectangular block is partially obscured by a white rectangular block that is slightly offset to the left. In the foreground, a white cylinder lies horizontally, with a red rectangular block resting on top of it. The lighting creates soft shadows, giving the shapes a three-dimensional appearance.

Exploring Pathways to RiC Implementation

2022 SAA RESEARCH
FORUM

Who are we?

Elizabeth Russey Roke

Metadata and Discovery Archivist, Emory University

Kelli Babcock

Digital Initiatives Librarian, University of Toronto

Regine Heberlein

Library IT Data Analyst, Princeton University

Anna Björnsson McCormick

Librarian for Arrangement and Description, New York University

Greta Kuriger Suiter

Manuscripts Archivist, Ohio University

Ruth Kitchin Tillman

Sally W. Kalin Early Career Librarian for Technological Innovations, Penn State University

Background

- Our group met and began working together during the IMLS funded Lighting the Way Working Meeting
- We were grouped together because we all expressed an interest in linked data
- We wrote [“The Power of Parallel Description: Wikidata and Archival Discovery”](#)
- During this process we solidified our view that linked data must be done in a pragmatic way
- We found the Lighting the Way format helpful for collaborative research and continue to meet to discuss ways to incorporate linked data in an archives setting

DRAFT

Records in Context (RiC)

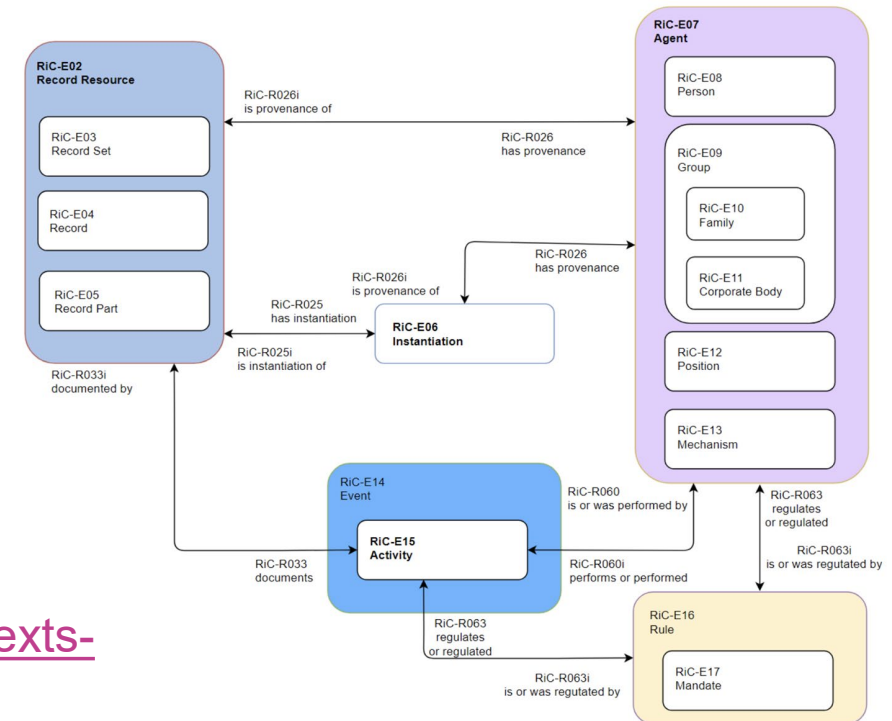
Conceptual model and associated ontology that harmonizes the four ICA description standards:

- ISAD(G)
- ISAAR(CPF)
- ISDF
- ISDIAH

106 classes; 238 core object properties

Conceptual model: <https://www.ica.org/en/records-in-contexts-conceptual-model>

Ontology: <https://github.com/ICA-EGAD/RiC-O>



Transition to RiC

Changes in standards require careful planning and resourcing:

- To assess the feasibility of transitioning
- To account for impacts on current and future labor
- To reconfigure systems
- To build knowledge and support for the new standard

The bottom line: What does RiC offer? How do we get there? What is the cost/benefit?

Convert sample EAD files to RiC-O

- EAD exported from ArchivesSpace: Penn State, Princeton, New York University
- AToM EAD export: University of Toronto
- EAD files: Emory

ArchivesNationalesFR/ **rico-converter**



A tool to convert EAC-CPF and EAD 2002 XML files to RDF datasets conforming to Records in Contexts Ontology (RiC-O)

👤 2

Contributors

🔍 0

Issues

★ 16

Stars

🍴 0

Forks

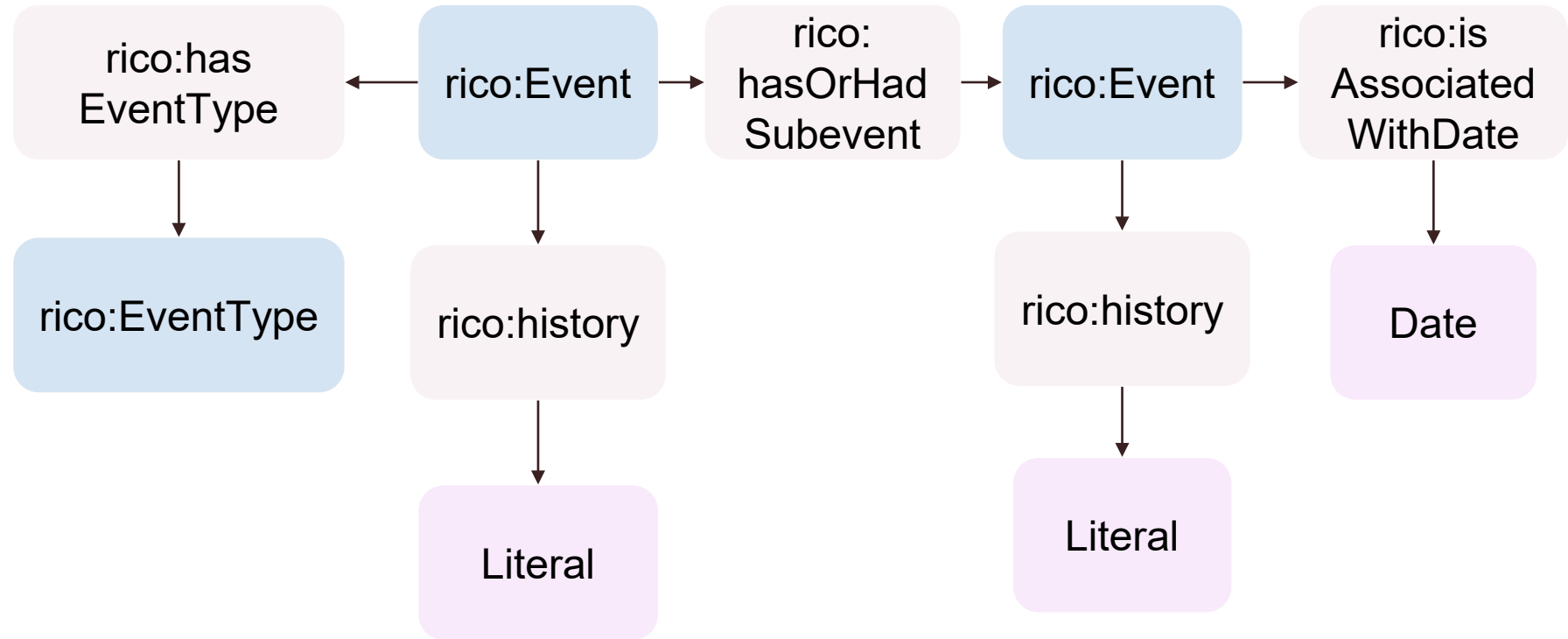
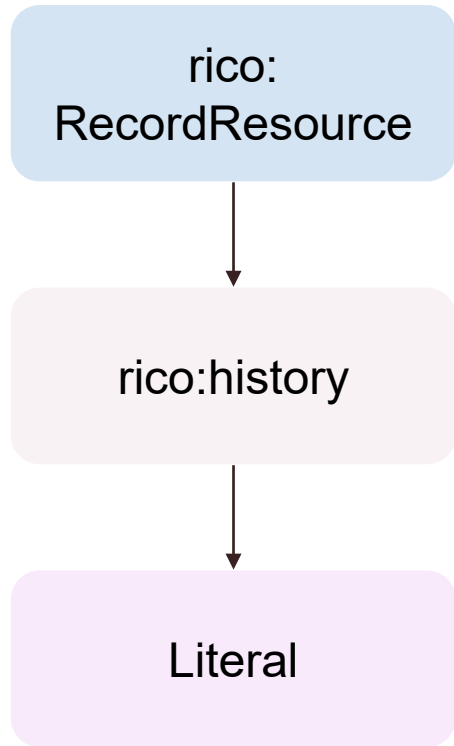


<https://github.com/ArchivesNationalesFR/rico-converter>

```
<rico:RecordResource rdf:about="recordResource/-top">
  <rico:describedBy rdf:resource="record/" />
  <rdf:type rdf:resource="https://www.ica.org/standards/RiC/ontology#RecordSet" />
  <rico:hasRecordSetType rdf:resource="https://www.ica.org/standards/RiC/vocabularies/recordSetTypes#Collection" />
  <rico:title xml:lang="en">Abbey Theatre collection, 1905-1995</rico:title>
  <rdfs:label xml:lang="en">Abbey Theatre collection, 1905-1995</rdfs:label>
  <rico:beginningDate rdf:datatype="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#gYear">1905</rico:beginningDate>
  <rico:endDate rdf:datatype="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#gYear">1995</rico:endDate>
  <rico:date xml:lang="en">1905-1995</rico:date>
  <rico:hasLanguage rdf:resource="language/FRAN_RI_100-name6" />
  <rico:heldBy>
    <rico:Agent>
      <rdfs:label xml:lang="en">Emory UniversityStuart A. Rose Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library</rdfs:label>
      <rico:hasAgentName>
        <rico:AgentName>
          <rdfs:label xml:lang="en">Emory UniversityStuart A. Rose Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library</rdfs:label>
          <rico:textualValue xml:lang="en">Emory UniversityStuart A. Rose Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library</rico:textualValue>
        </rico:AgentName>
      </rico:hasAgentName>
    </rico:Agent>
  </rico:heldBy>
  <rico:hasProvenance rdf:resource="agent/" />
  <rico:conditionsOfAccess rdf:parseType="Literal">
    <html:p xml:lang="en">Unrestricted access.</html:p>
  </rico:conditionsOfAccess>
  <rico:conditionsOfUse rdf:parseType="Literal">
    <html:p xml:lang="en">Information on copyright (literary rights) available from repository. All requests subject to limitations noted in departmental policies on reproduction</html:p>
  </rico:conditionsOfUse>
  <rico:scopeAndContent rdf:parseType="Literal">
    <html:p xml:lang="en">This artificial collection of items from or associated with the Abbey Theatre was begun in 1986 with a group of twenty-two play parts purchased by the</html:p>
  </rico:scopeAndContent>
  <rico:structure rdf:parseType="Literal">
    <html:div xml:lang="en">
      <html:h5>Arrangement Note</html:h5>
      <html:p>Organized into three series: (1) Plays, (2) Programs, and (3) Other materials.</html:p>
    </html:div>
  </rico:structure>
  <rico:hasSubject rdf:resource="place/geonames-2964574" />
  <rico:descriptiveNote rdf:parseType="Literal">
    <html:div xml:lang="en">
      <html:h4>Document(s) séparé(s)</html:h4>
      <html:h5>Related Materials in This Repository</html:h5>
      <html:p>William Butler Yeats collection, Gregory family papers, Cuala Press collection, and in the rare book collection.</html:p>
    </html:div>
  </rico:descriptiveNote>
</rico:RecordResource>
```

Histories are framed as
literals rather than
structured series of events.

Histories can be found *within* events.



Preliminary observations

- Scripts are not a magic solution!
- Much of our archival description does not translate to *meaningful* RDF without significant intervention.
 - EAD is heavily text-based (i.e. scope notes, historical notes, folder titles, etc.)
 - Lack of entities/URIs/identifiers in source data results in stringed RDF.
 - See also [Archives and Special Collections Linked Data: Navigating between Notes and Nodes](#)
- We all use standards differently, even within systems such as ASpace.

Future work and research

- Development of use cases for RDF-based data in archives
- Gaining a deeper understanding of where current data could be enhanced to take advantage of graph-based data structures.
- Determining which conversions are scriptable...and which aren't
- Mappings to/from RiC-O to existing archival systems

Thank you!

Our sample RiC outputs can be found at https://bit.ly/2022_sample_riC

- Elizabeth Russey Roke - erussey@emory.edu
- Anna Björnsson McCormick - anna.mccormick@nyu.edu
- Ruth Kitchin Tillman - rkt6@psu.edu
- Greta Kuriger Suiter - suiter@ohio.edu
- Regine Heberlein - heberlei@princeton.edu
- Kelli Babcock - kelli.babcock@utoronto.ca