FID/CR News 13

Calendar of Meetings 1985

This calendar tries to list the meetings of the entire year which have a direct or an indirect bearing on classification and terminology.

Jan.23: London, GB – Retrospective Catalogue Conversion. A Seminar. Contact: Library Assoc. Cataloguing and Indexing Group, Ms.K.Russell, British Library, 7 Rathbone Street, London W1P 2AL.

Febr.7: London, GB – 251st CRG Meeting (Classification Research Group) School of Library, Archive and Inform.Studies, University College London.

March 5: Paris – Indexation et ordinateur. Contact: I.N.T.D.-E.R., 1 rue Montgolfier, F-75141 Paris Cedex 03.

March 5–8: Hannover – Sprachverarbeitung in Information und Dokumentation. Jahrestagung 1985 der Ges.f.Linguistische Datenverarbeitung (GLDV). Contact: Dr.B.Endres-Niggemeyer, FHS Hannover, FB BID, Hanomagstr. 8, D-3000 Hannover

March 13–15: Zürich, CH – International Workshop on Artificial Intelligence in Economics and Management. Contact: L.F.Pau, IFAC Workshop, Battelle Memorial Inst., 7, route de Drize, CH-1227 Carouge, Geneva.

March 28–29: Geneva – 2nd Conf.of the Assoc.for Computational Linguistics. European Chapter. Contact: Mike Rosner, ACL85 Local Arrangements. Inst.Dalle Molle, 54 route des Acacias, CH-1227 Geneva.

April 14–17: Wien, AT – Networking in Terminology. International Cooperation in Terminology Work. The Second Infoterm Symposium. Contact: Infoterm, P.O.Box 130, A-1021 Wien.

April 15: London, GB – 252nd Meeting of the CRG, School of Library Archive and Inform.Studies, University College of London.

April 16–18: Oxford, GB – INFORMATICS 8: A Conference on Advanced Computational Techniques for Information Retrieval. Contact: Aslib, Information House, 26–27 Boswell Street, London WC1N 3JZ.

April 18: Wien, AT – TermNet Assembly. Contact: Infoterm, P.O.Box 130, A-1021 Wien.

April 19: Wien, AT – Workshop on Terminology Documentation. Contact: Infoterm, P.O.Box. 130, A-1021 Wien.

April 25–26: Zürich, CH – International Conference. Expert Systems and Knowledge Engineering. Contact: Gottlieb Duttweiler Institut, Stiftung "Im Grüene", CH-8803 Rüschlikon.

May 19–22: Ft.Lauderdale, Florida – 14th Mid-Year Meeting of ASIS. For the program of ASIS/SIG/CR contact: Mr.J.A.Busch, Price Waterhouse, One Federal Street, Boston, MA 02110, USA.

May 27–29: Offenburg, Baden – 3.Fachtagung der European Society for the Study of Cognitive Systems. Contact: Dr. K.Kornwachs, Silberburgstr. 119a, D-7000 Stuttgart 1

June 4–6: Paris – COGNITIVA 85: A la frontiére de l'intelligence artificielle, des sciences de la connaissance, des neurosciences. Organisé par le CESTA (Centre d Etudes des Systèmes et des Technologies Avancées) avec l'AFCET (Assoc.Francaise pour la Cybernétique Economique et Technique) et l' ARC (Assoc. pour la Recherche Cognitive). Contact: Secr.COGNITIVA 85, M.-F.Chicanne, CESTA, 1 rue Descartes, F-75005 Paris.

June 5–7: Montreal – ACM SIGIR Conference "Research and Development in Information Retrieval". Contact: Mrs.J.Taque, University of Western Ontario, School of Library and Information Science. London, Ont. N6C 1H1, Canada.

June 5–8: Nice – 12th International ALLC Conference "Computers in Literary and Linguistic Research". Contact: Prof.E.Burnet, Inst.National de la Langue Francaise (URL 9), 98, Bd.E.Herriot, F-06007 Nice.

June 5–8: Nice · SCCAC Session (Society for Conceptual and Content Analysis by Computer). Contact: Prof.Klaus Schmidt, Academic Year Abroad Program, Universität Salzburg, Akademiestr.24, A-5020 Salzburg

June 12–14: Versailles – IDT 85 · 6e Congrès National sur l'Information et la Documentation, organisé par l'ADBS et l'ARNT avec le concours de la MIDIST: La Société de l'Information. Contact: IDT 85, ANRT, 101 ave. Raymond Poincaré, F-75116 Paris.

June 22–24: Grinnell, Iowa – ICDBHSS/85 International Conference on Data Bases in the Humanities and Social Sciences. Contact: Thomas E.Moberg, Grinnell College, Grinnell, Iowa 50112-0810, USA.

June 26–28: Karlsruhe, FRG – 9th Annual Conference of the German Society for Classification. Contact: Prof. Dr.W.Gaul, Institut für Entscheidungstheorie und Unternehmensforschung, Universität Karlsruhe, P.O.Box 6380, D-7500 Karlsruhe

June 26–28: Provo, Utah – SCCAC Session (Society for Conceptual and Content Analysis by Computer) at ICCH/85. Contact: Roy A Boggs, Dept.of Information Systems, University of Toledo, Toledo, OH 43606, USA

June 28–29: Palma de Mallorca – IEEE Workshop "Languages for Automation: Cognitive Aspects in Information Processing". Contact: P.A.Ligomenides. University of Maryland. Dept. of Electrical Engineering. College Park, MD 20742, USA.

July 1–6: Palma de Mallorca, Spain – First IFSA Congress (International Fuzzy Systems Association). Contact: R.Lopez de Mataras. Universitat Politecnica de Catalunya, Facultat d Informatica, Dulcet 12, Barcelona-34, Spain.

July 2–5: Cambridge, GB – Fourth European Meeting of the Psychometric Society and Classification Societies. Contact: Dr.I.Nimmo-Smith, MRC Unit of Applied Psychology, 15 Chaucer Road, Cambridge, CB2 2EF, England.

July 2–5: London, GB – The First International Expert Systems Meeting. Contact: Learned Information Ltd., Besselsleigh Road, Abingdon, Oxon OX13 6LG, England.

July 4: London, GB – 253rd CRG Meeting, School of

Library, Archive and Inform. Studies, University College, London

July 4–10: Brighton, GB – ACSEB-III, Third Int.Congress of Systematic and Evolutionary Biology. Sponsored by Royal Society, British Ecological Soc., Linnean Soc., Palaeontological Assoc. and Systematics Assoc. Contact: Prof.Barry Cox, c/o ICSEB Congress Office, 130 Queen's Road, Brighton, Sussex BN1 3WE, England.

July 5–7: Durham, GB – Indexing Now. The 1985 Weekend Conference of the Society of Indexers. Contact: Mrs. C.Wright, Coulcroft, High Street, High Shincliffe, Durham DH1 2PF, England.

July 8–12: Chicago, USA – 23rd Annual Meeting of the Assoc. for Computational Linguistics. University of Chicago. Contact: W.C.Mann, ACL85 Program Chairman, USC/ISI 4676 Admiralty Way, Marina del Rey, CA 90292, USA.

July 11–13: St.John's, Newfoundland – 16th Annual Meeting of the Classif.Soc.of North America. Contact: Dr.W.H.E. Day, Dept.of Computer Science, Memorial University of Newfoundland, St.John's, Newfoundland, Canada A1C 5S7

Aug.18–24: Chicago – IFLA 85. 51st Int.Fed.of Library Assoc. and Institutions Council and General Conference "Libraries and the Universal Availability of Information". Contact: Secret.IFLA, P.O.Box 95312, NL–2509 CH The Hague.

Sept.3–6: Florenz, IT – 2nd International Congress Logica, Informatica, Diritto: Automated Analysis of Legal Texts. Contact: ENIC - Professional Congress Organizers, Via S.Caterina d Allessandria, 12, I-50129 Florence.

Sept.15–18: Frascati, IT – 6th International Research Forum in Information Science (IRFIS 6). Intelligent Information Systems for the Information Society. Contact: IRFIS 6 Organizing Committee, Via Stazione S.Pietro, 22, I-00165 Roma.

Sept.16–19: Bournemouth, GB – Info World 85. Using Knowledge to shape the Future". Contact: The Conference Organizer, Aslib, Information House, 26-27 Boswell Street, London WC1N 3JZ, England.

Sept.30 – Oct.3: Hamburg, FRG – Sprache und Information in Wirtschaft und Gesellschaft. XIth Annual Meeting of the Int.Assoc. Language and Economy. Contact: Prof.Dr.Theo Bungarten, Universität Hamburg, Germanisches Seminar, Von-Melle-Park 6, D-2000 Hamburg 13.

Oct.1–3: Nürnberg – Deutscher Dokumentartag 1985. Contact: ekr. Deutsche Gesellschaft für Dokumentation (DGD), Westendstr. 19, D-6000 Frankfurt 1.

Oct.17: London, BG – 254th CRG Meeting, School of Library, Archive and Inform.Studies, University College, London

Oct.20–25: Las Vegas, USA – 48th Annual Meeting: ASIS 1985. Contact: ASIS, 1010 Sixteenth Street, N.W., Washington, DC, 20036, USA. For the program of ASIS/SIG/CR contact Mr.J.A.Busch, Price Waterhouse, One Federal Str., Boston MA 02110, USA.

Nov.11–14: New Delhi – International Conference on Ranganathan's Philosophy and the Changing Context of Information Science. Contact: Mr.Girja Kumar, Jawaharlal Nehru University, Central Library. New Mehrauli Road, New Delhi-110067, India.

Nov.27–29: Grenoble, FR – 5e Congrès Exposition Reconnaissance des Formes et Intelligence Artificielle, organisé par l'AFCET et l'INRIA avec l'Agence de l'Informatique. Contact: AFCET, 156 Boulevard Péreire, F-75017 Paris.

Dec.12: London, GB – 255th CRG Meeting, School of Library, Archive and Inform.Studies, University College, London

Ranganathan's Philosophy and the Changing Context of Information Science

This will be the topic of an International Conference from Nov.11–14, 1985 in New Delhi, organized by Mr.Girja Kumar, President of the Indian Library Association. Among the 9 topics foreseen for papers and discussions the following three are pertaining to classification:

> Knowledge as a field of study, not only as epistemological studies in terms of structure and growth, but also as a means to organise every aspect of information system and service. "Classification" as a chief instrument of analysis and organization, most fundamental to human thinking.
> "Chain procedure" as a first model of precoordinate indexing and its influence on other indexing systems.

For any further information, please contact Mr.Girja Kumar, Jawarhalal Nehru University, Central Library, New Mehrauli Road, New Delhi-110067.

FID/CR Regional Meeting, India, 1985

Plans are maturing to hold an FID/CR Regional Meeting in New Delhi in connection with the "International Conference on Ranganathan's Philosophy and the Changing Context of Information Science" (see above). Our colleagues from India and the South East Asian Region are invited to propose and prepare papers for a one- or two-day meeting, devoted to the topic of "Classification and Communication", or, more specific, to demonstrate the significance and methodology useful for the organization of knowledge whether through the paper- or the paperless media. Proposals for papers should be sent until July 31 to the FID/CR Secretariat, Woogstr. 36a, D-6000 Frankfurt 50. A special Call for Papers will be sent to the relevant institutions in this area.

43rd FID Conference and Congress, Montréal, 1986

The theme of this Congress, to be held Sept.14–18, 1968 will be "Information, Communications and Technology Transfer". The chairman of the Canadian National Committee for FID, Mr.Elmer V.Smith already invites papers according to a preliminary program. This can be had from Mrs.Norma E. Burns, Canada Inst.f.Scientific and Technical Information, Ottawa, K1A 0S2, Canada.

Between the FID Conference and the Congress, presumably on Sept.12–13, 1986, a **Regional Conference of FID/CR** is planned. It will be concerned with the topic "Classification and Telematics" covering classification themes connected to the problems of the new media, to mini- and microcomputers and to the new possibilities of the 5th generation computer systems. A call for papers will be mailed later this year.

Standards for Multilingual Thesauri and for Indexes

Recently the chairman of ISO/TC46, SC5, Prof.W. Krumholz announced the publication of the standard ISO 5964 "Guidelines for the establishment and development of mulitlingual thesauri" in English and French. This standard is to be used together with ISO 2788 "Guidelines for the establishment and development of monolingual thesauri", which presupposes it in some way, as those subjects that pertain to both standards have not been repeated in ISO 5964. Many examples are included in the text which is also supplemented by an appendix of 24 pages.

During the meeting of ISO/TC46/WG10, Jan. 31– Febr.1, 1985 at Copenhagen, the revision of ISO 999 "Establishment of indexes" was discussed. It is planned to finish this work by Sept.1985. ISO standards can be ordered at national standardization institutions.

FRG: Recommendations for Classification

As printed on pp.23-26 in this issue, the Special Interest Group on Indexing Languages (SIG/IS) of the German Society for Classification under its chairman Dr.R.Fugmann has published a recommendation (4 pages) on "Free Text in Information Systems. Possibilities and Limitations". So far the text is only available in German, it should, however, appear in English in the next issue of Int.Classif. This recommendation shows, how an information system must necessarily fail, if the input has not been well prepared beforehand, how pertinent information gets lost, and that irrelevant answers will cause dissatisfaction with the system soon. The demands for quality of input are stated and methods for its achievement are indicated.

A second recommendation to be published next is on product description. It is elaborated by the SIG/WK (Warenklassifikation/Commodity Classification) under its chairman Dr.Helge Gasthuber with the assistance from Prof.Hölzl, Wien. It will be finalised soon. It is meant to help in the understanding, preparation and processing of descriptions of goods, products, commodities, and related services. There seems to be a great demand for such a general guideline in all areas of the economy.

Earlier recommendations of other SIGs have been prepared on the coding of dictionaries, classification systems and thesauri (not yet published) and on a methodology for establishing Call Numbers (for books). For copies of such recommendations please contact the Secretariat of the Society, Woogstr. 36a, D-6000 Frankfurt 50.

FRG: 9th Annual Meeting, Gesellschaft für Klassifikation

A second announcement and preliminary list of speakers of this conference to take place on June 26–28, 1985 in Karlsruhe, has been prepared and is being circulated now. Surprisingly, altogether some 95 papers were proposed (with almost 50% from abroad) and will have to be accomodated. A preconference workshop on Logics will be conducted by Prof.Dr.Otto Nacke. Please, feel yourself invited to participate in this conference and note in the Calendar of this issue, how well it is placed in time shortly before the 1st International Experts System Meeting in London, July 2–5, the 4th European Meeting of the Psychometric Society and Classification Societies, July 2–5, Cambridge, and the 3rd International Congress of Systematic and Evolutionary Biology, July 4–10 in Brighton, GB. For further information please write to Prof.Dr.W.Gaul, Institut für Entscheidungstheorie und Unternehmensforschung der Universität, P.O.Box 6380, D-7500 Karlsruhe.

Italy: AIDA, Nov.19–20, 1984

The Italian Association for Advanced Documentation, founded a year ago, had its first meeting on Nov. 19–20, 1984 in Rome. At its second session – under the chairmanship of Ilio Galligani, the following papers were presented: A.Zampolli: Linguistica e analise documentaria. – D.Parisi: Il documento come reappresentazione delle conoscenze. – P.Petrucci: La struttura del lessico nella costruzione del thesaurus. – H.Evers: evoluzione delle fonti secondarie di informazione: dagli indici tradizionali all indicizzazione automatica. It was followed by some 11 communications dealing also with our field of study.

The secretariat of AIDA is located at the Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche. Istituto di studi sulla ricerca e documentazione scientifica, Via Cesare De Lollis 12, I-00100 Roma.

U.K.: CRG 249 and 250

The 249th meeting of the British Classification Research Group took place on Oct.18, 1984 at University College London. It was chaired by Mr. Foskett. Dr.Bhattacharrya from DRTC, India, happened to be present. Mr. Bonner spoke about the NACAB Pilot Classification. He had circulated questionnaires to a number of advice agencies and had examined the combinations of subjects required by the various agencies forming a sort of "institutional warrant". He had then compiled the subject headings from the agencies into a source thesaurus which he called a "megathesaurus". His objective was to build a master classification from which extracts could be made for different uses, purposes and types of users. He explained the overall structure as well as the logic of the arrangement.

The 250th meeting on Dec.13, 1984 was preceded by a lunch to celebrate this event. 25 members could have been present, however, seven of them were unable to come. At the meeting the discussion of the NACAB classification system was continued with an examination of the problem of cross-references, which could not be done without prior knowledge of the field and probable enquiries. Relationships have to be taken care of which were not derived from the definitions of concepts but from the experience of concept combinations in real world situations, as e.g. "legal aid" and "divorce", or "English for foreigners" and "unemployment", as there was enquiry warrant for such combinations. This lead to a discussion on the entire problem of relationships in thesauri. Mr.Bonner felt that existing thesaural standards provided too narrow definitions of what constituted

BTs, NTs, and RTs and that many other cross-references needed to be provided to help users formulate and adjust their search profiles. However, the colleagues were not convinced that the solutions which Mr. Bonner had presented in his scheme were clear enough and advised, in various cases, how clarification could be reached.

USA: ASIS/SIG/CR Sessions

At the Mid-Year 85 meeting in Ft.Lauderdale, Florida, May 19–22, 1985 two sessions will deal with the theme of telecommunications and networking. The first will be on "Subject Access to Downloaded Databases", the second on "Indexing and Personal Access in Shared Full-Text Information Retrieval Systems."

Plans for SIG-CR sessions at the 48th Annual Meeting of ASIS, Las Vegas, Nevada, Oct.20–25, 1985 foresee one on indexing education, and one on "Personal Databases, Online Organization of Text and the Future of Scholarly Work". A continuing education tutorial on PRECIS has also been planned. For further information please contact the SIG/CR Chairman, Mr. Joe A Busch, Price Waterhouse, One Federal Street, Boston, MA 02110, USA.

Congratulations to Dr.S.Seetharama!

In his comprehensive doctoral thesis "Compatibility among Medical Classification Systems. A Case Study in the Classification of Cardiovascular Diseases", Mr. Seetharama has taken up that topic which is at present of utmost significance among the experts in classification, – and thus means so-to-speak the "heart of the matter of modern classification" – insofar as the growing interdependence of information systems calls for better knowledge about the methods of establishment of compatibility between classification systems, that is, methods, which facilite the necessary cooperation of centers in their exchange of information and of knowledge in general.

The problem has been recognised already for some time – as Seetharama has shown – however, the proposed methods for its solution have not as yet lead to a generally recognized best adoptable methodology.

After his introductory chapter, Seetharama provides an excellent survey of the different approaches and proposals made in the literature on this problem, for which the UNISIST Report of 1971 had already provided stimulation for research and development of tools.

As his field of investigation Seetharama selected "Cardiovascular Diseases". By doing so he revealed again his sense for the essentials in our live, since – what is more important than our heart?

In the next chapter Seetharama introduces into the knowledge about the Cardiovascular System and the Heart and its Diseases in such a way, that everybody will understand better not only the comparative studies following but also the functioning of his own "life-motor"!

As his method of investigation to be applied in the following three chapters for the comparison of (a) two universal classification systems, (b) two special classification systems and (c) one universal and two special classification systems, he selected the one of his great teacher, the late S.R. Ranganathan, and showed by this not only that his "Normative Principles" could be applied successfully, but also that their application help in understanding the quality of the chosen structures – in the systems investigated as well as in any system which is to be elaborated.

It can be assumed that the organisations which publish and revise the Standard Nomenclature of Diseases and Operations as well as the International Classification of Diseases and those who apply these classification systems will welcome this learned investigation very much as it will show weaknesses and strength of their systems and will help them to recognize better the structures of their systems probably partly elaborated without any knowledge of a theory of classification. The findings of the thesis will surely help not only all those involved in editing, revising and applying these medical classification systems but also all those who undertake similar studies on compatibility of such systems.

Seetharama has shown for the experts in information science – and especially for classification experts – which factors have to be stressed in the future elaboration and evaluation of classification systems and how the Normative Principles of Ranganathan should be understood and applied. By this, Seetharama has contributed also to the understanding of the value and the usefulness of the work of Ranganathan. May these findings soon be applied in many similar investigations!

It seems to me, that an even greater contribution for the experts of their field was accomplished by the fact that Seetharama took the field of Cardiovascular Diseases for his examples and by this helped that research and development in this field will gain from understanding the structures and relationships inherent in its concepts. It is only by such an understanding that progress in a science takes place because new insights will arise and can be made explicit for the benefit of mankind.

The form of this thesis complies with its excellent contents. The huge and beautifully bound book with its seven main chapters and their many and meaningfully arranged subchapters, its bibliographical references and its long index as well as the appendices with their important "by-products" show that their author has not only put his intellect but also his heart into this work. He – and especially also his Guide, Prof.Kumbhar – is to be congratulated for the achievement of this masterpiece of a dissertation! One can only hope that its results will soon find the wide readership – and hopefully also audience – which it deserves.

I.D.