

ISKO Web Site

The ISKO web site, established by P. Stancikova, has been launched. It contains general information about ISKO as well as news of current issues and a form for application for membership. The ISKO web site can be found at

<http://www.ceit.sk/wwwisis/iskabo.htm>.

Globalization and Knowledge Organization

This is the topic of the 6th German ISKO Conference, 23-25 September 1999 at the Hamburg Fachhochschule. Subtopics include 'Heterogeneity of Knowledge, Transfer of Knowledge, and Knowledge Aspects'. The Conference overlaps by one day (Sept. 23) with the Conference of the German Information Society (formerly German Documentation Society, DGD) also meeting at Hamburg. A Call for Papers has been distributed and is available from the organizer, Mr. H. Peter OHLY (Address below). It includes the following themes:

Foundations of Knowledge Organization, Knowledge Theory, Terminology, Ontologies, Classification Systems, Thesauri, Multimedia Knowledge Organization, Document Engineering, Data Mining, Knowledge Processing, Cognition, Scientography, Internet-ometry, Application Participation, Knowledge Management, Digital Culture.

The Program Committee comprises the following colleagues: Prof. Dr. Gerhard Budin, Vienna; Prof. Dr. Dr. Hans Czap, Trier; Prof. Dr. Brigitte Endres-Niggemeyer, Hannover; Prof. Winfried Gödert, Cologne; Dr. Peter Jaenecke, Pforzheim; Prof. Holger Nohr, Stuttgart; Peter Ohly, Bonn; Dr. Simone Pribbenow, Hamburg; Dr. Gerhard Rahmstorf, Heidelberg; Prof. Dr. Winfried Schmitz-Esser, Hamburg; Prof. Ursula Schulz, Bremen; Alexander Sigel, Bonn; Prof. Dr. Hans Sträter, Hamburg; Prof. Dr. Walther Umstätter, Berlin.

The Proceedings volume of this conference will again appear in the Series "Fortschritte der Wissensorganisation", published by Ergon Verlag, Würzburg. This publisher will also organize an exhibition of all ISKO publications during the conference.

Abstracts are due by April 30, 1999; on May 31 authors will be informed about acceptance of papers. Reduced payment by May 31; delivery of papers by July 31; delivery of final paper version by Sept. 30, 1999. Address of H. Peter Ohly: Informationszentrum Sozialwissenschaften, Lennéstr. 30, D-53113 Bonn, Tel.: 0228-2281-142; email: ohly@bonn.iz-soz.de.

Further information in the Internet under:
<http://www.bonn.iz-soz.de/wiss-org/H-Hprog.htm>.

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FID/CR News Editor

National Activities Reported at the 1998 IFLA Conference

During the 1998 IFLA Conference in Amsterdam members and attendees at the meetings of the IFLA Standing Committee on Classification and Indexing reported on classification and indexing activities in the countries of which they were representative. Highlights and excerpts from these reports follow. **Magda Heiner-Freiling** from the Deutsche Bibliothek reported on "Project MUSE – a Multilingual Thesaurus Project of European National Libraries". In the spring of 1997, the MUSE (Multilingual Subject Entry) project was established to investigate the linking of national subject authority files to create a multilingual thesaurus from the files of four European National Libraries. Its purpose is not "to translate terms from one language to another or establish a homogenous thesaurus with terms in different languages". Rather its "aim is the linkage between already existing national thesauri which remain in their own linguistic surroundings, but offer the opportunity of switching to the user of an OPAC or national bibliographic database." The project initiative originated with the Schweizerische Landesbibliothek Bern. After contacts with a number of European national libraries, a working group was formed which includes two members each from the British Library, the Schweizerische Landesbibliothek, the Bibliothèque Nationale de France and the Deutsche Bibliothek, under the roof of CoBRA the initiative of the Conference of European Libraries (CENL). Several working meetings have been held and additional information contacts have been made through IFLA conferences and e-mail. A working plan has been developed. As a pilot project, two very different specific fields (sports and theatre) were selected to extract all relevant subject headings from three authority files (LCSH, RAMEAU and SWD) and to establish links among the descriptors. The intension is to produce three trilingual lists starting from each of the three component lists. These lists will each present the correct links between the three subject indexing languages, including not only the equivalences (or best matches) between descriptors, but also between a descriptor in one system and a string in another system. The Working Group recognizes that it will encounter problems created by fun-

damental differences in the languages and by the variable structure of the lists. Also there will be problems in constructing the software for handling the thesaurus. An interim report, that will include the descriptor lists and two comparative studies, is planned for early 1999.

As reported by **Adriana Kiraly**, the principal event in Romania in 1998 was the publication of the first UDC International edition in Romanian. Published in two parts in 1997 and 1998, this publication was authorized by the UDC Consortium. Translation and publication was carried out by the National Library of Romania and is based on the UDC Master Reference File including amendments up to Extensions and Corrections no. 18, 1996. The advent of this publication will promote the use of the same edition of UDC in national, public and university libraries in Romania from January 1999. Romania has been progressing with modernizing its methods of subject indexing, moving from title keyword indexing to controlled vocabulary. In 1996, under the co-ordination of the Bucharest Central University Library, the university libraries of Romania initiated a national programme for the construction of a Romanian subject heading system based on UDC structure and the alphabetical subject index to UDC and using Library of Congress Subject Headings as a model. A Thesaurus for Science and Technology has also been prepared. For purposes of improving communication, in December 1997 a National Commission for UDC was created. A representative of the National Library of Russia reported that the first version of a Subject Authority File (NLR SAF) has been created. It includes more than a million headings from the various disciplines and fields of knowledge. The list can be used for subject indexing of various types including monographs, periodicals, and serials. It is planned to first use the NLR SAF in the Russian National Library. The list will be updated annually by about 12,000 records and will be distributed in the Russian communication format for authority data.

Pia Leth reported on classification and indexing activities in Sweden. She spoke briefly about the Royal Library and the Swedish national union catalogue – LIBRIS, which is presently undergoing a major transformation from a mainframe to a client-server envi-