

Hidden Glossaries

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COCTA NEWS

Let me give an account of some recent developments. For more information please contact Prof. Fred W. Riggs at the University of Hawaii, Honolulu.

India: Sociology Congress and Jaipur Round Table.

Ten COCTA panels organized by *Alberto Marradi* were held during August at the World Congress of Sociology in New Delhi, and two of them paid special attention to INTERCOCTA concerns. At the COCTA business meeting on August 21 *Fred Riggs* reported on our work and plans, and received a number of helpful comments and suggestions. Riggs also reported on our pilot glossary at the business meeting of the ISA Research Committee no. 5, for Ethnic, Race and Minority Relations, receiving its endorsement plus individual expressions of interest. Other COCTA members active in these meetings were *Jan-Erik Lane*, *Alberto Marradi*, and *Henry Teune*. The ISSC was represented by *Stephen Mills*.

A COCTA panel chaired by *D.N. Pestonjee* and *S.C. Dube*, on August 22, focused attention on the appropriateness of available Western-born social science concepts and terms for use by researchers working in India. This session attracted an over-flow crowd and generated a lively discussion. Participants pointed out that although many Western sociological methods and concepts are extremely helpful, some are culture-bound and simply "parochial" in the Indian context. However, they also explained that there are many Indian social realities, as viewed by very different social strata and ethnic communities in an extremely complex society — we should not expect any simple rendering of Indian "indigenous" concepts.

The theme of indigenization was also the focus of a Round Table sponsored by the Indian Council for Social Science Research (in response to COCTA initiatives) that was held in Jaipur at the Institute for Development Studies from August 23-26, following the World Congress. *D.D. Narula*, director of the IDS, was the local host and *Iqbal Narain*, Member-Secretary of the ICSSR, arranged for the necessary sponsorship and support.

Two recommendations to the ICSSR for follow-up action were approved by this Round Table at its closing session. They call for the development of a new INTERCOCTA glossary of indigenous Indian social science concepts, and a symposium of essays on topics related to the indigenization of the social sciences in India. The participants included *Zourab Guelekva*, our INTERCOCTA liaison officer in UNESCO. He indicated that his office would be glad to help fund preliminary studies by the ICSSR in response to the Round Table's recommendations.

Other participants included *Yogesh Atal*, UNESCO representative in Southeast Asia (Bangkok). Their backing opens up the possibility of replicating the results of the Indian glossary for indigenous concepts with other regional projects in the Asia-Pacific area.

U.S.S.R.: Tallin Conference and Moscow Consultations

From June 16–20, 86 a conference on ethnicity was held in Tallinn, Estonian S.S.R., under the aegis of the Vienna Centre of the ISSC. Local support was provided by the Institute of Ethnography of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR, and the Estonian Institute of History played host. Academician Yu. V. Bromley, director of the Institute of Ethnography, and Ernest Gellner, Cambridge University, were the co-directors of the conference. Riggs presented a paper explaining the INTERCOCTA process and inviting participants to work with us.

Development studies

As for the development studies glossary prepared at CENDES, Caracas, Venezuela, under the direction of Lourdes Yero, we must now consider not only the problems involved in the further progress and utilization of this material, but also start planning for the concurrent preparation of a parallel English-language version. In view of the subject matter, and because we need to emphasize concepts and terms used by scholars in developing countries when doing research on their own problems, it seems appropriate to look for scholars in one or more Third World country who are willing to take responsibility for an English language INTERCOCTA glossary for development studies. Of course they should do so in close cooperation with scholars from Northern countries. In this connection Jan-Erik Lane offered a paper on concepts of development at the Jaipur Round Table in August.

New Themes: Human Rights, Peacemaking, Ways of Life, etc.

Guelekva reported in Jaipur on a proposal that came to him from the Institute for State and Law of the Soviet Academy of Sciences. It calls for an INTERCOCTA glossary on concepts and terms used in research on human rights. V.M. Chkhikvadze, chief of the Human Rights Sector of this Institute, discussed this possibility with Zourab when the two met earlier this year in the Soviet Union. Guelekva first explained this idea to the Jaipur round table and subsequently in Paris he gave me a memorandum on "The Socialist Conception of Human Rights," based on a draft by Chkhikvadze. UNESCO will now encourage Chkhikvadze and his associates to start preliminary work in this area.

Way of life

Another possible theme for a new INTERCOCTA glossary also comes from the USSR, this time from the Institute of Ethnography in the Academy of Sciences. Academician Bromley has proposed that, as a natural sequel to work on ethnicity, it would be desirable to launch a project on concepts and terms needed in research on the (Soviet) "way of life."

During the Jaipur Round Table Mrs. Tabolina made a presentation on this theme, stressing that the approach used in her Institute could also be used in other countries, especially if we expand the scope of coverage to include

diverse "ways" of life – for example, as the Indians had themselves emphasized, there is great diversity of life styles in India (as there is in the USSR). Participants expressed interest in this idea and it was included in the final recommendations. Again, the long-term viability of this proposal depends on finding suitable international contexts in which it can be supported. Meanwhile, with UNESCO support, the Institute of Ethnography will be encouraged to launch preliminary studies of the theme. We may also have a panel on this subject at the IUAES Congress in Zagreb, July 1988.

Among the other themes for future INTERCOCTA projects that were proposed in both India and Paris are "peace," "human and social ecology," and "values." Several friends with whom Riggs discussed this matter suggested that a more dynamic heading to replace "peace" would be "peacemaking and conflict resolution."

Other INTERCOCTA Activities

Although we have stressed the development of INTERCOCTA Glossaries, please remember that the INTERCOCTA Encyclopedia, as agreed in Caracas, will include other components, especially volumes of essays on relevant conceptual problems in the social sciences. As previously indicated, the Proceedings of the CONTA Conference in Bielefeld is the first such volume of essays.

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International Congress on Terminology and Knowledge Engineering. Preliminary Program

The Congress which will take place from Sept. 29–Oct. 1, 1987 in Trier, FRG, is organized by the International Information Centre for Terminology (INFO-TERM) and the Association for Terminology and Knowledge Transfer in cooperation with the University of Trier, the Commission of the European Communities and the City of Trier. ISSC/COCTA ranges among 35 other supporting organizations, altogether the Congress is under the patronage of UNESCO. Its aim has been stated to be threefold:

- to promote international co-operation in the fields of research and development in terminology and knowledge engineering
- to create a forum where science and industry can meet, and
- to demonstrate to potential users the relevance and capabilities of the new technologies.

When the achievements of *terminology science and computer science* are combined, high-performance *knowledge-based systems* emerge. Such systems offer the user a wide range of facilities, stretching from fact finding and problem solving to generation of new knowledge. They also facilitate *information retrieval, translation and technical writing*.

Shortcomings such as the lack of systematic terminologies, the ambiguity of terms and propositions and the incompatibility of systems currently hinder special language communication. These problems can be overcome by the application of terminology and knowledge engineering, both fields in which various aspects of human, man/machine and machine/machine communication are of particular importance.

Knowledge engineering in turn profits from experience gained in approaching terminology systematically through terminology science, involving such practical aspects as assigning a term a particular concept, the *formation of terms* (principles of naming), *definitions* and other *forms of concept description*, the handling of terminological data (*terminography*), and a systematic approach to terminologies in each individual subject field. Terminology itself and the related fields of communication can also make good use of the achievements of knowledge engineering.

The papers presented at the conference will be organized by thematical fields covering different aspects. Two to three sessions of reviewed papers will run in parallel and in addition a report session for late submissions and an industry session. There will be simultaneous interpretation for English, French and German. The following themes and fields will be covered:

Field 1: Logic, Philosophy, Terminology and their Relationship to Knowledge Representation

- Quantum logic and knowledge engineering
- Complexity and its handling in information processes
- Terminological aspects and language-oriented pragmatic aspects of knowledge acquisition
- Business-based experience with pragmatic reconstruction of data-types
- Terminology as a basis of object-oriented programming methodology
- Proto-representation, their typicalness and exception-admissibility

Field 2: Problems and Solutions in Terminology

- Verbs and terminology as well as technical phraseology
- Terminological database by Chinese symbols
- A computer based system for biomedical nomenclature and classification
- Development of a machine readable dictionary and terminological database in Japan
- Japanese scientific and technical terms and their relationships
- Automatic extraction of technical terms
- Creation structure and use of terminological databases (different papers)
- Technical terminology as a basis for knowledge representation and IR

Field 3: Linguistics, Machine Translation, Natural Language Processing and their Relationship to Artificial Intelligence

- Knowledge based machine translation and architecture of universal parsers
- Storage, retrieval and natural language processing
- Generation of German sentences by classification of verbs
- Machine translation systems: Structure, environment and practical application
- Linguistical information in Chinese sentences
- Artificial Intelligence, Interlingual Terminography and Natural Language Processing

Field 4: Methodological Problems and Solutions, Expert Systems

- An expert system for word construction and evaluation of morphosemantic clarity: terminological contributions and metarepresentations by knowledge frame bases
- An expert system shell for representation of cognitive structures
- Systems theory for knowledge bases
- Construction and evaluation of microthesauri
- A self-adaptive information retrieval system

Field 5: Human Factors with respect to Knowledge Transfer and Evaluation of Man-Machine-Interfaces

- A report on computer terminology and their user-friendliness
- Computer-based extraction and transmission of the right information to the right user
- User requests for terminological data bases and their specification in the conceptual scheme
- A proposal for the user interface with terminological data bases
- A graphical user interface for semantic networks

Field 6: Terminological Problems in Communication and Systems Interconnection

- Protocols, their formal specification and verification
- Invariance properties of deterministic and probabilistic systems
- Questions of convertibility
- Semantics of geometrical objects in data exchange

Congress Fees and Registration

Registration, hotel accommodation and social program will be organized by the travel agency "Erlebnisreisen". As Trier is a very attractive city for visitors and since the Congress takes place within the main season, hotel capacity will be very short. Therefore, registrations should be settled as soon as possible. Congress fees are DM 300.- (resp. DM 200.- for members of the supporting organizations) if paid before July 31, 1987 and 350.- DM resp. 250.- DM afterwards.

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