

ISKO News 15

Primer Encuentro sobre Organizacion del Conocimiento en Sistemas Documentales

The "First Meeting on Knowledge Organization in Documentary Systems" was recently held in Madrid, Nov.4-5, 1993 in the Roca Solano Chemical Institute. It was prepared by ISKO members in Spain, coordinated by Emilia CURRAS, and co-organized by her, Miguel Angel ESTEBAN, Javier GARCIA MARCO, and Rosa SAN SEGUNDO. We were also lucky to enjoy the presence of Dr. Ingetraut DAHLBERG, our chairperson.

As its name suggests, the conference was mainly intended to be a place of meeting for theoreticians, professionals, teachers and advanced students in the fields of the information sciences.

The meeting was divided in three sessions, devoted respectively to theoretical, instructional and applied research and experience in the field of Knowledge Organization.

There was an extensive participation from universities all over Spain. The conference was also thought as an occasion to enhance ISKO membership and activities in Spain. We truly thank all the participants for what may be considered a fully achieved agenda.

The papers presented and discussed were the following: Opening and Introduction by Emilia CURRAS. - Sponsor presentation by Margarita BADILLO, chief manager of Infodoc, specializing in information systems consulting and development. Open public conferences by Ingetraut DAHLBERG: "Current Trends in Knowledge Organization" and by José María IZQUIERDO: "Conceptual structures for documentary representation".

1st Session: Theoretical Backgrounds and Basic Research. Chair: Antonio GARCIA. Papers: Carlos CASTRO (Univ. of Granada): Theoretical backgrounds for a knowledge technology: an evolutionist perspective of culture. - Constanza ESPELT (Escola Universitaria de Biblioteconomia i Documentacio, Barcelona): Theoretical background of documentary languages instruction. - José M. IZQUIERDO and Luis Miguel MORENO (Seminario de Lingüística Documental, Grupo Semiodoc, Univ. of Murcia): Meta-linguistic terminological problems in indexing languages. - Miguel Angel ESTEBAN (Univ. of Zaragoza): Knowledge organization and representation in archives: archival documentary languages in classification, ordering and description processes. - María Paz MARTIN (Univ. Carlos III de Madrid): Theoretical problems in designing a universal classification for archives. - Ana Isabel SANCHEZ, Francisco Javier GARCIA (Univ. of Zaragoza): Indexing, classification and abstracting in Spanish professional serials (1982-1992). - F. Javier GARCIA (Univ. of Zaragoza): Research paradigms in knowledge organization and representation. - The debate of the first Session was coordinated by Emilia CURRAS.

2nd Session: Teaching Experiences. Coordinated by Rosa

SAN SEGUNDO and chaired by José Antonio MOREIRO. Papers: José A. MOREIRO (Univ. Carlos III of Madrid): Documentary languages teaching in Spanish Library and Information Studies: Trends and Problems. - Félix del VALLE (Univ. Complutense of Madrid): Image analysis and representation: instructional experiences. - Jose Antonio MERLO and Blanca RODRIGUEZ (Univ. of Léon): Documentary languages teaching in the University of Léon. - José Antonio FRIAS (Univ. of Salamanca): Links between cataloguing and documentary analysis: approach taken in the curriculum of the University of Salamanca. - Blanca GIL (Univ. Complutense): Teaching schedule of pre- and post-coordinated indexing systems. - María José LOPEZ-HUERTAS (Univ. of Granada): UDC teaching methodology. - Carlos CASTRO and Francisco HERRANZ (Univ. of Granada): Documentary languages in the first cycle of university studies in Spain from the perspective of the new licentiature in Documentation.

3rd Session: Applied Research (coordination and chair by Miguel Angel ESTEBAN and Javier GARCIA MARCO). Papers: José M. IZQUIERDO (Univ. of Murcia): Computer-assisted document generation: a standard microsystem for knowledge organization. - Adelaida ROMAN (CINDOC): Indexing terms and information research. - José Luis URIONDO and Gonzalo GIL (Biblioteca del INSS, Madrid): Current systematic ordering for libraries: an integrated methodology. - Carmen AGUSTIN (Univ. of Zaragoza): Indexing languages for information systems in educational centers. - Grupo de Investigación de Tecnologías de la Información (Univ. of Murcia): Information technology: its incidence in the information professional profile. - Grupo de Investigación de Tecnologías de la Información (Univ. of Murcia): A hypertext interface for a thesaurus construction system. - Luis Miguel MORENO and Celia CHAIN (Univ. of Murcia): Information and documentation organizing in the museums of the autonomous Region of Murcia. - Jesús TRAMULLAS (Univ. of Zaragoza): Evolution of classification systems in archeology: from data to interpretation. -

The main conclusion from the meeting was the need of a more close cooperation among theoreticians, researchers, professionals, teachers and students interested in the field of Knowledge Organization. Organizers felt the need to inform more actively in the future on such a conference in the professional media, as apparently relatively few, though very relevant, participants reacted to such an announcement. It was also decided to constitute the Spanish ISKO Chapter, as the membership of our organization in Spain increased by many new applications.

The participants agreed that a state-of-the-art report on the teaching plans and methodologies adopted in Spain for training in our field should be produced. Subsequently, Constanza ESPELT and Rosa SEQUI from Barcelona accepted to coordinate the contributions of Session 2 together with contributions from some others not having been present at this conference in order to provide for a survey on the Spanish situation which might then also serve for a possible comparison with the situation in other countries.

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3rd German ISKO Chapter Conference

From Oct.26-29, 1993 some 60 participants of five countries (Austria, Germany, Italy, Switzerland and Hungary) met at Weilburg/Lahn to discuss very vividly problems related to "System-oriented, Cognitive, and Model-Related Aspects of Knowledge Organization". An extensive report of this meeting will be included in the next issue of this journal; the proceedings are being prepared to be published, again together with the papers from the preceding DGD/KTF-ISKO Workshop on "Thesauri as Terminological Lexicons", in the German series *Fortschritte in der Wissensorganisation*. They will be available from INDEKS Verlag, early in 1994.

The program of this conference and its preceding workshop had been published already in issue 93-3 of *Knowledge Organization, ISKO News*.

First Ernst Schröder Kolloquium

The first public event of the newly founded Ernst Schröder Centre will take place at the TH Darmstadt, Dec. 3, 1993. Its main speaker will be Karl-Otto APEL, Institute for Philosophy, Univ. of Frankfurt. His topic: *Diskursethik und Semiotik*. (Discourse Ethics and Semiotics). Additional speakers will be the President of the Technical University of Darmstadt, Prof. Dr. Helmut BÖHME and Prof. Dr. Rudolf WILLE.

The Colloquy was planned in connection with a **first Ernst Schröder Seminar** arranged for the following day (Dec.4) in the Department of Mathematics, TH Darmstadt. Its topic: "Sprachliches Verstehen durch GABEK" (Verbal understanding by GABEK). It will be directed by Prof. Dr. Josef ZELGER, Innsbruck. The following topics have been proposed: Urs ANDELINGER: *Repräsentation von Texten durch Begriffsnetze*. (Representation of texts by concept nets). - *Auswertung von Begriffsnetzen: Das Wirkungsgefüge und das Bewertungsprofil* (Evaluation of concept nets). - Martin MAIER: *Beispiel einer GABEK-Anwendung. Schwierigkeiten und Ergebnisse*. (Example of a GABEK-Application. Difficulties and results) - *Vom Begriffsnetz zur sprachlichen Gestalt* (From a concept net to a verbal Gestalt). - *Anwendungen zur Präzisierung von Fragestellungen an ein Informationssystem*. (Applications of a more precise asking of questions from an information system). - *Sind Träume und Phantasien nach Art sprachlicher Gestalten strukturiert?* (Are dreams and fantasies structured according to verbal Gestalts?).

For further information turn to Prof. Dr. R. Wille, FB Mathematik, Techn. Hochschule, D-64289 Darmstadt. Tel.: 0151-163415. Fax: 06151-164011. Internet: ag01@mathematik.th-darmstadt.de.

Conceptual Knowledge Processing

The Darmstadt Research Group on Concept Analysis has invited, together with the Ernst Schröder Zentrum für Begriffliche Wissensverarbeitung and the International Society for Knowledge Organization, ISKO, to participate in a conference on *Conceptual Knowledge Processing*, to take place on Febr.23-26, 1994 at Darmstadt.

The conference aims at promoting research work, development and application in the field of conceptual knowledge processing. Of central interest is the support by adequate tools and methods of human rational thinking, judging and acting in order to counteract the threatening loss (den drohenden Abbau) of cognitive autonomous thinking by knowledge and information systems no longer to be mastered.

Applications for participation should be sent until Jan. 31, 1994 to Prof. Dr. R. Wille, FB Mathematik, TH, Schloßgartenstr. 7, D-64289 Darmstadt.

Knowledge Organization in the Environmental Sciences

This is the topic of ISKO's first European Conference in a subject area, planned to take place in Bratislava, Slovakia, Sept.1994. At present the Centers concerned with this subject area are being contacted and a call for papers is being prepared for circulation in December 1993.

Personal News

Was it not Douglas J. FOSKETT who brought the idea of faceted classification from India to Europe? The Dorking Conference of 1957 stated the helpfulness of this way of categorizing concepts and from then on the way was paved for a new era in the history of classification in Europe. Foskett's first most illustrious paper on faceted classification was published, however, in the States, in the famous ICSI Proceedings of the International Conference on Scientific Information, Washington, 1958. Many articles and a number of books and classification systems followed during the years when he was Director of the Central Library Services, University of London and also, of course, later on.

Next to his dear wife, however, the British Classification Research Group, of which we just reported on its 293rd Meeting (see under FID/CR News) seems to have succeeded in conquering most of his heart.

There would be much, much more to tell about a life so rich in classification experiences; how do I wish to read this story once written by Douglas himself!

ISKO is very happy to congratulate one of its first members, Douglas FOSKETT, on his 75th birthday, which happened already on June 27, 1993.

May you continue, dear Douglas, to share with us in many years to come the wonderful gifts and insights you received so abundantly from above!