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In the last issue of FID/CR News a report on the 4th FID/CR Conference was included. The Recommendations of this conference are following below. We should like to refer also to the short report on this conference in the Infoterm News of this issue as well as to the book review on the 3rd FID/CR Conference at Bombay by Dr. Helmut BECK, Jena (see p.169-). It seems that this is the only review of the huge proceedings volume which has ever been published and we are very grateful to Mr. Beck for it. The Augsburg Proceedings have been published only half-way still, Vol.I is available at INDEKS Verlag, Vol.II is scheduled to appear at the beginning of 1983.

4th International Study Conference on Classification Research. Conclusions and Recommendations

1. Present Situation

The 4th International Study Conference on Classification Research, held at Augsburg, Federal Republic of Germany, June 28-July 2, 1982, with 110 participants from 22 nations present, marks the 25th anniversary of the first classification research conference at Dorking, England, which was succeeded 7 years later by the one at Elsinore, Denmarkin 1964, and again 11 years later by the one at Bombay, India in 1975. Since this latter meeting, there has been a growing recognition of the transdisciplinary character of classification research, extending to such activities as mathematical (statistical) methods for data analysis and classification, biological taxonomies (especially cladistics), and network analysis in the social sciences.

It can be stated that remarkable progress has been made during the last 25 years towards the establishment of classification studies as a recognized field of scientific research, perhaps to be called "classification science" or "taxilogy". This becomes especially visible in the products of its activities!

Standard guidelines have been developed for the construction of mono-and multilingual thesauri, thus enabling the construction of such tools for better communication and for switching between different language groups. The more elaborate and consistent methodology for the creation of classification systems and thesauri, has resulted in products like the Unesco Thesaurus of 1977 and the ROOT Thesaurus of 1981, the many thesauri now available in machine-readable form, the development of the necessary computer program packages for thesaurus maintenance, the updating and further generation of subthesauri, as well as other activities combined with these systems.

The idea of thesaurus integration was born, meaning a compilation of several thesauri and/or classification systems (CS) in certain subject fields for the purpose of using its product, an "Integrated Thesaurus" for switching between bibliographic data bases and/or using it for the establishment of compatibility between CS and thesauri in cooperative classification and indexing activites.

The trend towards more and more universality in thesaurus design, in the thesauri mentioned above as well as in the generation of macrothesauri and integrated thesauri reveals thinking and subsequent action aimed at synthesis and universality.

This has led the FID/CR Committee and associations cooperating with it to devote the topic of the 4th International Study Conference to the idea of universality and universal ordering systems. It had long been felt, besides, that the following needed to be considered:
— a new understanding of the principles of universality of concept systems, classification systems, indexing languages,
— new approaches to universal organization of knowledge contained in concepts and topics, and
— new demands from the points of view of different groups of users of universal systems.

An ordering system can comprise all existing subject fields and yet not obey the idea of universality unless its structures reveal the interrelatedness that stems from a proper "systems" understanding, design and construction. In recent times, systems based on the theory of integrative levels and on other universal principles and methods have been designed and constructed and applied within small user communities. However, more research and development toward the improvement of the application of such principles seems to be necessary.

2. Methodological Recommendations

Taking into account the presentations and deliberations of the 4th International Study Conference on Classification Research the participants recommend the following research and development programs for the forthcoming years concerning

CLASSIFICATION
(A) - as a Science:
(1) to apply the findings of general semantics, general systems theory and similar abstract theories and principles in the study of the organization of knowledge;
(2) to study the relationships of concepts among themselves and in connection with universals of natural languages;
(3) to pursue further studies of relationships to be used in the paradigmatic and syntagmatic organization of knowledge, especially regarding
(a) the use of generic, partitive, opposition and functional relationships in existing CS and thesauri as well as in the elaboration of new ones, and (b) the use of such grammatical theories as e.g. dependence grammar in the composition and formulation of strings/conceptual propositions;
(4) to investigate and apply quantification and other measurement techniques in concept analysis, construction and establishment of relationships and to use scientometric investigations for the recognition of concept clusters implying hitherto unconscious organization of knowledge.

(B) - as a universal/transcultural field of study:
(5) in order to meet the needs of all cultural groups, to study the theory of and to improve on a conscious theoretical basis, existing CS such as the UDC, the

DDC, BC2 and other universal schemes, and to examine the classes and concepts in such schemes with respect to their possible obsolescence and other inadequacies for all cultural groups;

(6) to study the extent to which general principles of classification can play a part in improving effectiveness of manual and computerized IR systems.

(C) - *as a trans- and interdisciplinary field of study:*
(7) to use definition theory and improved definition techniques for the recognition and analysis of concepts and the establishment of more objective concept systems preferably in cooperation with those engaged in terminological studies;
(8) to study the interrelationships between disciplines (a) on a conceptual level, (b) through empirical investigations of given sociological structures, and (c) through comparisons between theoretical and empirical approaches;
(9) to promote state-of-the art reports on the organization of knowledge in different fields based on the understanding which members of scientific societies have of their proper subject fields, visible in their own CS and taxonomies, their nomenclatures and terminologies;
(10) to search for and elaborate relevant epistemologies of subject areas, disciplines, and specific fields, especially with respect to the social sciences and the humanities;

(D) - *as a non-dogmatic field of activities:*
(11) to critizise dogmatic assertions in order to avoid such statements that such as that one approach is the only approapriate one and that another one is absolutely inappropriate;
(12) to encourage the criticism or even the rejection of the standardization of objects in classification and indexing which are still subject to research in progress and, therefore, to continuing change.

(E) - *as user of new procedures and technologies:*
(13) to study the possibilities and applications of the procedures of data and cluster analysis for knowledge organization and information retrieval;
(14) to consider the impact of new information technology especially with regard to the use of classification systems and thesauri in online IR systems, in and with regard to microcomputers, videotextual devices and similar tools, e.g. by developing classificatory aids for online searching situations or by elaborating more sophisticated guides for the user of such devices;
(15) to investigate the impact of data retrieval on design and construction of CS and thesauri;
(16) to investigate and where possible to expand the use of computers in the teaching of classification.

(F) - *as a user oriented activity:*
(17) to conduct and evaluate user surveys of existing CS and thesauri on regional and on subject-oriented bases;
(18) to develop generally acceptable sets of criteria in terms of user needs in order to evaluate existing classification systems and thesauri in the context of their specific purposes;

(19) to establish compatibility between and integration of existing CS and thesauri in order to promote ease of use of the many existing information systems;
(20) to give more emphasis to the needs of users, in particular through theoretical and empirical research into cognition, behaviour and linguistics as primary factors in the design and evaluation of CS and thesauri.

3. Logistical Recommendations

(A) *Concerning the Teaching of Classification:*
see also Recommendation (16) above
(1) to include the theoretical and historical background in the teaching of classification and indexing;
(2) to elaborate a common curriculum for the different levels of knowledge in classification application activities;
(3) to hold an international conference devoted to the topics of the teaching of classification and indexing.

(B) *Concerning the Terminology of Classification:*
(4) to encourage the elaboration of comparable glossaries in different languages in the field of classification and indexing and to compile multilingual dictionaries for classification concepts.

(C) *Concerning Contacts to Scientific Unions and Societies:*
(5) to contact the various international scientific associations and survey their activities in the fields of classification, nomenclature, terminology;
(6) to study the conceptual interrelationships of such scientific associations among and between each other and the volume of their respective activities;
(7) to offer cooperation and exchange of information on the state-of-knowledge in the field of classification and indexing;
(8) to propose and hold classification conferences on a national and international level together with such associations and societies.

(D) *Concerning Contacts Between Classification and Indexing Experts:*
(9) to establish, maintain and circulate an international roster of classification and indexing experts with indexes by country, subject, and activity (research, application, teaching, etc.);
(10) to establish national committees and societies for classification and indexing where these do not as yet exist.

(E) *Concerning the Distribution of Knowledge on Classification:*
(11) to establish and to regularly update international bibliographies in the field of classification and indexing through cooperation of the scientific community of classification experts and to make these bibliographies known to everybody working in the field;
(12) to hold classification conferences regularly on a national and regional level; international conferences of FID/CR should be held at least every five years.

FID-CR Session at the Hong Kong FID Congress

Under the chairmanship of Prof.Dr.E.CURRAS an FID/CR Session was held in Hong Kong, Sept.15, 1982. The following papers were presented and discussed: EBINUMA, Y.: Promotion of keyword assignment to scientific literature (the paper was read by Mr. Habara in the absence of the author). - FELBER, H.: New developments in terminology information. The general theory of terminology - a theoretical basis for information. - KAWASHIMA, J.: A keyword system for patent documents developed by JAPATIC. -LAU, B., WINKEL, A.: Problems in the subject description of monographical literature: report on an experiment. - WORMELL, I.: Factual data retrieval according to the SAP-technique (a summary of this last paper was read by Ms. Winkel).

IFLA Section on Classification and Subject Cataloguing

There were two open meetings of this Section during the IFLA Congress at Montréal, Aug. 1982. In the first meeting Michel FOURNIER, head of the Division of Documentary Analysis of the Université Laval in Quebec reported on the adaptation of the Library of Congress Subject Headings in French. He started with the historical background and outlined the present situation with respect to methodology, establishment of headings and links -and further discussed advantages and disadvantages of the adaptation. Suzanne JOUQUELET, conservateur at the Bibliothèque Nationale in Paris and secretary of our Section reported on the project of taking over the subject headings of the Université Laval. She discussed problems related to documents, staff and users and gave special attention to establishment of headings through adoption, translation or creation of new headings. She discussed also the possibilities of international cooperation in subject cataloguing. Finally, Bertha Nelly CARDONE DE GIL from ICFES in Bogota, CO dealt with similar problems of translation and adaptation in the Spanish language.

In the second meeting, Morten Laursen VIG, head of the Roskilde University Library in Denmark and vice chairman of the FID Central Classification Committee dealt with new developments in the UDC and the FID. John HUMPHRY, executive director of Forest Press coordinated a presentation on the international aspects of DDC. He was assisted by Walter W. CURLEY (international commitments), chairman of the Forest Press Committee, John P. COMAROMI, editor of DDC (projected changes and improvements) and Mohammed M. AMAN, director of the School of Library Science, University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee (DDC in Arabic).

The Standing Committee met twice. In the first meeting reports were given on the 4th FID/CR Conference and the CIP Conference in Ottawa. At the second meeting, most of the time was dedicated to section and division project work. The section takes part in a divisional project on mechanized national bibliographies and cooperates with the cataloguing section on a CIP project. The section will consider starting work on standards for classification and subject indexing.

Some time was also spent on preparing the programm for the 1983 conference in Munich. Topics like string input systems (PRECIS), subject access to databases (Bibliodata) and German standards for classification and indexing were mentioned.

During the conference, chairman and secretary took part in meetings of the Division of Bibliographic Control, the Advisory Board of the UBC-Office and in a Working Group meeting on the bibliography of the IFLA conference papers.

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ASIS/SIG/CR. Highlights from the Annual Report 1981/1982

SIG/CR began the 1981/1982 term with a very successful and well-attended set of technical programs at the annual conference (of the American Society for Information Science - ASIS -) in Washington. The SIG co-sponsored sessions with SIG/AH (Arts and Humanities) and SIG/MGT (Mangement), and fielded a Classification Research Forum. The SIG did not run a session at ASIS Mid-Year in Knoxville. Three excellent newsletters were published by Newsletter Editor Sue SAHLI. SIG Chairwoman Candy SCHWARTZ was invited to speak at the annual meeting of the American Society of Indexers. Membership as of the 1982 ASIS directory was listed at 237 members.

At the ASIS Annual Meeting 1982 in Columbus, Ohio, SIG/CR activities included a pre-conference forum on Compatibility of Retrieval Languages. (For the program see Int.Classif.82-2, p.100). Mike POLLASTRO will be writing a report on this forum for the SIG Newsletter. It also sponsored two technical sessions: (1) "Subject Access to Numeric Databases" (together with SIG/NDB - Numeric Databases) and (2) "Automated Retrieval and Subject Analysis". The first one was chaired by C.D.BATTY (Alpha Omega Group, Silver Spring, Md.). The first paper "Subject access to numeric databases: a state-of-the-art survey" by Nina Katz FELDMAN (Cullinane Corp., Westwood, MA) who was unable to attend, was presented by Candy Schwartz (Simmons College, Boston, MA). Most access systems to numeric data are command-driven, requiring knowledge of both syntax and codes on the part of the user. There is a trend toward the development of prompted and menu-driven retrieval systems, and some research in the area of "true" natural language systems. Current user aids are cumbersome and poorly organized. - Karen KUKICH (Bell Laboratories, Murray Hill, NJ) and University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA) presented her research on "Generating natural language stock reports from numeric data". A multi-stage analysis accepts numeric stock data and generates semantic messages. A phrasal lexicon is used to produce sentences which are "smoothed" into good English. Although this experiment is restricted to stock data, the techniques and principles are generalizable, and Ms. Kukich is eager to consider other numeric data applications. - Finally, Robert BAUMGARTNER (Predicasts, Inc., Cleveland, OH) discussed "Problems and opportunities in thesaurus development for numeric databases". Predicasts has developed controlled vocabularies for units of measure, country codes, event codes, and subject (sic!) codes. Recently, Predicasts has extended the subject thesaurus to a multilingual vocabulary in French, German and English. -Concludingly, Ms. SCHWARTZ summarized the session by underscoring the similarities in problems

and approaches between bibliographic and numeric databases. There is a growing interest in providing access for end users, and solutions to the retrieval problem include natural language interfaces and examination of the ease of use of retrieval languages.

The second SIG/CR Session was originally intended as a panel of presented papers. For various reasons, 3 of the 4 speakers were unable to attend. Rather than cancel the session, organizers Irene TRAVIS (Planning Research Corp., McLean, VA) and Raya FIDEL (University of Washington, Seattle, WA) moderated a group discussion on the topic. Chairs were pulled in a circle and Dr.Travis introduced some basic questions:

- What new uses of controlled vocabularies are evident with online retrieval?
- How might online retrieval affect the indexing process?
- What should be indexed, and what terms should be controlled?
- Does the quality of indexing need to be re-examined?
- Where should the intellectual efforts go in terms of automated systems?

Pauline COCHRANE (Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY) noted that she was glad to see the rebirth of the informal exchange of ideas. She also spoke of the effect of automated retrieval on the Thesaurus of ERIC Descriptors and the Library of Congress Subject Headings. Jim ANDERSON (Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ) described the emphasis on using computer-based mapping of indexer chosen terminology to controlled terms, used for the MLA bibliography. Bruce STEIN stressed the importance of the effect of the disciplinary area on indexing, and pointed out that full-text retrieval systems create great problems for subject search. Brett BUTLER (IAC, Menlo Park, CA) reminded the group that most online database producers also have to index for manual systems. Stephen BULICK (Bell Labs., Murray Hill, NJ) questioned the usefulness of linear classification schemes in dealing with multi-dimensional relationships. Martin DILLON (University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC) expressed disappointment that the group was dealing with problems of the last decade, and suggested that the major retrieval impetus should be on relieving the user from the use of vocabularies. Suzanne GEIGLE (BNA Inc., Washington, DC) repeated the practical need for consideration of indexing in full-text databases. Ralph DUMAIN (Buffalo, NY) and Bella Haas WEINBERG (YIVO Institute for Jewish Research, Pittsburgh, PA) discussed the necessity for distinguishing meaning and "aboutness" from lexicographic representation. Lea BOHNERT (University of Rhode Island, Providence, RI), Bruce STEIN and Stephen BULICK argued about the viability of traditional indexing and classification languages. Elaine SVENONIUS (UCLA, Los Angeles, CA) brought up the issue of the effect of syntax and term combinations on thesauri.

Finally, various SIG/CR members were present at two informal gatherings. The first was a meeting of SIG/CR and FID/CR members and other American and European classificationists. The various different classification groups were discussed, and the importance of strengthening communication lines was emphasized. The second was a reception hosted by SIG Chairwoman Candy Schwartz, to which members and friends were invited.

SIG/CR Officers 1982/83:

Chairwoman: Candy SCHWARTZ, Graduate School of Library and Information Science, Simmons College, 300 The Fenway, Boston, MA 02115

Chairman-Elect: Johne LEIDE, Graduate School of Library Science, McGill University, 3459 McTavish Str., Montreal H3A 1Y1, Canada

Past Chairwoman: Elaine SVENONIUS, Graduate School of Library and Information Science, UCLA, Los Angeles, CA 90024

Secretary-Treasurer: Roxanne NEWTON, PRC Government Inform. Systems, 1500 Planning Research Drive, McLean, VA 22102

Newsletter Editor: Sue SAHLI, Department of Library Science, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL 60115

Cabinet Representative: E.Svenonius; Alternate: C. Schwartz

Nominations Committee: C.Schwartz, R.Fenske, E.Svenonius.

C. Schwartz

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The eleven members present on June 17, 1982 discussed a first draft of the revised Bliss 2 tables on politics as presented by Mr.Mills, especially the general structure and the sequence of its subfields. This draft was circulated and added to the minutes. Concerning the next meeting, scheduled for Oct.14, 1982, the classification of law was put onto the agenda.

Research Projects

Conservation and Indexing of the Sudan Archive in Durham University Library
Research workers: E.S.B. Cory, E.J. Bennett. University of Durham. Library. Oriental Section. Duration: 1977–1981.
The Sudan Archive contains official and private papers which document in great detail the Sudan under Mahdist and condominium rule for the period 1881–1919 and, in less detail, the period 1920 onwards. It contains also substantial numbers of papers relating to Egypt, Arabia, Palestine and African states bordering on the Sudan . . .
Source: RADIALS Bull. (1981) No. 2, item 454.

Classifying and Cross-Referencing Writings Relating to Children's Literature.
Development of a theory of children's literature, treated as a field of knowledge.
Research worker: J. Crompton. University of Newcastle upon Tyne, School of Education. Duration: 1980–1985.
Source: RADIALS Bull. (1981) No. 2, item 357.

Classification and Cataloguing of Chinese Collections in Libraries of English-Speaking Countries.
Research worker: F. Smith. Loughborough University. Dept. of Library and Information Studies. Duration: Febr.1980-Oct.1981.
Source: RADIALS Bull. (1981) No. 2, item 455.

Establishing Keyword-Accessed Index for Literature of Archaeological Science.
Research worker: M.L. Shackley. University of Leicester, Dept. of Archaeology. Duration: 1980- (continuing).
Source: RADIALS Bull. (1981) No. 2, item 461.