FID/CR News 5

Calendar of Meetings
(exclusive of those listed in IC 9(1982)No.1)

May 28-29: Bonn - Meeting of FID/C91+(1/9) Geography etc. Contact: Prof.E.Meynen, Langenbergweg 82, D-5300 Bonn 2.

June 3-4, Bordeaux: Utilisation des thesaurus: indexation, gestion et mise à jour de l'outil. Animateurs: Mme.D. Menillet, J.Burah. Contact: ADBS Formation, 5, ave.Franco-Russe, F-75007 Paris.

June 7-11, Hamburg: Inhaltliche Erschließung I. Fortbildungsseminar für Medienarchivare/-dokumentare. Contact: Ernst Lukas, DGD-LID, Westendstr. 19, D-6000 Frankfurt 1.

June 18-20, Toronto: 20th Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics. Contact: Dr.D.E. Walker, ACL, Artificial Intelligence Center, SRI International, EJ278, Menlo Park, CA 94025, USA

June 21-22, München: Inhaltliche Erschließung II. Contact: DGD-LID, Westendstr. 19, D-6000 Frankfurt I.

July 6-7: Dublin - Meeting of FID/C 69 - Construction, Architecture and Physical Planning. Contact: Mr.N.J. Hughes, The National Institute for Physical Planning and Construction Research, St. Martins House, Waterloo Road, Dublin 4, Ireland.

July 21-23: Ottawa - Seminar on Indexing in Perspective: Traditional to Computerized Retrieval Systems. Contact: NFAIS, 112 South 16th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19102, USA

Aug.16-20: Pittsburgh, USA - 2nd Annual Conference. A Artificial Intelligence. Contact: Amer.Assoc.Artif. Intelligence, L.G. Robinson, 445 Burgess Dr., Menlo Park, CA 94025, USA

Aug.19-21: St.Gallen, CH - 7th Symposium of the Society for Mathematics, Economy and Operations Research. Contact: Institut für Unternehmensforschung, Hochschule St.Gallen, Bodanstr.6, CH-9000 St.Gallen.

Aug.30-Sept.3: Frankfurt/Main - Inhaltliche Erschließung II. (Subject Analysis and Indexing). Seminar for Media Archivists and Documentalists. Contact: Ernst Lukas, Lehrinst.f.Dokumentation, Westendstr. 19, D-6000 Frankfurt 1.

Sept.15: Hong Kong - The Application of the Universal Decimal Classification (UDC): An Open Forum for UDC Users. Contact: Prof. Y.Nakamura, c/o Sasaki Bldg., 5-7 Koisikawa 2, Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo Japan.

Sept.15: Hong Kong - Special Open Forum on Classification Research. (FID/CR). Contact: Prof.Dr. Emilia Curras, c/o Facultad de Ciencias, Departamento de Documentacion Cientifica, Universidad Autonoma de Madrid, Madrid-34, Spain.

Sept.27-Oct.1, Bad Honnef: GWAI-82, the Sixth German Workshop on Artifical Intelligence. Contact: Dr. Wolfgang Wahlster, FB Informatik, Universität Hamburg, Schluterstr. 70, D-2000 Hamburg 13.

Oct.5-7, Versailles: Third International Symposium. Data Analysis and Informatics. Contact: Institut National de Recherche en Informatique et en Automatique (INRIA). Mr. J.Quinqueton, B.P.105, F-78153 Le Chesnay Cedex, France.

Oct.14-17, Palermo: 10th National Congress of Commodity Science, with international participation. Theme: Classification and characterisation of goods. Contact: Prof.sa Gilda Russo Fiorenzi, Via Titina de Filippo, 31. I-90125 Palermo

Oct.15-19, Cannes: International Videocommunications Conference. Contact: VIDCOM 82. 179 ave.Victor Hugo, F-75116 Paris.

Oct.19-22, München: 6th International Conference on Pattern Recognition. Contact: Prof.Dr.H.Niemann, Lehrstuhl für Informatik 5, Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg, Martensstr. 3, D-8520 Erlangen

Dec.15-17, Southampton: Databases in Systematics. An International Symposium. Contact: Dr.R.Allkin, Biology Department, Bldg.44, University, Southampton S09 5NH, England

1983

July 11-16: Salzburg - 7th International Congress of Logic, Methodology and Philosophy of Science. Contact: Prof.Dr.Paul Weingartner, Institut für Philosophy, Universität Salzburg, Franziskanergasse 1/1, A-5020 Salzburg, Austria.

Aug.8-12, Karlsruhe: International Joint Conference on Artificial Intelligence, IJCAI-83. Contact: Prof.Saul Amarel, Computer Science Department, Hill Center/ Bush Campus, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ, 08903.

Augsburg FID/CR Conference

The 4th International Study Conference on Classification Research, held at Augsburg, FRG, June 28-July 2, 1982 of which an introduction and the program were presented already in FID/CR News 4 (Int.Classif.9 (1982)No.1, p.33-35) turned out to be another landmark in the recent history of classification knowledge. It was at the same time also the 6th Annual Conference of the Gesellschaft für Klassifikation. In the agreeable atmosphere of the Haus St.Ulrich, an educational institution of the Catholic Church, participants found perfect places for lectures, discussions, exhibitions, conversations at the fireside corner, as well as a hall for meditations, one for meals and another one with a gorgeous swimming pool.

The conference was supported by the UNESCO, the FID, the Society for Information and Documentation (GID) and the German Society for Documentation (DGD). It was organized by the Secretariats of FID/CR and Ges.f. Klassifikation. During the Opening Session on June 28 the conference sponsors expressed their wishes for its success with the FID being represented by Prof. Helmut Arntz, an Honorary Fellow of FID, who stressed that although the FID's main concern was the UDC it had become interested as far back as the twenties in general classification problems as well, which had led to the establishment of the Committee on Classification Research after the last war in 1946. Mr. Tor Henriksen spoke on behalf of the new IFLA Section on Classifica-

tion and Subject Cataloguing underlining the complementary character of this new committee with respect to FID/CR. UNESCO/GIP was represented by Mrs. Lamia Salman-El-Madini who expressed the continuing interest of the General Information Programme, the successor section to the UNISIST programme, in matters of classification. Dr.Brigitte Endres-Niggemeyer outlined the expectations of the Gesellschaft für Information und Dokumentation (GID) for the results of this conference to stimulate research work and to help in public information policy making. She pointed also to the needs of the new large data bases for better orienting the users on their contents as well as to Artificial Intelligence (AI) work with its growing interest in knowledge organization and representation. Dr.Robert Fugmann, who represented the Gesellschaft für Klassifikation, related the Augsburg conference to the last one at Bombay in 1975 and pointed at the progress achieved but also at the dangers of the elegant and now comparatively inexpensive information systems which have been established in the last seven years but whose indexing languages often rely too much on their vocabulary and are devoid of a sufficiently powerful grammar. He had experienced that the scientific community realizes more and more the value coming from classification research. Dr.Frankenberger, the Director of the Augsburg University Library, introduced the 2000 year old city of Augsburg to the audience, and Domkapitular Dr.Ziegelbauer welcomed the participants on behalf of the Haus St.Ulrich, informing them of the historic significance of this very place. On behalf of FID/CR its chairperson Ingetraut Dahlberg opened the conference and introduced the speakers of this opening session. It was concluded by the keynote address of Helmut Arntz entitled: "Universality of Classification?" He treated this topic from a linguistic/ terminological and a philosophical point of view, envisaging the relevance of "universality" for classification in the creation of systems which are oriented towards a central focus, with an inbuilt principle taking care of all existing and necessary interconnections. In order to regain universality of classification systems, it will also become necessary to consider "broad concepts" and he presented a list of such topical concepts. Ordering systems of the future, although they must also serve specialists should try to repair the damage which was introduced through the overall particularization of concepts as practiced in the thesaurus-like indexing languages.

The first evening was concluded by a reception sponsored by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Dokumentation, DGD, in the Haus St.Ulrich, where the 84 participants from 22 countries enjoyed the chance of meeting again or getting acquainted personally after long years of "literature aquaintance". It was very much regretted that representatives from three countries could not attend: From Poland Dr.E.Scibor and Mr.F.Kleszcz, from the GDR Dr.Beck and Dr.Hartmann, and from Brasil Mrs. C.Cavalcanti. As far as possible their papers were considered though, as well as those from some others who had to stay at home, namely from Messrs. P.Glickert, M.A.Gopinath, E.V.Krishnamurthy, J.Mills, T.N.Rajan and H.H.Wellisch.

The abstracts of all of the papers had been distributed to each participant in May 1982. The 40 papers which had been sent to the secretariat early enough in camera-ready form were printed as Vol.I of the Proceedings and were given to the participants at the beginning of the conference. The rest of the papers (some 12) will appear in Vol.II together with the keynote address of H. Arntz on "Universality of Classification?", the introductory speeches, the discussions and the reports of the final session including also the brilliant synthesis of this conference, again accomplished by Eric de Grolier, and the recommendations discussed and acknowledged by the participants. Volume II should appear in October 1982.

It was fortunate indeed that Helmut Beck from Jena, GDR was able to review the volume of the FID/CR Bombay proceedings of 1975 shortly before the Augsburg conference and that it could be included in English in Vol.I already. He has very successfully tried to link the two conferences with each other, thus showing also the topical contingency in our field as well as the advancements.

The topic of the 4th FID/CR conference was "Universal Classification. Subject Analysis and Ordering Systems". The program was divided into four subtopics, namely '   '
1 General Principles and Policies of Classification Systems
2 Structure and Logics of Indexing Languages
3 Empirical Investigations and Practical Use
4 Problems of Numerical Taxonomy
Each topic (of 1-3) was treated in three plenary sessions (A,B,C) in the mornings and two workshops running in parallel with the two others in the afternoons. In addition there were two sessions (D) on Numerical Taxonomy scheduled on July 1. The distribution of the papers to the topics was well balanced, in each case some 15-17 for sessions A-C, and 8 for session D. (There are still some copies available free of charge of the programs and of the abstracts publication. The Proceedings volumes can be had from the INDEKS Verlag).

Speaking of results and advances a number of features should be mentioned evolving out of this 4th FID/CR Conference:
(1) the increasing mathematization of the field of classification, visible in the papers of de Grolier, Kashyap, Cavalcanti, Borko and Malanga and also in the sessions on numerical taxonomy with papers by Krauth, Meder, Löffler, Krishnamurthy, Späth, Vogel, Vogt et al and Fahrmeir (which attracted an additional number of 25 participants);
(2) the beginning of a systematization of classification science and practice itself as presented in the classification of classification during the preconference seminar;
(3) an accumulation of metatheoretical reflections on items of classification research visible in the contributions by Oeser, Rolland-Thomas, Gopinath, Rahmstorf, Foskett/Bury, Fugmann, Richmond, Svenonius, Ciganik, D.Austin, Gödert, Felber/ Nedobity, Kaula, van der Vet, Mönke, Sechser, Kumar, Kleszcz;
(4) the number of empirical investigations which were carried out recently and were demonstrated in the papers by de Grolier, Mark Pejtersen, J.Austin, Dienes, Joita/Atanasiu/Teodoru, Wersig/Burkart;

98

(5) New approaches in the understanding, design, structuring and use of classification systems shown in the papers by Bhattacharyya, Bonner, Craven, Eisenwort, Glickert, Mills, Scibor, Swaydan, Wellisch and Wahlin;

(6) the adaptation to and utilization of modern technology shown in the papers by Borko, Cochrane, Travis, Devadason/Ramanujam, Henriksen, Williamson, Schabas, Körner, Kelm/Maassen, Malanga, Rigby;

(7) the joining of interests and forces on the national and on the international level existing in the collaboration e.g. with IFLA, with The Classification Society, with the Unesco Integrated Thesaurus Project, with the ECSSID Compatibility Projects a.o.

It was obvious for everybody present through the quality of the 56 papers presented as well as through the serious discussions in every free minute of this gathering that the structuring, organization and retrieving of knowledge by conceptual as well as by numerical methods is becoming ever more exciting and also extending and that the field of classification is apparently advancing into an autonomous area of knowledge, into classification science or "taxology" - as this name was also proposed.

With respect to accompanying features there were online demonstrations provided by the Deutsches Institut für Medizinische Dokumentation und Information (DIMDI), Köln as well as by the Institute for Scientific Information, (ISI) Philadelphia, PA. Also, there were three book exhibitions: from the IC Editorial Office, from the authors of the conference papers themselves and from the K.G.Saur Publishing House, München.

The excursion on June 30 to the magnificent Neuschwanstein Castle of Ludwig II of Bavaria was blessed by a very beautiful sunshine; returning from there the participants could visit the famous "Wieskirche" and joined in the evening for a dinner at Wessobrunn. During the dinner the Ranganathan Award was presented to Mrs.Jean Aitchison (see below) and the PN Kaula Gold Medal was given to Helmut Arntz by the Indian cultural attaché in the Federal Republic of Germany, Mr.Sharma.

While in the evenings of June 29 and July 1 the members of FID/CR and Gesellschaft für Klassifikation hat to continue their work in their business meetings, the other participants enjoyed to explore the beauties of Augsburg with guides provides by the generosity of the city of Augsburg.

At the final session of the conference, the desire was expressed to have such international gatherings of FID/CR more often preferably at regular 5-year intervals.

The Conclusions and Recommendations of the 4th International Study Conference on Classification Research had to be edited by an international committee and could not be finalized before the issue date of Int. Classif. 9(1982)No.2. They will be published in the next issue.

I. Dahlberg

Ranganathan Award 1982: Mrs. Jean Aitchison

The Ranganathan Award, instituted in 1975 in India to be awarded every two years was given to Jean Aitchison this year at the occasion of the 4th International Study Conference on Classification Research, Augsburg, June 28-July 2, 1982, during the dinner at Wessobrunn, at the last station of the conference excursion. Prof. Helmut Arntz, former president of FID, presented the award reading the following text:

Dear Mrs. Aitchison !

On the basis of your well-known work in thesaurus modelling and construction you were proposed to the FID/CR Subcommittee for the Ranganathan Award, to receive this distinguished Award as the second prize-winner in its history, six years after Mr. Derek Austin in 1976. The Subcommittee considered this nomination very appropriate and agreed that you and your professional work is indeed worthy of such praise.

You have built a bridge between classification and thesaurus-making through the models set by you in your products "Thesaurofacet" of 1969, the "Unesco-Thesaurus" of 1977 and in the consultancy of the "ROOT-Thesaurus". You are again working now at the leading edge of classification devising and directing the work on the Integrated Thesaurus Project. All of this has led the Subcommittee to regard your work as an example for the professional community of classificationists.

You have done your work with most sincere devotion and modesty, remaining always in the background. We are very happy to use this public sign of international recognition to mark your work and to express our admiration for you!

Fortunately we are in the position to combine the Ranganathan Award this time also with a financial part, based on the generosity of the Danish Centre for Documentation.

Thus we hope that you will find an opportunity to fulfill some desires of yours with the 500.- guilders going with it!

Thank you dear Jean Aitchison, for having served our scientific community so brilliantly!

Yours - for the Ranganathan Award Subcommittee - (Dr. Ingetraut Dahlberg, Chairperson, FID/CR)

Here is the vitae of Mrs. Jean Aitchison:

During the early years of her career, Jean Aitchison (then Jean Binns), worked in several British special libraries and special departments of public libraries before setting up and administering for six years a divisional library of the English Electric Company. During this time, as a member of the Classification Research Group and influenced by S.R.Ranganathan she devised and applied in the library a faceted classification of engineering. On her marriage to Tom Aitchison, now Director of INSPEC, she became an independent consultant, after a period as a member of the Cranfield team testing indexing languages. Her consulting work has been wide ranging, but with emphasis on the design of information retrieval systems and the construction of thesauri. In 1969, she developed Thesaurofacet, innovative in its combination of a faceted classification with an alphabetical thesaurus. This served as a model for many thesauri published in the United Kingdom and elsewhere. The Thesaurofacet layout was modified in the UNESCO-

Thesauius, which she completed in 1977, and again in the ROOT Thesaurus, 1981, published by the British Standards Institution, for which she was the consultant. The ROOT system allows for the computer generation of the alphabetical thesaurus from information embedded in the classified section. She has also compiled several other thesauri, the latest being the Thesaurus on Youth, 1981, which follows the ROOT format. She is the author of a number of papers and reports and with Alan Gilchrist has written a handbook on thesaurus construction. In 1981 she completed a design study for the Integrated Thesaurus of the Social Sciences, UNESCO project for which she is at present the project coordinator.

U.K.: CRG Meetings 273 and 238

The 12 members present at the 237th meeting of the Classification Research Group held on Febr.25th 1982 at the Library Association discussed the problems of the classification of history. Mr. Langridge explained his ideas of arrangement first by broad cultural groups (eg, Western, African), then by epoch (eg Ancient, Mediaeval, Modern) and then by individual countries and broad periods. Thereafter each unit would be subdivided by social groups, aspects and precise time subdivisions. The history of particular disciplines might preferably be classed with the discipline.

Besides this the Bliss Classification was discussed in the field of archaeology especially with respect to the main divisions and the problems of field work and rescue archaeology. The schedule order for BC2 History was attached to the minutes.

At the 238th meeting of the Classification Research Group held on April 29, 1982 at the Library Association the outline for Geography, History and Topography was distributed and discussed. It was found that definitions were urgently needed for the concepts of "culture" and "area studies". The Dewey provisions for description and travel gave rise to vivid discussions on the correct placements of these concepts in BC2.

Compatibility of Retrieval Languages

A conference on this topic is planned to be held at Columbus, OH, USA on Oct.17, 1982 prior to the Annual Meeting of the American Society for Information Science by its Special Interest Group on Classification Research (ASIS/SIG/CR). The tentative program lists the following papers:
Introduction and welcome: Elaine Svenonius. - Conceptual compatibility between ordering systems: Ingetraut Dahlberg. - Data models for integrated thesauri: Dagobert Soergel. - International standardization of terminology as an aid to compatibility: Brian Harris. - Compatibility from the perspective of Artificial Intelligence and Computational Linguistics: Don Walker. - English (or other natural languages) as a compatible interface: Ralph Weischedel. -Automatic vocabulary mapping for online searching: Tamas Doszkocs. -Computer-assisted vocabulary switching for overcoming data base incompatibilities: Robert Niehoff. - Approaches toward transparent systems: Martha Williams.

Current Research Projects

This survey is incomplete and will be continued in the next issue.

Bibliographic Classification in Renaissance England
Research worker: Alain Besson. Duration: Jan.1981-Jan.1984. The aim is to describe the state of bibliographic classification in Renaissance England and to trace the factors which influenced its evolution.
Source: RADIALS Bull.(1981)No.1, item 358.

Search Pathways in Thesauri
Research workers: D.W.Langridge, P.W.Miller. Institution: The Polytechnic of North London School of Librarianship. Duration: 1 Nov.1980- (continuing)
A study of the variability of cross-reference structures in thesauri, directed to the possibility of developing systematic formulations (or descriptions) of such structures, in terms of relationships, on the plane of meaning, between term linkages which comprise search pathways.
Source: RADIALS Bull.(1981)No.2, item 477.

Subject Indexing for Effective Retrieval
Research worker: M.Dykstra at University of Sheffield, Postgraduate School of Library and Information Science. Duration: 1978-1981. Expected submission: Summer 1982.
Investigation into the problem of effective indexing and retrieval of the subject content of document in the light of linguistics and human communication theory. PRECIS will be analysed in detail as a possible working model illustrating the theoretical basis to be developed and explored.
Source: RADIALS Bull.(1981)No.1, item 365.

Users Reactions to PRECIS Indexes
Research workers: K.G.B.Bakewell, H.J.Peters, Liverpool Polytechnic, Department of Library and Information Studies. Duration: July 1980-June 1981.
Investigation of the reaction of users of PRECIS indexes (eg in BNB, British Education Index, the British Catalogue of Audio-Visual Materials and the British Universities Film Council Catalogue of Audio-Visual Materials).
Source: RADIALS Bull. (1981)No.1, item 366.

Entwicklung eines Thesaurus zur speziellen Erschliessung von Musikalien nach Anlass, Zweck und Inhalt. (Development of a thesaurus for the subject analysis of musical compositions according to causation, purpose and contents)
Research workers: K.Dorfmüller, K.Schneider. Deutsches Bibliotheksinstitut, Bundesallee 183/185, D-I000 Berlin 31. Duration: 1978-1981
Aim: developing help for music libraries, collections of printed music, music archives and documentation centers, radio libraries and archives.
Source: R&D Projects (FID/ISORID) (1981)No.1, item 1883.

Classification and Indexing in Literary Studies
Research worker: A.P.Fletcher. University of Strathclyde, Dept. of Librarianship. Duration: 1979-1981
Source: RADIALS Bull. (1980)No.2, item 407.

Information Transfer through Patent Classifications
Research worker: Tamara S.Eisenschitz. City University. Centre for Information Science. Duration: Summer 1981- (continuing). Comparing classifications assigned to patents in different fields using a variety of patent classifications. Relating these to classification fields used in the official search and to the search reports issued...
Source: RADIALS Bull. (1981)No.2, item 465.

T1 (Treasury) Papers: Listing and Indexing.
Research worker: F.M.L.Thompson. Institute of Historical Research. Duration: Jan.1980-Dec.1981.
The T1 class is the general repository of Treasury papers in the Public Record Office and the most important of all the classes of Treasury records, forming a continuous series from 1557 to 1920 when the Treasury's own recording system was changed and the T1 class disappeared.
Source: RADIALS Bull. (1981)No.2, item 458.