

The Importance of ISKO Conferences: An Editor's Note



The following two articles, I.C. McIlwaine's "Trends in Knowledge Organization Research" and Birger Hjørland's "Fundamentals of Knowledge Organization," are testimony to the importance of conferences in our field. The original versions were presented at the conference of ISKO's

Spanish chapter held in Salamanca, Spain in May 2003.¹ They are included here because they are comprehensive analyses of where and what we are as a field and merit a wide audience. Of course, much of what appears in ISKO conference proceedings merits wider consideration. McIlwaine's bibliography particularly bears this out. Further, the conferences themselves are the stuff of which scholarly cloth is woven. The papers, discussions, and casual encounters are full of brilliant threads to be woven into the tapestry that is knowledge organization.

ISKO, the International Society for Knowledge Organization, is the primary international venue in our field. It holds an international conference every two years. The next conference, the 8th International ISKO Conference (ISKO 8), will be held in London,

England, July 13th-16th 2004. with the theme: Knowledge Organization and the Global Information Society (see the announcement earlier in this issue or <http://www.ucl.ac.uk/isko2004/>). National chapters of ISKO frequently hold conferences in the years in between, often on more specialized themes.

Knowledge Organization as the official journal of ISKO is a key resource in following developments in our field. The conferences and their proceedings complement it, adding to the richness of our discourses. I strongly urge *KO* readers to attend whenever possible, to contribute to conferences, and to turn to the proceedings for insights.

Note

- 1 Tendencias de Investigación en Organización del Conocimiento/Trends in Knowledge Organization (2003). Research. Jos Antonio Frías and Críspulo Tráviso (Eds.). Salamanca : Ediciones Universidad de Salamanca.

Hope A. Olson
Editor-in-chief