COCTA NEWS

International Political Science Association

Planning for the next Congress of IPSA commenced at a meeting of the program committee (steering subcommittee) in Weimar, East Germany, Sept. 1980, subject to review by the IPSA Executive Committee, when it meets in Zürich, Jan. 1981. According to these draft plans each Research Committee (e.g. COCTA) will have the authority to sponsor a "Section," which will consist of two "Sessions," each to run a maximum of 2 1/2 hours. A maximum of eight persons can be included in the program for each Session, including the chair, paper-givers, and discussants.

The general program of the Congress will be organized into sections focusing on three themes: 1) Search for a new International Order; 2) Society and tbe Political Community, and 3) Political Discourse: Past, Present and Future. There are some possibilities for organizing sessions or promoting papers relevant to conceptual and terminological problems within the framework of the general problem and special sessions of the Congress, in addition to the two official sessions of COCTA.

The coordinator for all COCTA sessions and other activities at the IPSA Congress is Professor George J. Graham, Jr., Department of Political Science, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tenn. 37235, U.S.A. Do send him ideas or proposals for COCTA-sponsored activities at the IPSA Congress – which will be held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 11–14 August 1982. It is not too early to start making plans now!

International Sociological Association

The Executive Committee of I.S.A. met in Budapest, Hungary in Sept. 1980, and agreed on a set of rules for participation in the forthcoming Congress of the Association, which will take place in Mexico City, Aug. 23–28, 1982. Under these rules, COCTA will be permitted, as a Research Committee, to sponsor eight sessions, some of which will run for 145 minutes, and others for 130 minutes. If COCTA co-sponsors a panel with another Research Committee, an additional allocation of 130 minutes will become available. Stress is laid on the importance of including papers volunteered by members, in addition to any that may be invited.

A deadline of March 31, 1981 has been set for the submission of program session topics, and the names of session organizers. Information supplied prior to 31 January 1981 can be included in the *I.S.A. Bulletin.* The General theme for the Congress will be "Sociological Theory and Social Practice." With respect to any topics presented at the Congress, there should be an emphasis on 1) how theory is applied; 2) how theory is modified on the basis of experience; and 3) currently pressing problems that are global in scope.

The coordinator for COCTA-sponsored sessions at the ISA Congress is Professor Henry Teune, Political Science Department, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA, 19174. To facilitate liaison with two other ISA Research Committees, Professor Alberto Marradi, c/o ISVI, Via B. Bernardo 5, Catania, Italy, a member of the I.S.A. Committee on the Logic and Methodology of Sociology; and Prof. Jonathan Pool, Dept. of Political Science, University of Washington, Seattle, Wash. 98195, U.S.A., a member of the Sociolinguistics committee; will facilitate coordination. Please send your proposals to any one of these three persons, depending on its content. Note that, in addition to English and French language papers, presentations for the Mexico City congress can be made in Spanish.

Symposium on Key Concepts in Political Science

Several COCTA members met with Professor Giovanni Sartori, Columbia University, at his home in New York, on Sept. 7–8, 1980, to review the texts of papers prepared for inclusion in a symposium volume to be edited by Sartori. A set of "Guidelines" for the preparation of these papers had been presented at several prior COCTA meetings, most recently in Uppsala, during the I.S.A. Congress in August 1978. A revised text of these Guidelines was prepared for the New York meeting by Sartori. Papers to be included in the volume are the following, in addition to the "Guidelines":

George J. Graham, Jr.: "Consensus"
Robert H. Jackson: "Ethnicity"
Jan-Erik Lane: "Power"
Glenda M. Patrick: "Political Culture"
Fred W. Riggs: "Development"
Henry Teune: "Integration"

All but Lane, Umea University, Sweden, were able to come to New York for this workshop, which proved to be a lively and provocative exchange of views about the text of each paper. It is hoped that all will be revised by the end of 1980 and ready for final editing and submission to a publisher.

ISO/TC37: "Principles of Terminology"

The subcommittee no. 1 of the Technical Committee on Terminology of the International Standards Organization (ISO/TC37) met in Moscow on October 21–24, at Gosstandart. Through the International Social Science Council, COCTA is now an official "liaison" body for this committee. Accordingly the various draft standards under review by the committee have been sent to COCTA officers for comment, and (whenever possible) our committee can be represented at meetings of TC37 working groups.

In preparation for the Moscow meeting, Fred Riggs prepared a commentary on one of the most important documents, DP/704 – i.e. the Draft Proposal on Principles and Methods of Terminology. The most important change recommended would expand the potential relevance of the documents to the concerns of social scientists by emphasizing a more "descriptive" and a less "prescriptive" posture in the document. The focal point of this emphasis concerns the designation of "preferred terms" for each concept defined in a glossary. While recognizing that this prescriptive emphasis is quite appropriate in many subject fields, especially in technology and natural science, the COCTA recommendation takes the position that scholars writing in the social sciences and humanities are not prepared to accept such recommendations. They would, however, welcome

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a type of glossary that sets forth, in relation to each defined concept, a set of synonymous terms used to designate it, with contextual information about the persons, groups, or schools of thought employing each term. The degree to which terms set forth in a glossary are recommended or merely identified is, of course, a matter of degree, and not an absolute dichotomy.

Copies of the draft memo with these comments have been circulated to key COCTA members for comment. Anyone interested may secure a copy by writing Fred Riggs at the University of Hawaii. On the assumption that the text of R 704 has not yet been finalized, further suggestions and comments on it will be welcome, and should be sent to Riggs.

Glossary of "Indexing"

During the conference of the American Society for Information Science, in Anaheim, California, October 5--10, 1980, a decision was made by Fred Riggs, M. Lynne Neufeld, and Elaine Svenonius to prepare, as a pilot study, a small glossary of some key terms used in indexing, using as a basis the glossary of indexing that is now being used by the National Federation of Abstracting and Indexing Services, of which Neufeld is the Executive Director. Riggs will prepare the first draft, which will then be circulated for comment, and distributed to all members of the ASIS/SIG/CR (Classification Research) via its newsletter. Svenonius chairs this Special Interest Group, who participated in the COCTA-sponsored workshop at Skokloster, Sweden, in August 1978.

The design features to be utilized in the preparation of this small sample glossary are those that have been developed on the basis of the pilot project of UNESCO's INTERCONCEPT program. They will be subjected to analysis and evaluation during the forthcoming COCTA-sponsored Conference on Conceptual and Terminological Analysis, to be held in Bielefeld, West Germany, May 24--27, 1981. it has been thought that small glossaries in selected fields of information science would be more manageable than those required in the social science fields, and accordingly experience gained in the former will not only have its own intrinsic interest, but it can faciliate subsequent work in substantive fields of the social sciences. The recommendations of ISO/TC37, notably in DP 704, can also be evaluated by reference to small concrete projects, like the indexing glossary.

Since any glossary based on a systematic presentation of concepts, in a classified order, requires an alphabetical index, it is also hoped that the glossary of indexing will become a useful tool in the hands of anyone engaged in the preparation of a social science glossary. Interested members may secure further information by writing Fred Riggs.

Projects and Papers

Jonathan Pool, University of Washington, presented a paper on "The Economics of Artificial Languages: An Exploration in Cost Minimization" at the Fachtagung Angewandte Soziolinguistik, Universität Paderborn, 19–20 June, 1980. The paper contains an experimental design for a cost/benefit analysis of the learning of artificial languages. Pool may be addressed at the Department of Political Science, DO-30, University of Washington, Seattle, Wash. 98195, USA.

Gunnar Sjöblom, University of Copenhagen, has prepared a paper on "Some Problems of the Operational Code Approach," for delivery at a workshop of the European Consortium for Political Research, held in Florence, Italy, March 1980. Sjöblom's paper includes an extended discussion of the concept of "operational code," with an analysis of how it may be operationalized and used in substantive research. Sjöblom may be addressed at the Institute of Political Studies, University of Copenhagen, Rosenborggade 15, Copenhagen, DK-1130, Denmark.

Robert J. Wolfson, Syracuse University, offers a paper on "The Development of a Formal Lexicon for the Social Sciences," that was presented at a symposium of Washington University, St. Louis, and will be published in *Synthese* in 1981. The paper outlines an approach based on the identification of a set of "primitives" taken from one subject field, i.e. "organizational behavior theory," in terms of which all the central concepts of this field might be derived by rigorous logical steps. Wolfson may be addressed at the Department of Economics, Syracuse University, 206 Maxwell Hall, Syracuse, N.Y. 13210, USA.

Henry G. Burger, University of Missouri, gave a paper entitled, "A Transitive Taxonomy as a Dictionary of Cause and Effect" at a meeting of the Society for General Systems Research, in London, England, August 1979. In this paper Burger describes a new kind of dictionary that he is compiling for early publication, in which transitive verbs are so linked as to provide a comprehensive conspectus or codification of all human activities. Burger welcomes neologisms as a reflection of conceptual discovery, and seeks contributions to his inventory. He may be addressed at Anthropology and Education, University of Missouri, Kansas City, MO 64110, USA.

Fred Riggs has prepared a paper on "The Design of Glossaries," which is a case study of a glossary on "library networking" issued by the U.S. Library of Congress. It is anticipated that copies may soon become available through the facilities of the Educational Resources Information Center (ERIC). He has also prepared a short paper, "'Special Languages' and 'Terminology'" for publication in Sociolinguistics Newsletter, organ of the Research Committee on Sociolinguistics of the International Sociological Association. Copies may be obtained by writing him at the Political Science Department, University of Hawaii, Honolulu, HI 96822. USA.

Juan Sager, D. Dungworth, and P. F. McDonald are co-authors of a new book, English Special Languages, (Wiesbaden: Brandstetter Verlag, 1980) which supplies a comprehensive account of the history and methodology involved in the development of special or professional languages for use in various subject fields. Although the focus of the book is on special languages in technology and the hard sciences, much of its content is also relevant to the needs of social scientists as they seek to sharpen language resources for use in their own fields of interest. A review of the book will appear in a future issue of *International Classification.*

F. W. Riggs

Regarding CONTA Conference on Conceptual and Terminological Analysis), Bielefeld 1981, please see p. 153.

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