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Seminar on Knowledge Organization in Information and Documentation Systems, Spain

A seminar on knowledge organization was held in Zaragoza, Spain, February 17-18 2000 with the aim of studying the differences among several approaches in content analysis and indexing languages and their possibilities of integration in a common theoretical frame.

The different approaches were classified in two classes: those regarding the specific treatment required by different materials (textual publications, archival materials, audio-visual documents, electronic resources); and those related to several distinct methodologies that can be applied to these materials (terminological analysis, diplomatic approach, discourse analysis, etc.).

Franscisco Javier García Marco, University of Zaragoza, delivered the opening paper on knowledge organization, in which he considered it from a faceted perspective: the challenge, concept, term and prospective definition of KO, and some of the problems, utopias, contexts, metaphors and referents associated with the discipline. **Emilia Currras**, honorary president of ISKO-Spain, considered Ranganathan's theory of classification from the perspective of systems theory. **José Luis Bonal Bazo**, University of Extremadura, and **Pilar Gay** and **Esperanza Velasco**, University of Zaragoza, studied the problem of normalisation in archival content analysis and its implications for information retrieval in automated environments. **Jorge Caldera**, University of Extremadura, considered the problem of the representation of images in television archives. **José Augusto Chaves**, UNESP (Sao Paulo, Marilia, Brasil), presented the contributions of diplomatic analysis to content analysis, representation and communication. **Mario Barité**, University of Montevideo, delivered a paper on the impact of terminology on vocabulary control. **Manuel José Pedraza**, University of Zaragoza, presented the standards and problematics of the description of electronic resources. Finally, **José Luis Otal** delivered the closing paper on discourse structures and abstract cognitive models. The seminar also offered panels of discussion on the problems of documentary analysis in the different information services and centres and on Linguistics and Knowledge Organization. The papers presented to the conference will be published in Spanish in volume 6, number 1 of the journal ŒScire: representación y organización del conocimiento.

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The 10th ASIS SIG/CR Workshop

The 10th SIG/CR Classification Research Workshop was held on October 31, 1999, in conjunction with the 62nd Annual Meeting of the American Society for Information Science [ASIS] in Washington, DC. Eight papers were presented by participants representing Canada, Denmark, Romania, Scotland and the United States.

The challenge of harmonizing the classificatory structure of the Universal Decimal Classification [UDC] with a controlled vocabulary was the topic of the presentation by **Victoria Frâncu**. As she had detailed in her paper entitled "A Universal Classification System Going Through Changes", Frâncu described the growing need to control the dispersion of subject content that had occurred after uncontrolled keyword indexing was introduced to support online searching in a public access catalog. The task of developing a multilingual (English, French and Romanian) thesaurus based on the UDC was facilitated by two significant features of the scheme: the UDC is an aspect classification that subordinates an actual phenomenon to the aspect (or class) within which it occurs, allowing for disambiguation of homonyms through identification of the class within which each instance of a term appears; and, because the UDC is a hierarchical classification generated by the application of principles of logical division, the notation can be used to support retrieval of all subordinates of a specific class. After providing examples of how the UDC can be used in indexing, Frâncu addressed the problems of compatibility involved in the development of a multilingual thesaurus, including not only issues of representation of objects and concepts, but also language-specific hierarchical and non-hierarchical relationships. She discussed the need for specific methodological principles to supplement current international standards for thesaurus development; and she concluded with a review of problems of equivalence that plague translation across languages.

In the presentation of their paper "Application of Faceted Classification Structures in Electronic Knowledge Resources," **Elin Jacob** and **Uta Priss** argued that modification of conventional practices can lead to the development of alternative design frameworks that are better able to respond to the dynamic nature of the electronic environment. They investi-

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