7th ISKO General Assembly

Convened at the
6th ISKO International Conference
Toronto, Ontario, Canada
Thursday, July 13, 2000
1130-1400

Minutes

1. Opening: President Clare Beghtol welcomed members to the 7th ISKO General Assembly.
2. Election of the 7th General Assembly Chair and Secretary: M/ C. Beghtol to appoint Hope Olson as General Assembly Chair. As no other nominations were forthcoming, Olson was acclaimed as Chair. M/ H. Olson to appoint Lynne Howarth as General Assembly Secretary. As no other nominations were forthcoming, Howarth was acclaimed as Secretary.
3. Changes or additions to the agenda: M/ H. Albrechtson, S/ I. McIlwaine to adopt the agenda with the addition of two items under new business. Carried unanimously.
4. Minutes of 6th General Assembly, 27 August, 1998, Lille, France (copy attached to original of these minutes): M/ H. Albrechstson, S/ N.J. Williamson to approve the Minutes of 6th General Assembly, 27 August, 1998, Lille, France, as recorded. Carried unanimously.
5. President's report: report attached to original of these minutes. C. Beghtol reported that the ISKO Secretariat, under the leadership of Gerhard Riesthuis, Secretary-Treasurer of ISKO, had moved from the Royal School in Copenhagen to the University of Amsterdam. She welcomed a new ISKO Chapter in the Czech Republic, and mentioned that two new ISKO Chapters, namely Algeria and South America (comprising 43 schools of Library and Information Science), representing continents where ISKO had not previously had members were being established. Noting that the 6th International Conference in Toronto, Canada, had just concluded, she referred to the several Regional conferences described in *Knowledge Organization (KO)*. In 1999, the ISKO Executive Board met in Amsterdam, where Hanne Albrechtson was appointed Vice-President Communications. The Executive Board also dealt with the early resignation of the Editor-in-Chief of *KO,* with C. Beghtol agreeing to serve as interim Editor-in-Chief for the year. H.Olson has been appointed for a four-year renewable term as of July 1, 2000. The last issue of *KO* for 1999 is currently in press. ISKO 7 will be held in Granada, Spain. The Executive Board will be focusing on a membership drive over the next two years. I. Dahlberg commented on the desirability of having conferences on special topics between ISKO conferences. C. Beghtol welcomed the suggestion and invited Chapters to consider volunteering to host such interim conferences. M/ I. McIlwaine, S/ M. J. Lopez-Huertas to accept the President's report. Carried unanimously.
6. Treasurer's Report: G. Riesthuis delivered his report, as attached to the original of this report. He commented that ISKO 6 had made a profit estimated at $ 6,000 CDN, due to the receipt of a grant from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRCC) to cover student clerical support. A discussion followed regarding the desirability of being able to pay conference and other membership-related fees by credit card. This will be explored by the Treasurer. M/ R. Green, S/ P. Solomon to accept the Treasurer's Report. Carried unanimously.

   The Treasurer raised concerns regarding the inadequacy of the current membership fee to fully cover ISKO organizational expenses. He proposed raising the individual fees to 60 Euros

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(with 20% of the total ISKO individual memberships remaining at 20% of the full individual membership fee for individuals in qualifying developing countries), and institutional fees to double that of individual memberships, or 120 Euros.

M/ H. Albrechtsen, S/ J.E. Mai to raise the individual membership to 60 Euros (with 20% of the total ISKO individual memberships remaining at 20% of the full individual membership fee for individuals in qualifying developing countries), and institutional fees to double that of individual memberships, or 120 Euros – both fee increases to be effective January 1, 2001. Carried with one opposed.

E. Jacob suggested that the Executive Board consider a reduced fee for student members and report back to the membership at the 8th ISKO General Assembly.

7. Report on ISKO Communications: H. Albrechtsen, Vice-President Communications, delivered an oral report, addressing, in particular, the status of the ISKO website. Discussion regarding who should maintain the website, and with what kinds of resources, ensued. Albrechtsen will send out invitations to members to assist with the website. Members were reminded to send news items. E. Jacob suggested that the Executive Board consider moving the website from CEIT Bratislava (where it is currently being hosted and maintained) under the direction of P. Stancikova. The membership also requested clarification as to the status of the two websites, that is, the ISKO site and Siegel's site. This will be pursued further by the Executive Board. M/ C. Bean, S/ I. McIlwaine to accept the report of the V-P Communications. Carried unanimously.

8. Proposals for topics for the 7th International ISKO Conference, Granada, Spain: M. Lopez-Huertas proposed an overarching theme of "The Effects of Globalization on Knowledge Organization" to include such subtopics as: (1) universality; (2) interdisciplinarity; (3) diversity and service to underserved and/or underrepresented groups; (4) ethics underpinning Knowledge Organization; (5) models for representing knowledge. P. Ohly suggested including Multimedia as a subtopic. W. Schmitz-Esser proposed a theme of "Ethics and Values in Knowledge Organization", commenting that it might remain a more timely and enduring topic in two years than "Globalization". C. Zins spoke against having a specific theme as being limiting to conference submissions and content. W. Schmitz-Esser suggested having a theme that would be sufficiently broad to accommodate many perspectives and subtopics. S. Pollitt proposed a theme of "Ethics and Economics in Knowledge Organization". R. Green felt that Lopez-Huertas's theme was appropriate and inclusive.

M/H. Albrechtesen, S/M. Breitenstein that the 7th ISKO Conference be held in Granada, Spain, and that the selection of theme be informed by the discussion as recorded. S. Pollitt suggested that further discussion continue via the LISTSERV, with the Executive Board to make the final decision regarding theme. Carried unanimously.

9. Any other business:
Publisher of Conference Proceedings and *Knowledge Organization:* P. Ohly suggested that the ISKO contract with Ergon Verlag be renegotiated to enable the German Chapter of ISKO to publish with Ergon Verlag independently of ISKO as a whole. G. Reisthuis noted that the contract between ISKO (International) and Ergon ends, and will require renegotiation, in one year. H. Olson suggested that the German Chapter address the issue among its Executive Board and membership. M/I. Dahlberg, S/R. Green to have the President write a letter to the membership to explain both the present situation with the journal (*Knowledge Organization*), and the situation with the *Festschrift* (only 5 orders received to-date), impressing upon members the importance of publication as a way of showcasing the content of knowledge organization as a field of service to science and society. Carried unanimously.

Executive Board Membership and Elections: M/ R. Green, S/N.J. Williamson that Executive Board membership be on a staggered basis, each position serving for a four year term, but with half of the Executive Board positions coming open for election every two years. Carried unanimously. To initiate the staggered Executive Board membership, a one-time only occurrence, a Bylaw change vote (requiring 2/3 support of voting membership), rather than a change in the ISKO Charter, will be required at the next ISKO General Assembly. M/ R. Green, S/ J. Furner that in order to implement the staggered Executive Board Membership at the 8th ISKO General Assembly in Granada, Spain, in 2002, the Bylaw

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be changed on a one-time-only basis to allow one half of the non-Presidency of the Executive Board, selected at random, to be elected to serve for two years, and the other half to be elected to serve for four year terms. Carried unanimously.

W. Mustafa el Hadi announced that the French chapter of ISKO will hold a conference in the Fall at the University of Paris. M. J. Lopez-Huertas noted that the 5th Spanish ISKO conference will have, as its theme, "Models for Knowledge Organization". P. Ohly announced that the German chapter of ISKO will hold its conference in Berlin in 2001 with "Knowledge Technique, Knowledge Economy" as its theme. H. Olson reminded those present at the meeting to send ISKO chapter news to J.E. Mai to report more broadly to the membership.

10. There being no other business, the 7th ISKO General Assembly adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

These minutes respectfully submitted by:

Lynne C. Howarth, Secretary
General Assembly of the International Society for Knowledge Organization, July, 2000

Endorsed by:

Hope Olson, Chair
General Assembly of the International Society for Knowledge Organization, July, 2000

Clare Beghtol, President
International Society for Knowledge Organization, July, 2000

Attachments:

- List of members present (23 present; 23 signatures)
- Minutes of 6th ISKO General Assembly, 27 August, 1998, Lille, France
- President's report
- Treasurer's report

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