

IC

CLASSIFICATION

INTERNATIONAL

Devoted to Concept Theory  
Systematic Terminology &  
Organization of Knowledge

**The Russian Rubricator:  
A Unified System of Classificatory  
Indexing Languages**

**Translation of the Finnish Abridged  
Edition of UDC into General Finnish  
Subject Headings**

**Harmonization of Terminology -  
An Overview of Principles**

**Recent Trends in Subject Access  
to OPACS: An Evaluation**

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## INTERNATIONAL CLASSIFICATION

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### Editors

Dr. Ingetraut DAHLBERG (Editor-in-Chief), Woogstr. 36a, D-6000 Frankfurt 50

Dr. Robert FUGMANN, Alte Poststr. 13, D-6270 Idstein

Prof. Jean M. PERREAULT, The Library, Univ. of Alabama at Huntsville, P.O. Box 2600, Huntsville, AL 35807, USA

Prof. Daniel Benediktsson (Book Review Editor), University of Iceland, Libr. & Inform. Science Studies, Oddi 101, Reykjavik, Iceland

### Consulting Editors

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Prof. Pauline A. COCHRANE, 1719 Gosnell Road, Apt. 301, Vienna, VA 22182, USA

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Prof. Dr. Dagobert SOERGEL, College of Libr. & Inform. Serv., University of Maryland, College Park, MD, 20742, USA

Dr. Edouard SUKIASYAN, Russian State Library, Pr. Kalinina 3, Moskva 10100, Russia

Prof. Nancy WILLIAMSON, Fac. of Libr. & Inform. Sci., 140 St. George Str., Toronto M5S 1A1, Canada



**Editors:** Dr.I.Dahlberg, Frankfurt; Dr.R.Fugmann, Idstein, Prof.J.M.Perreault, Huntsville, AL, USA.

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## Contents page

**Vol.19(1992)No.3**

**Gendlina, E.I.: The Russian Rubricator: A unified system of classificatory indexing languages.**

Int.Classif. 19(1992)No.3, p. 126-130, 3 refs.

In the early '80s a common nation-wide automated scientific and technical information system with the Russian acronym GASNTI was developed in the then Soviet Union of which one component was a classification system called *Rubricator*. This system is still in use in Russia and is described in detail: its main classes are listed and also its Common Auxiliaries (Generalia Classes). Its structure is explained as well as its syndetic features (references, scope notes) and an example is included of Class 20: *Informatics*. For any necessities in local or regional institutions, local rubricators have been developed. Included in the article are also descriptions of the further development and maintenance of the Rubricator and its publications and present situation.

(I.C.)

**Himanka, J. & Kautto, V.: Translation of the Finnish abridged edition of UDC into General Finnish Subject Headings.**

Int.Classif.19(1992)No.3, p. 131-134, 11 refs.

A method to convert assigned UDC numbers into subject headings is examined. The method consists of two phases. In the first phase, a dictionary is created that maps UDC numbers to subject headings, and in the second one this dictionary is mechanically applied to convert the bibliographic databases. The first phase is tested with 15 different parts of the UDC, with translation success and problems recorded. The problems of each part are scrutinized, and three main types of UDC classes are described: the synthetic, the shallow enumerative and the deep enumerative. The time spent in the first phase is found tolerable, and the initial question of translatability of the whole UDC is considered in the light of the results.

(Authors)

**Beilagenhinweis:** Einem Teil dieser Ausgabe liegt der Call for Papers für die Tagung der Deutschen ISKO-Sektion, Weilburg, 26.-29. Oktober 1993 bei.

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**Gilreath, Ch.T.: Harmonization of terminology. An overview of principles.**

Int.Classif. 19(1992)No.3, p. 135-139, 18 refs.

Harmonization is the process in which diverse positions are largely reconciled and assimilated into a single unified position. In terminology work there are four basic things needing to be harmonized: 1. concepts, 2. concept systems, 3. definitions, and 4. terms. These are briefly discussed, along with the related notions of extension and archetype (intension). Other factors covered include: participation, consensus, required attitudes, tools of explication, and stages of the harmonization process. Although traditional literature has generally focused on multilingual harmonization of terminology, the primary focus here is monolingual.

(Author)

**Husain, Sh., O'Brien, A.: Recent trends in subject access to OPACs: An evaluation**

Int.Classif. 19(1992)No.3, p. 140-145, 43 refs.

Research conducted in the early 80's has shown that subject access is still one of the most dominant approaches in OPACs. However, while some of the subject searches result in no recall, others often retrieve so much that users are discouraged to proceed further. These and other problems were investigated and solutions were found in improving search methods (such as word stemming, extending search to full bibliographical record and providing end user thesaurus) and indexing techniques (such as by enhancing subject headings with the table of contents and back-of-the-book indexes or by traditional classification systems). More recent research indicates that the real answer to the question of 'precision without sacrificing recall' lies in developing 'user friendly novel interfaces' and also in designing 'knowledge based systems', wherein users would not be expected to learn query formulation or even to be familiar with the indexing language of the system. Several interesting studies and research projects on the subject have produced a whole gamut of information, but one can still visualize the evolving trends of research vis-à-vis their future prospects as possible solutions.

(Authors)

## Scope

The more scientific data are generated in the impetuous present times, the more ordering energy needs to be expended to control these data in a retrievable fashion. With the abundance of knowledge now available the questions of new solutions to the ordering problem and thus of improved classification systems, methods and procedures have acquired unforeseen significance. For many years now they have been in the focus of interest of information scientists the world over.

Until recently, the special literature relevant to classification was published in piecemeal fashion, scattered over the numerous technical journals serving the experts of the various fields, such as

philosophy and science of science  
science policy and science organization  
mathematics, statistics, and computer science  
library and information science  
archivistics and museology  
journalism and communication science  
industrial products and commodity science  
terminology, lexicography and linguistics

Beginning 1974, INTERNATIONAL CLASSIFICATION has been serving as a common platform for the discussion of both theoretical background questions and practical application problems in many areas of concern. In each issue experts from many countries comment on questions of an adequate structuring and construction of ordering systems and on the problems of their use in opening the information contents of new literature, of data collections and survey, of tabular works and of other objects of scientific interest.

Their contributions have been concerned with

- (1) clarifying the theoretical foundations (general ordering theory, science theoretical bases of classification, data analysis and reduction)
- (2) describing practical operations connected with numerical taxonomy/classification, as well as applications of classification systems and thesauri, manual and machine indexing
- (3) tracing the history of classification knowledge and methodology
- (4) discussing questions of education and training in classification
- (5) concerning themselves with the problems of terminology in general and with respect to special fields.

## Instructions for Authors

*Manuscripts* may be submitted in either English, German or French to the editor-in-chief in two sets (the original and one copy) typed in double space, comprising between 1500 to 3000 words. They should be accompanied by an English indicative abstract of 100-200 words. The contributions are refereed.

*Criteria for acceptance* will be appropriateness to the field of the journal (see Scope and Aims) taking into account the merit of the content and its presentation. Papers are accepted with the understanding that they have not been published, submitted or accepted for publication elsewhere and that, if the work received official sponsorship, it has been duly released for publication. Authors will usually be notified within 6 to 10 weeks. Unless specifically requested, manuscripts or illustrations will not be returned.

*The text of the contributions* should be structured by subheadings; it should contain (a) an introduction, stating the purpose, (b) a description of materials and methods in sufficient detail, (c) information on results or systems developed, and (d) a conclusion on and/or summarization.

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## Aims

Thus, INTERNATIONAL CLASSIFICATION is meant to be a programme for the improvement of classification methods and processes, a forum for discussion for all those interested in the organization of knowledge on a universal or a subject-field scale, using concept analytical and/or concept-synthetical approaches as well as numerical procedures and comprising also the intellectual and automatic compilation and use of classification systems and thesauri in all fields of knowledge, with special attention being given to the problems of terminology.

INTERNATIONAL CLASSIFICATION publishes original articles, reports on conferences and similar communications, the Newsletters of the International Society for Knowledge Organization (ISKO News) and the Committee on Classification Research of the International Federation for Information and Documentation (FID/CR News) as well as book reviews, letters to the editor, and an extensive annotated bibliography of recent classification and indexing literature, covering now some 500 items in each issue.

INTERNATIONAL CLASSIFICATION should therefore be available at every university and research library of every country, at every information center, at colleges and schools of library and information science, in the hands of everybody interested in the fields mentioned above and thus also at every office for updating information on any topic related to the problems of order in our information-flooded times.

INTERNATIONAL CLASSIFICATION was founded in 1973 by an international group of scholars with a consulting board of editors representing the world's regions, the special classification fields, and the subject areas involved. From 1974-1980 IC was published by K.G. Saur Verlag, München. Back issues of 1978-1990 are available from INDEKS Verlag, too. (The 10 volumes of 1978-1987 are offered now at the highly reduced price of DM 350.-).

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Hunter, E.J.: Classification made simple. Aldershot, GB: Gower 1988. 115p.

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