
ISKO News 3

First International ISKO Conference, Darmstadt, Aug.14-17, 1990

In addition to the papers of the conference program listed in the previous issue we are happy to announce that Mrs. Pat MOLHOLT, Rensselaer Polytechnical Institute, Troy, NY will also participate with a paper, discussing the findings on the related term structure for the Art and Architecture Thesaurus. She had identified over 100 relationships and will speak about them in "Standardizing and Codifying Related Term Links for Improved Information Retrieval".

The preparations for the "International Software Exhibition for Thesaurus, Classification, Terminology, and Indexing Applications, 14-16 August 1990, TH Darmstadt" have started. Mr. Horst KÖRNER, ABD Info Consult, Zittelstr.5, 8000 München 40, has taken over its organization. Please help to inform everybody whom you know of to have produced such software that this information will reach him/her.

In the series of visits to institutions on Friday, Aug.17 in the afternoon which were announced in the program and described in detail in a list sent to the registered participants a replacement for the ESOC visit has been made. An excursion is foreseen instead as an invitation by KTS Information Systems, Munich to a free busride to the German-French Institute at Ludwigsburg bei Stuttgart for a demonstration of a Multilingual Thesaurus in the field of 'International Relations and Countries', integrated into databases with dynamic development possibilities, using the software DOMESTIC.

Please note that the ISKO General Assembly will take place in Darmstadt on Aug.15, 1990, 6-7 PM. The invitation for this together with the Agenda is part of ISKO News 2 in Int. Classif.90-1. We are looking forward to see you at this assembly and hear your opinion since at this occasion the discussion of future work of ISKO is among the Agenda points.

At some date during the conference – still to be announced – the members of the German ISKO Chapter will assemble to plan the next (the second) national conference in 1991. It is understood that this First International Conference of ISKO counts already as the 1st one of the German Chapter.

First German ISKO Working Group Established

Upon invitation by Dr. Peter JAENECKE the WG on 'Cognition and Knowledge Organization' was established on May 17, 1990 in Bonn. The members present elected Mr. Jaenecke as its chairman. Its scope has been outlined in ISKO News 1 already. A first get-together is planned to take place in Darmstadt, during the days of the international conference to discuss this scope description as well as further work and meetings.

First Meeting of the ISKO/GC (German Chapter) WG Indexing, Classifying, and Retrieval

On Monday, Aug.13, 1990 this WG will meet in Darmstadt. Its chairman had proposed to discuss the problem, "why in comparative studies intellectual indexing often – apparently or as said or actually – has not proven better than automatic indexing". For further information on this meeting please contact: Dr. Robert Fugmann, Alte Poststr. 13, D-627 Idstein.

SCCAC News

The Society for Conceptual and Contents Analysis by Computer" has just issued its 5th Newsletter, starting out with the good news that the Society will continue to operate "for a while" on the same bases since the foundation of the Society in 1983, that is, without charging membership fees thanks to the offer from ZUMA e.V., Mannheim to "help organize things from there".

In characterizing its aims it is said:

SCCAC is a loosely organized group of scholars in the humanities and related disciplines such as the social sciences and psychology as well as communication sciences interested in the special area of computerized content and conceptual analysis. This area is very generally defined as including methods of lexicography, indexing, and text analysis using entire conceptual systems such as Roget's Thesaurus rather than alphabetical systems of order. It includes automatic retrieval systems and thesaurus building as well as studies searching for motifs and themes in larger text corpora. It also includes content analysis using special dictionaries for text analysis, which follows models like the GENERAL INQUIRER and Iker's WORDS. It shares with Artificial Intelligence and Machine Translation the interest in classification and representation of natural language meaning and the building of knowledge bases.

The function of SCCAC is to provide a medium for communication and information to scholars working in the various disciplines within the given common areas of interest with the least amount of bureaucratic red tape and financial burden. SCCAC will provide addresses of participating scholars, disseminate project descriptions, plans, and information via newsletter, and organize meetings on a regular basis, sometimes in conjunction with ACH (Association for Computers in the Humanities), ALLC (Association for Literary and Linguistic Computing) Conferences and ISKO (International Society for Knowledge Organization). SCCAC is also a recognized special interest group of ACH. ALLC, ACH, and/or ISKO memberships are recommended but not required for SCCAC members.

The Newsletter contains the abstracts of contributions to the 2 volumes edited by Klaus SCHMIDT: **Content – Concepts – Meaning. Publications from the Society of Conceptual and Content Analysis by Computer (SCCAC)**. Greenwich, CT: JAI Press 1990. (Advances in Computing and the Humanities, vols.3+4), which give an account of papers presented at SCCAC meetings and additional contributions of members. There are also the abstracts from the "Leningrad MT Project". Under "Future Activities" the programs of the 10th and 11th International SCCAC meetings are given, both held in Germany (Siegen, June 5, 1990 in conjunction with the 17th ALLC and 10th ICCH Conference; and in Darmstadt, Aug.14, 1990, in conjunction with the 1st International ISKO Conference). Furthermore the Newsletter lists some upcoming conferences in 1990 and relevant publications, systematically arranged. It concludes with a list of SCCAC project reports (p.54-60) and the membership list (p.61-78).