NEWSLETTER

Section on Classification and Indexing
Division of Bibliographic Control
International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions

No. 22 November 2000

This newsletter contains reports that were submitted at our committee meetings. The reports are from the following countries: Estonia, France, Germany, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, United States and United Kingdom.

You will also find the flyer for the satellite meeting in Boston, Ohio, which I hope many of you will be able to attend.

As I have not received any news or information about ongoing activities from any of you I will take this opportunity to tell you a little about a project, which is still being developed, in Sweden concerning subject retrieval. As we want to adapt our subject heading system along lines of international standards, we have invited Lois Mai Chan to give a series of seminars and lectures on the subject. This will take place in March 2001 and we have seen a great deal of interest from all over Sweden. Two of my colleagues recently travelled to Paris and paid Max Naudi and the Bibliothéque nationale de France a visit in order to get a good opportunity to study RAMEAU at closer range and to share in their experiences. The trip was very successful. Reading all your reports have proved very helpful in our attempts to make something of our situation. You will find an English version of our project at this address:
http://www.kb.se/Bus/lcsheng.htm

Pia Leth

Now a few words from our chairman:

To all members of the Section

I greatly enjoyed meeting so many of the Committee in Jerusalem and hope that you all found it a memorable IFLA. I was very pleased with the attendance at our session and we were fortunate in having such good contributors. Two of the papers are being published in *International Cataloguing and Bibliographic Control* which is very pleasing.

As you know, this is an election year, which means that we shall have to say goodbye to those members of the Committee who have been with us for eight years. Those who are eligible for re-election should make sure that they are nominated, and if anyone has a problem, I will be very happy to help in nominating them. Similarly, I do hope that that those who have to leave us will make sure that there are replacements nominated in their stead. We have been one under strength for the past two years and it would be good to have a full membership again.

I would like to thank Pia Leth for very kindly relieving me of the task of editing the *Newsletter.*
I am extremely grateful to her for undertaking this task, which I know is extremely time-consuming. It has been a great help to me at a very busy time.

May I draw to your attention the Satellite conference that we are holding in Dublin, Ohio, prior to the Boston IFLA. I am receiving abstracts as I write, and I do hope that there will be good representation

among committee members at this, as well as in Boston itself. I look forward to seeing you in the USA next year, and in the meantime may I wish you a very happy festive season and all good wishes for 2001.

<div align="right">
Ia McIlwaine
Chair
IFLA Section on Classification and Indexing
</div>

Standing Committe of the Section on Classification and Indexing

The Standing Committe at present has 19 members. The present membership is: **Marje Aasmets** (Estonian Academic Library, Tallinn, Estonia), **Jon Anjer** (Faculty of Journalism, Library and Information Science, Oslo, Norway), **Lois Mai Chan** (School of Library and Information Science, Lexington, Kentucky, USA), **Michel Fournier** (Université Laval, Québec, Canada), **Friedrich Geisselmann**, Universitätsbibliothek Regensburg, Germany), **Magda Heiner-Freiling** (Die Deutsche Bibliothek, Frankfurt am Main, Germany), **Adriana Király** (Biblioteca Judeteana "Octavian Goga", Cluj, Romania), **Pia Leth** (National Library, Stockholm, Sweden), **Elisabeth Lindkvist Michailaki** (Swedish Parliament, Stockholm, Sweden), **Ia McIlwaine** (University College, London, UK), **Max Naudi** (Bibliothèque nationale de France), **Jesús Jiménez Pelayo** (Biblioteca de Andalucía, Granada, Spain), **Gerhard J. A. Riesthuis** (University of Amsterdam, Netherlands), **Edward Swanson** (Library Consultant, Saint Paul, USA), **Marie-Martine Tomitch** (Bibliothèque de l´Université René Descartes, Paris, France), **Irina Tsvetkova** (National Library of Russia, St-Petersburg, Russia), **Júlio Vaz** (Fundacao Calouste Gulbenkian, Lisboa, Portugal), **Pisayada Vidanapathirana** (University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Nugegoda, Sri Lanka), **Marcia Zeng** (Kent State University, USA).

The Standing Committe has one observer: Marie-France Plassard (IFLA UBCIM Programme, Die Deutsche Bibliothek, Frankfurt am Main, Germany).

This is the flyer to the satelllite meeting in Boston:

IFLA

SECTION ON CLASSIFICATION AND INDEXING AND SCETION ON INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Subject retrieval in a networked world

A satellite Conference to be held at OCLC, Dublin, Ohio

August 14th-16th 2001

The IFLA Sections on Classification and Indexing and on Information Technology are organizing this meeting, prior to the Boston Conference, in association with OCLC. It will commence at 2.00 pm. on Tuesday August 14th and end at 1.00pm on August 16th.

The Keynote Speaker will be **Clifford Lynch** and papers are invited from interested participants.
(See reverse of this leaflet).

The conference will explore the different approaches to the subject retrieval of information and provide an opportunity to exchange views and to hear researchers in the forefront of retrieval in the Internet Age.

The setting, in OCLC's Headquarters at Dublin, Ohio, provides an unparalleled environment for seeing research projects at the forefront of modern technology.

An international audience is anticipated and the conference will provide an excellent preliminary to the papers and exhibition to follow at the main conference in Boston.

The following themes will form the basis of the conference programme:
- Language and communication in knowledge organization and retrieval
- New retrieval technologies for a networked world
- Retrieval systems design and implementation
- Search engines, classification schemes and thesauri in a networked environment
- Metadata and subject retrieval

Conference fee:
(including lunch and dinner, but not accommodation, or local transportation)
$250 prior to June 15th
$300 June 15th - July 15th

Meeting hotels are in walking distance, and rooms will be available at a discount rate.

Numbers are limited and late registrations will not be accepted.

Registration forms with hotel booking information will be available after November 1, 2000. For further information, please send an e-mail request to Amy Summers <summersa@oclc.org>.

For call for papers, see reverse

Subject retrieval in a networked world

Call for papers

Abtracts of papers on any of the conference themes (see overleaf) ,
between 500 and 1000 words, should be sent to the conference chair,
Professor I.C. McIlwaine, School of Library, Archive and Information Studies,
University College London,
 Gower Street,
 London WC1E 6BT (i.mcilwaine@ucl.ac.uk) not later than November 30th 2000. All those who submit
contributions will be informed whether their papers have been accepted or not by December 31st 2000. The
papers will be refereed by an international panel.

Proposals should include:
Author's name
Institution
Address
Telephone, fax and e-mail

The IFLA Section on Classification and Indexing aims to act as a forum for users and producers of classification
and indexing tools. Its terms of reference are to promote standardization and uniform application of classification
and subject indexing tools by institutions generating or or utilizing bibliographic records; to initiate and promote
advice on research in the subject approach to information; and to disseminate research results through open
meetings and publications

The Section works closely with the other two sections which together with it make up the Division of
Bibliographic Control; Bibliography and Cataloguing. Additionally, many of its concerns overlap with those of
the Section on Information Technology with whom the current Satellite Conference is being organized.

The Section regularly mounts workshops at IFLA conferences in addition to its main programme sessions, it
works closely with the IFLA Office for UBCIM and provides articles and reviews for *International Cataloguing
and Bibliographic Control* in adddition to publishing its own Newsletter twice per annum.

Reports from members

Estonia

Classification and subject indexing in Estonia : new developments in 1999-2000

Classification

Our greatest efforts in the 1990s were aimed at preparing the translation of the UDC into Estonian. The major task has been to create *the Estonian version of the UDC* on the basis of the UDC MRF. The work was completed in 1999 and the tables were published in January 2000 :
 UDK : Universaalne detsimaalklassifikatsioon : Liigitustabelid. Publication no. UDC-P021, authorized by the UDC Consortium under Licence number UDC-9703 / Ministry of Culture of Estonian Republic; A.-M. Kirsel (editor-in-chief), M. Aasmets (ed.). Tallinn, 1999. V, 1084, [4] pp.
Characteristic features of the Estonian UDC tables lie in the differences in comparison with the UDC MRF.
    On the one hand, there are several cuttings, which have been necessary from the standpoint of the Estonian version. E. g. , common auxiliaries of language do not include all the Asian and African languages. Common auxiliaries of place do not include the subdivisions of the countries down to the primary administrative level (except Estonia). Special auxiliaries in the class 62 Engineering. Technology are cut down to a certain extent.
    On the other hand, there are several extensions, which have been coordinated with the Editor of the UDC MRF. E. g. , in the common auxiliaries of language there have been added the Votic and Izhorian, accordingly =511.116 and =511.117. In the common auxiliaries of place 16 new subdivisions have been compiled for Estonian counties, from (474.211) Harjumaa to (474.226) Petserimaa (Setumaa) (historical) ("Extensions and Corrections to the UDC", vol. 20 (1998), pp. 81-82). In the tables a lot of examples of combination are replaced with the more suitable ones for the Estonian context. In the UDC MRF the numbers of languages/literatures in the classes 811 and 821 can be derived from =1/=9 (Table I c); the numbers of geography and history of the countries (in the classes 91 and 94) can be derived from (4/9) (Table I e). In the Estonian version the numbers of the Finno-Ugric and European languages/literatures are given in the main tables. The same has been done with the geography and history of the European countries (and with the important countries of other continents) in the classes 91 and 94.

Some considerable events in the field of classification were connected with the publication of the UDC tables in Estonian. In March for the translators of the UDC (39 persons) a festive meeting was organized in the Estonian Academic Library. The history of the edition, which continued almost seven years was reminded in the speeches. In April the presentation of the edition had been organized by the Ministry of Culture, the Estonian Librarians' Association and the Academic Library. The expressions of gratitude were given to the scientific consultants and editors of the UDC by the official persons.
In April *"Extensions and Corrections to the UDC"* (vols 20 and 21) were under discussion in the Working Group on classification and subject indexing of the ELA. A.-M. Kirsel and M. Aasmets introduced the news about: 1) common auxiliaries of form and place 2) –02 Common auxiliaries of properties. The structure of (new) classes 338.48 Tourism and 791

Cinema. Films had also been studied. It was decided that new numbers and solutions would be taken into use in library practice.

Subject indexing

The Estonian Universal Subject Headings List (published in June 1999) is being updated continuously by the National Library. The first supplement to it is to be published in autumn 2000.
In the Working Group several practical problems of subject indexing have been under discussion. E. g. , the spelling of the national/ethnical adjectives (capital letter or not) in the subject headings about literature, art, music; subject indexing of the documents about the history of subject(s) or special fields etc.

Marje Aasmets
Estonian Academic Library

France

New developments on indexing and classification in France, 1999/2000

Dewey classification
With regard to classification, continued work with the Dewey editorial staff has enabled the complete revision of the area Table for France (T2 -44), available on the Web site of OCLC Forest Press since the end of January 2000.
This new area Table proposes a classification which reflects the administrative organisation of France, with administrative regions and departments, and adds specific numbers for 26 French towns.
The CD-ROM of the DDC in French will be available at the end of the year.

With those developments, DDC notations are now implemented in the French national bibliography. Therefore the mapping process between DDC and RAMEAU will be possible in the next years on the basis of these indexed documents. It will be showed in the Dewey authority file of the Bibliothèque nationale de France. This kind of mapping would give a broader systematic approach and more possibilities by the combination of the two approaches for a more powerful retrieval.

In addition, the complete revision of class 340 (Law) has been initiated by the Dewey editorial staff, in cooperation with european users (especially French and German national libraries) because the present classification is not suitable for "continental law" (french, german, italian, etc.), based on civil law, or for the law of the European Union. The work will go on during the next years.
Within the PUC, the BnF also participates to the development of the UNIMARC Classification Format.

RAMEAU SHL News

Many important events about RAMEAU indexing language have been implemented last year, with a new organisation of the network, the development of international projects and cooperation, and the availability of new tools.

New organisation of RAMEAU network
An important institutional change has been decided at the end of 1999. Already in charge of the consistency and development of the SHL, the Bibliothèque nationale de France (BnF) is now also

responsible for the publishing and diffusion of all RAMEAU products: the general coordination and management are ensured by our RAMEAU service.

So, a national Agreement (Convention RAMEAU) is under signature for the national piloting of RAMEAU with all concerned partners: Ministry of education (Direction de l'enseignement supérieur), Ministry of culture (Direction du livre et de la lecture), Agence bibliographique de l'enseignement supérieur and Bibliothèque nationale de France

But RAMEAU is of course always used and developed in concertation and networking with all its users (nearly a thousand of institutions, in France and abroad), notably with the university libraries.
For those, the Système universitaire de documentation (University System of Documentation, SU) is becoming operational. It can be seen on the Web site of the ABES (1: http://www.sudoc.abes.fr). In 2001, it will integrate (in UNIMARC format and with RAMEAU standard) the three existing networks and will be the exclusive system of French university libraries.

International developments with RAMEAU
See previous reports (1997/98 and 1998/99) for the cooperation between RAMEAU and Belgium, Canada, Poland and Tunisia. During summer 2000, some important Moroccan libraries have joined up the RAMEAU network, like Tunisia did last year. The cooperative project with French-speaking arab countries is therefore in progress. It should come out in the next years to an adaptation of RAMEAU in Arabic.

About multilingual cooperation, the MACS project (Multilingual access to subjects) between the British Library, the BnF, the Deutsche Bibliothek and the Swiss national library is very promising.
A prototype is developed by Index Data and Tilburg University on the bases of the mapping of the 3 involved SHLs (LCSH, SWD, RAMEAU) to offer multilingual subject access to bibliographic files. This prototype and its first results have been presented by Patrice Landry (SNL) during this IFLA Conference (Workshop of our section "Crosswalks between languages, cultures, religions in classificatiçon and indexing, session 181, Thursday, 17 August).
This paper is available on IFLANET (2: http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla66/papers/165-181e.pdf), and it is also possible to visit the Web site of MACS (3: http://infolab.kub.nl/prj/macs).

At last, the BnF also participates along with 11 partners to a new European project, RENARDUS, coordinated by the KB of The Hague. This project aims to develop a single point of access on the Web for searching and browsing across existing European academic subject gateways, quality-checked and described by subject experts such as "Les Signets de la Bibliothèque nationale de France" (4: http://www.bnf.fr/web-bnf/liens/index.htm). Subject access and multilingualism are the main issues of this project; see the Web site of RENARDUS (5: http://www.renardus.org).

New tools for RAMEAU
The new edition (5th), fully revised, of the Guide d'indexation RAMEAU (Indexing Manual) has been published at the end of 1999 with new developments (for further details, see previous Report for France, 1998/99). It has been sold at about 2 000 copies already. It introduces an important reform concerning Art field as well as chronological subdivisions and, in general, implements a large simplification (for example concerning the free-floatting subdivisions) and a more complete systematisation of the SHL.
With these reforms, we are looking for a more simple and consistent tool, usable and useful for the indexing of Web sites and other electronic documents, but we try also to keep the compatibility with our model, LCSH, of which RAMEAU is a free adaptation.

A new complete edition of RAMEAU authority file (on CD-ROM, microfiches, printed edition) will come out at the end of November 2000. Published by the BnF, these products will bring several improvements: diacritics, informations of use, LCSH equivalents.

And, last but not least, in order to keep RAMEAU very open and cooperative, we have created and developed since February 2000 a set of Web pages on the site of the Bibliothèque nationale de France at the address: (6) http://www.bnf.fr/web-bnf/infopro/rameau

Here you will find freely a News section, and a large set of informations, regularly updated, concerning RAMEAU (presentation of the SHL, products, statistics, ...) and its management team (names, addresses, domains and specialities). There, all users of RAMEAU are invited to participate in its development through the National file of proposals.

Since the end of June, this file of proposal (ACCESS database) can be consulted without any restriction, and it is also possible to suggest new or modified headings is offered after a simple process of identification and inscription (350 proposals have already been made in only 3 months).

"RAMEAU on the Web" will be completed in 2001 by the access (probably free) to the authority file itself. For further informations, please contact mailto:rameau@bnf.fr

(1)   http://www.sudoc.abes.fr
(2)   http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla66/papers/165-181e.pdf
(3)   http://infolab.kub.nl/prj/macs
(4)   http://www.bnf.fr/web-bnf/liens/index.htm
(5)   http://www.renardus.org
(6)   http://www.bnf.fr/web-bnf/infopro/rameau

Bibliothèque nationale de France
                    IFLA Jerusalem
Direction des services et des réseaux
SC Classification & Indexing
                    DSR / SCB-AMA
                              Max Naudi   18.08.2000

Germany

Classification and indexing in Germany - new developments 1998-1999

Last year was a successful one for Germany's verbal indexing system RSWK and the connected subject authority file Schlagwortnormdatei (SWD). The library network of Berlin-Brandenburg and the Schweizerische Landesbibliothek, as the central agency for the libraries in the German speaking part of Switzerland, joined the SWD network as active partners and apply RSWK rules for indexing purposes. Now, the RSWK/SWD subject indexing system is used in all countries with German as their first language. A third edition of RSWK was published late in 1998 by the Deutsche Bibliotheksinstitut. Though continuity was and still is a high value in the field of indexing rules the third edition tries to make them compatible to the needs of the OPAC environment as far as possible. The formal structure and typography of the SWD are better integrated in the layout of the new RSWK edition, too. A new edition of a collection of practical examples (Beispielsammlung) connected with the RSWK rules will be published in 1999.

Participation in a European project on multilingual access to subject authority files and data (MACS - Multilingual Access to Subject headings) led to a close cooperation between Die Deutsche Bibliothek and the Schweizerische Landesbibliothek together with the Bibliothèque nationale de France and the British Library. The three indexing systems used by the partners: LCSH, RAMEAU and SWD/RSWK were compared, links between the subject entries in two fields, theatre and sports, were established and a practical study tested the possibilities of a linking system for the retrieval of indexed titles. The results were promising enough to plan the development of a prototype for the linking of descriptors from LCSH, RAMEAU and SWD later in 1999.

Classification data as a service in the national bibliography and for the needs of electronic publications and retrieval via internet have played an important role in the discussions of German specialists of indexing and classification in the past few years. An expert *Klassifikationen für wissenschaftliche Bibliotheken* published by the Deutsche Bibliotheksinstitut in 1998 evaluated a number of widely used international and German classification systems, a nation-wide working group is investigating the pros and cons of the DDC for the German-speaking countries, inspired by a workshop on DDC held at Die Deutsche Bibliothek by Joan Mitchell. There is a strong interest in a German translation of DDC and its application in the German national bibliography, and eventually in Die Deutsche Bibliothek as well as in the regional library networks and in Austria and Switzerland, too. But a lot of problems have to be solved first, beginning with the adaptation of DDC to the needs of German culture, administration and scholarly tradition, but also as far as finance, staff, professional training in the new system and effective organisation and information technology are concerned.

<div align="right">Magda Heiner-Freiling
Die Deutsche Bibliothek Frankfurt</div>

Norway

Developments in Norway 2000

Dewey Decimal Classification

Last year the main classification development in Norway has been the translation and editing of the DDK5 at the National Library of Norway. This is the new Norwegian abridged Dewey Decimal Classification, based on DDC21. The editor, Isabella Kubosch, is doing a tremendous work. The time schedule is held, so we are optimistic about the publishing, which is set to next summer. We have detailed analyses of literary warrant, and this is used to a certain extent for setting the level of abridgement.

The consultative committee for DDK - the latter based mostly of members from the Norwegian Committee on Classification and Indexing - have been established. The group receives all new drafts, and each member get special responsibility for careful evaluation of specific parts. The web pages of the project (in Norwegian only) can be found through http://www.nb.no/html/dewey.html.

The editor works in close contact with Forest Press, and the advice given is most valuable. She has also made a visit to Library of Congress, meeting the editors of DDC and participating as observer at the Editorial Policy Committee. As the world seen from Washington and from Oslo is not the same, the Norwegian editions until now has differed from the Standard edition of DDC concerning Norwegian matters. Discussions were held about Norwegian proposals about revisions for: Nordic languages and Nordic literature: captions and notes

Table 2: some details in the division of Norway

Norwegian and Nordic history: historical periods for the Nordic countries in general and for Norway in particular Subject Based Information Gateways

The Norwegian libraries of the universities and colleges are planning co-operation of Subject Based Information Gateways. As common subject access, Dewey Decimal Classification should be chosen.

The Culture Net Norway is also planning a Gateway to the parts of its network (Art Net, Library Net, Archive Net and Museum Net). The Norwegian Committee on Classification and Indexing has been asked for advice about subject access. The Committee recommended Dewey for this gateway, and use of thesaurus terms should also be considered.

National seminars

The seminar «Days of Knowledge Organisation» is a yearly event at Oslo College. This spring the theme was «User interface and information presentation for OPACs and Web searches». The IFLA proposal «Guidelines for OPAC displays» was the starting point, also the «Functional Requirements for Bibliographic Records» were discussed. Several of the papers were directed towards subject retrieval, with the OPAC vendors taking part in the discussions. Some presentations can be found at:
http://www.hioslo.no/bibin/kurs/korg00/ref.htm - some of them in English language.

A seminar on Subject Based Information Gateways is planned in November, focusing on co-ordination versus variety. Certainly classification and indexing will be in focus in this seminar.

OPAC's and subject retrieval

During the last year the OPAC vendors have shown increasing interest in discussing subject retrieval with the library community, and making efforts increasing the utilisation of classification and indexing. Two years ago the classification and indexing people set demands to the OPAC vendors with little response. Now the OPAC developers ask the classification and indexing people for advice, and for courses in indexing theory.

Jon Anjer
Oslo College

Portugal

Developments in Portugal regarding classification and indexing 1999/2000

CLIP Project

The CLIP Project – harmonisation of indexing languages in portuguese – is a projcet which involves special libraries and the National Library with the aim of improving and harmonising the languages in use by the libraries for each subject area.

Since last year this project has undergone a few changes, namely in what concerns the structure of the working groups. There are working groups in specific areas, such as: Agriculture, Environment, Fine Arts, Science and Technology, Education, Health, Librarianship, Law and Political Science, Economy and Business Administration, Philosophy and Theology, History and Geography, Computer Science and Telecommunications, Literature and Linguistics, Music, Social Science and Transports.

It has already been published controlled vocabularies for Photography, Design, Military Architecture and Religious Architecture. Presently, an edition for illuminated Manuscripts is being prepared, as well as for Environment matters.

Classification

In what concerns classification developments in Portugal, it is important to refer the undergoing work that is being done with the portuguese translation of UDC Master File.

Equally relevant are the online editions of the UDC Manual edited by the National Library and of the Siporbase Manual (portuguese indexing system), soon to be available, both of them through the National Library Home Page (www.biblioteca-nacional.pt

Vocacional Training Courses

It is also important to mention the training courses in classification and indexing that took place last year in Portugal.

The National Library held one week courses in CDU - Classificacao Decimal Universal (UDC – Universal Decimal Classification) and in SIPORBASE – Sistema de Indexacao em Portugues (Indexing System in Portuguese).

Promoted by the Professional Association (BAD), we have to highlight the following training courses: Indexacao por Assuntos (Subject Indexing) and Classificacao Documental em Bibliotecas Escolares / Centros de Recursos (Classification for School Libraries and R

Júlio Vaz
Fundacao Calouste Gulbenikan, Lisbon

Spain

Developments 1999-2000

In Spain, the main advances produced between 1999 and 2000 in the area of work of this Standing Committee are related to indexing.

AUTHORITY FILES IN CD-ROM

First of all, we have to mention that the *Biblioteca Nacional de España* (Spanish National Library) has been continued editing in CD-ROM format its catalogue of Authority files, including subject headings. From its first edition, this database has supposed a useful tool for regional and public libraries when applying subject headings. This subject catalogue is also available on line in the Web site of the Spanish National Library (adress: http://www.bne.es).

PUBLICATIONS

In what concerns publications in Spain, the *CINDOC* (Spanish Center for Scientific Information and Documentation), that is run by the *Centro Superior de Investigaciones Científicas* (Spanish Center for Scientific Research), and as an editor and promoter of tools for indexing, continued publishing several specialised thesauri for different subjects. In 1999, two new thesauri were published, one referred to History of Spain and another to Environmental Sciences. This one is also available on line since 1999 (address: http://dgpea.comadrid.es/wwwhtm/residuos/cindoc/inicio.htm).

On the other hand, a very important step has been taken in Spain in the publishing of books in order to disseminate the use of indexing and classification techniques. In 1999, three works were published, all of them by Trea Publishers (Gijón, Asturias), specialised in Library and Information Science literature. Their titles are: *The automation of document's indexing* by Isidoro Gil Leiva; *Techniques and use of UDC (Universal Decimal Classification)* by Carmen Díez Carrera and *Theory and practice in Universal Decimal Classification (UDC)* by Luis Miguel Moreno Fernández and María Dolores Borgoños Martínez.

COURSES

As for the courses in this subject, it is especially noticeable the tendency to consider the indexing languages as useful and usable tools for Web resources retrieval. One of the most important courses in

that sense was organised by the *Asociación Andaluza de Documentalistas* (The Andalusian Documentalists Association). It was entitled "Document Analysis in Internet: techniques for indexing and classification of Web resources" and imparted by Isidro Aguillo, from the CINDOC, in Granada (July 1999).

CURRENT PROJECTS

We have to mention three important current projects regarding indexing and classification.

The first one has a very broad scope, as it is a national project. It has been initiated by the National Library together with the rest of Spanish regional libraries in order to coordinate and unify criteria for cataloguing and indexing of documents. Called *Spanish Co-operative Bibliography*, the project started in 1999 with several meetings of the representatives of every library. It is by now in its first phase, concerning to the standardisation of bibliographic description and it is expected that in next years will deal with the question of unifying subject headings or other indexing terms. This will make possible to develop an useful controlled indexing language for most Spanish library centres.

Another remarkable project is DARWIN (Analytic Directory on Information Web resources) which is supported by the University of Salamanca and develop by José Antonio Merlo Vega, from The Faculty of Translation and Documentation. DARWIN is an structured directory or guide of the most interesting and useful Internet resources sponsored by the Faculties of Documentation of the Universities Complutense (Madrid), Extremadura and Salamanca. It is outstanding in this directory the subject hierarchy, as it is structured taking a simplified and adapted UDC version. This directory is still being tested. It can be consulted online at the Internet adress:
http://exlibris.usal.es/merlo/darwin/index.htm.

Finally, we have to mention the project carried out by the *Biblioteca de Andalucía* (The Andalusian Library) during 1998-1999 in order to prove the higher efficiency and precision that an indexing system based on descriptors could reach in an automated environment. The project tried to adapt the *Lista de Encabezamientos de Materia de las Bibliotecas Públicas* (Spanish Public Libraries Subject Headings List) to an indexing language of descriptors controlled by authority files. The method was applied experimentally during 1998 and 1999. Results were successful, but the project was not implemented. Those interested in knowing the results and final report can apply for a copy to Jesús Jiménez Pelayo, who is in charge of the Authority Control in the Andalusian Library and member of this IFLA Standing Committee (e-mail: jpelayo@sba.junta-andalucia.es)

CLASSIFICATION. USE AND EVALUATION

As for the practice of bibliographic classification, the UDC is still highly used by most of the Spanish libraries, either university, regional or public libraries. The last edition published in Spain (7th ed., 1995) caused some problems, because it introduces important updates, especially in the class 8 (Linguistics/Literature), that was deeply modified. The problems are referred to the fact that from that date different notations to designate and classify the same concepts have to live together within the same bibliographic database. So, the development of a Spanish Classification format (IBERMARC) is quite urgent. Besides, there exists the problem of the excessive length of the notations for literature with the subsequent difficulty in printing labels for the books that are ordered by UDC in free access library rooms.

Jesús Jiménez Pelayo
Authority Control and Indexing Control
Biblioteca de Andalucía, Granada, España
August 2000

Sri Lanka

Classification and Subject indexing in Sri Lanka

Inspite of relocations and developments of phoenix schedules in the consecutive editions, the use of DDC is still dominating in the public libraries and some academic libraries in Sri Lanka. 20th and 21th editions are widely used in academic and research libraries accordingly. The Sri Lanka Library Association has compiled "Dewey Decimals Classification : Student Guide" in 1999 by selecting suitable headings from the schedules for practical training. The possibility of developing an appropriate phoenix schedule for religion class is to be considered carefully as problems are arising in classification of Non Christian religious scripturcs. In this matter the new revision of the religion class, which has been produced by the UDC may be useful to study the situation comparatively. Special libraries have a particular bias towards UDC as it is convenient for classification of documents in science and technology. The new edition of 1993 is in use in such major libraries and keeping up to date with recent developments. Fining of subject descriptors is supported by Library of Congress : Lists of Subject Headings and other major thesauri such as OECD Macro-thesaurus, UNESCO Thesaurus and CAB Thesaurus etc.

Need for multilingual thesaurus

Today the trends towards international exchange of information clearly calls for a higher commitment to multilingual co-operation. Information systems are expanding across language boundaries and indigenous information systems are also making available for apporpriate developments at national level as well as at international level. It is rather difficult and may not be adequate to depend on a particular single language in acquisition and indexing of documents for efficient and effective use of information. It is evident that in the modern electronic environment it is easier to enhance the access to the classification schemes through a multilingual or multivocabulary index. Therefore multilingual thesauri may have a potential value in improving the bibliographical control of literature in the global Information society. It will be associated with the paadigm shift in subject retrieval approaches n a multiscript and multilingual environment.

As a country which is possessing an intellectual heritage in literature of their languages such as Sinhala, Tamil and Engish, it may be useful to build up a comprehensive database by using a multilingual thesaurus for benefit of the entire nation. This has to be done carefully in following the standard guidelines. Spceical attention has to be paid in studying the procedures described in such guidelines to see whether these are suitable entirely for all languages. Since English, French and German languages are dominating in the field of documentation, a comprehensive task can be done through an international programme of an internatinal organization. It is easier to find descriptors in their languages in this process.

e.g.

English	French	German
Telephones	Telephone	Telefon

This practice may be quite different in a multiscript environment in a country like Sri Lanka

e.g.

English	Sinhala	Tamil
Telephones	Durakathana	Tholaipesi

Therefore it has to be initiated with a national interest by a corporate body such as National Library and Documentation Services Board or National Science Foundation or by the Official Language Department of the Government. The compilation of thesauri has to be done by a panel of subject specialist.

P. Vidanapathirana
University of Sri Jayawardenepura

Sweden

Developments in 1999-2000

The Royal Library (KB) is the National Library of Sweden and it is also head of the LIBRIS Database , the union catalogue of Swedish libraries. See:
http://www.libris.kb.se/english/home.html
The Section of Bibliographic Development and Coordination (BUS) is concerned with bibliographic quality of the LIBRIS Database.
One important task of BUS is to produce guidelines for subject headings, classification and authority control. Our aim is to make all bibliographic information in LIBRIS as standardized as possible within a Swedish as well as an international framework.
As LIBRIS is a union catalogue to which all participating libraries contribute cooperation becomes highly important in order to secure the quality of the database. Consequently, BUS is working hard for the libraries within LIBRIS to cooperate when it comes to subject headings and classification.

Concordance Dewey - SAB

The classification system used by the Royal Library as well as most university libraries and all public libraries is called *Klassifikationssystem för svenska bibliotek (SAB)*. It is entirely a domestic system used nowhere but in Sweden.
The responsibility for the updating of this Swedish system is handled by a committee within *Sveriges allmänna biblioteksförening, (= General Swedish Library Association*).
In 1999 the Committee presented an updated concordance between the SAB classification system (7th ed.) and Dewey (DDC21). BUS has been very much involved in this project. The concordance will be published by Btj (Bibliotekstjänst AB) as a printed booklet. After more than one year of negotiations with OCLC the Royal Library will now be able to also present an online version of the concordance (or mapping). This online version will be accessible to cataloguers in LIBRIS only.

Lecture by Jon Anjer on Dewey

In November 1999 BUS invited Jon Anjer, our colleague from Norway, to The Royal Library to give a lecture on the Dewey Classification System and how it is used in Norway. There was an audience of more than 100 librarians and the lecture was highly appreciated. Among some of the listeners it even aroused thoughts on exchanging the Swedish system, SAB in favour of Dewey.

Subject heading guidelines

BUS continually works on the guidelines for subject headings. For example we have set up a cumulated list of free -floating subdivisions on our website.

Subject headings online

At the end of last year our database for subject headings, "Svenska ämnesord", was completed and we presented it to the public in January (adress: www.amnesord.kb.se). The database has been a great success and has made our work with subject headings so much more fun and worthwhile. The database is mainly used by libraries, of course, but also by Internet subject gateways and databases, for example Presstext, a database of full text articles from Swedish newspapers.
When creating a new subject heading we always try to find an English translation according to LCSH. We also try to make an hierarchy with broader and narrower terms. This has never been done before so we have a big task ahead of us.
We have been able to get extra funds in order to start a project of retrospective translation of the Swedish subject headings into English.
We also plan to translate and adapt the guidelines of LCSH for our Swedish context.

Subject headings for fiction and childrens literature

Together with representatives from both public libraries as well as research libraries we have started a working group for the coordination of subject headings for childrens literature and for fiction.

Summing up - tasks ahead

We have great plans of translating and applying the guidelines of LCSH. We also hope to arrange a training course for librarians in Sweden in how to use the subject headings. We have talked to Lois Chan and hope to invite her to Sweden next year.

Pia Leth, The Royal Library, National Library of Sweden

Indexing activity in Sweden – The Library of Parliament

Parallel with our ongoing project on Automatic indexing at the Library of the Riksdag an increased interest for in-depth indexing elsewhere has been observed. The Swedish Institute for Computer Science – a non-pofit research foundation - has in a serial of seminars on Information and Language Engineering also arranged seminar focusing on indexing. Earlier it would have been unimaginable that outside the very closed circle of

specialists on indexing within the library sphere anyone would have cared about indexing, even less knowing what it's all about. (Usually one had to start with explaining the difference between indexing in computer terms and indexing in library terms.) It was an unknown – and uninteresting – world for others. The interest from computer scientists/language technologists of developing programs in this area is both a result of the developing human language technology and linked to the problems of finding information on the Internet. Replacing the manual work of extracting essential concepts from document – the compression of content so that only a few concept cover 98-99% percent of the content, with precision and accuracy – has similarities with the solving the difficulties in finding relevant information on the Internet.

An example of another project on automatic indexing is one at the Library of Karolinska Institutet (Sweden's only university for medicine). In this project it is not indexing of full text data – as in the Library of the Riksdag – but indexing of web links. The Library of the Riksdag has also been contacted by private enterprises that have heard about our project (they are interested in learning about software for automatic in-depth indexing).

During this year the project on automatic indexing at the Library of the Riksdag made its tests of some products, mostly demo versions. Now, to request demo versions in language technology is not the easiest thing, because most of these tools need special adaptation in order to get a fair indication of its potential. Neither do enterprises show big interest in providing demo versions when they understand that there is no bid around the corner, but a more slow process of investigating/comparing what is on the market. In the end three enterprises and a research group of computer scientists received documents of the different types of documents we index manually (about 200 documents) and processed them. It must be underlined that this was a small-scale test performed with the limitations of a workplace.

The output of the processing by the four programs was compared both between them, as well as compared with the manual indexing. One conclusion is that the evaluation technique (se http://instruct.uwo.ca/gplis/677/indecons.htm - an accepted standard, as I have been told) contains an apparent weakness. The applied technique leads namely to the decomposition of the thesaurus into a simple list of words. One consequence of this is that the indexers seem to deviate very much from each other. (One cannot, despite indexing rules and indexing policies, hinder people from thinking in a bit different ways, thus some persons have a tendency to be more general and/or solve problems by being more general, other to be more detailed, thus they select descriptors from the same semantic context, but on different levels in the hierarchy.) Because of the above-mentioned conditions, the results could not be heavily relied on. One conclusion was although rather well founded: In order to reach higher levels of precision and recall the programs need further development.

The Library of Riksdag decided to go further and to purchase a program for automatic "keyword production". The specification of requirements were deliberately kept in a manner so that only the functions were described, not the technical solutions. In autumn we examined the tenders and we are now in the process of signing a contract on software built upon explicit language representation. The design of the indexing program will be a two-stage phase, where the software in the first step will search for lexical units of relevance together with the thesaurus, and in a second step without (regarding the whole Swedish language as "descriptors" thus finding new concepts, unknown abbreviations, etc). An indexer will supervise the automatic keyword production. We have envisaged that the software will make approximately 75% of the documents without intervention, but that for the rest – and there will most certainly be a rest – staff will go through a list indicating which documents must be checked. The human indexing could not be replaced wholly by programs; some indexing resource is needed as administrator of the program, as supervisor, as the highest competence concerning indexing.

So, to conclude, although this program will not be perfect, aiming at the highest and the best indexing, it will certainly improve many things. A program cannot reach the top level of human indexing, but, on the other hand, a program will make a predictable and even indexing. Taking into consideration three things, first the large quantity of documents that should be indexed in-depth in a rather short time at the Parliament, second that the documents are rather formal and well structured documents (often dealing with similar phenomena), and third, the possibility of complementing the lexical database with user dictionaries, it may be a reasonably good result. Time must show. Electronic searching has lead to a renaissance for indexing and classification, i.e. for the work of creating bridges to documents through accurate representations in a very compressed form, Although, now everybody expect also this piece of meta data to be there in time, without delay. That is a challenge.

Elisabet Lindkvist Michailaki

United States

SUBJECT INDEXING AND CLASSIFICATION IN THE UNITED STATES

SUBJECT INDEXING

Standard for Electronic Thesauri

See report by Marcia Lei Zeng in Section's Newsletter and NISO website: http://www.niso.org/thesau99.html

FAST (Faceted Application of Subject Terminology)

FAST, an OCLC research project investigating the feasibility of developing an LCSH-based controlled vocabulary using a faceted, postcoordinate approach is progressing. The FAST Team at OCLC expects to complete the authority files for the first three facets (form, topical, and geographic) by the end of the year. The project will be documented with a series of articles starting with a general paper describing FAST, which is being published in an upcoming issue of the *Journal of Internet Cataloging*. Other papers, describing each facet, are expected starting with the form facet. Plans for promoting its use have not been finalized, but OCLC plans to use FAST in CORC (Cooperative Online Resource Catalog).

Library of Congress Subject Headings (LCSH) (extracted from Report to ALCTS Subject Analysis Committee by Lynn El-Hoshy, Subject Cataloging Specialist, Library of Congress)

Integrated Library System. LC completed the implementation of its Integrated Library System (LC ILS) on October 1, 1999. Since then, Library staff have conducted their acquisitions, cataloging, circulation, serials check-in, and reference service tasks on the system. The Library is working with Endeavor Information Systems, Inc. to prepare for implementation of the Voyager Release 2000 at the Library near the end of this calendar year. Release 2000 includes new features and capabilities especially for acquisitions, serials check-in, and the public catalog. Also included will be the ability to display Chinese, Japanese, Korean, and Hebrew vernacular characters in the Web OPAC from data stored in the 880 fields of MARC bibliographic records. The Library also intends to install the Voyager add-on, "Geospatial Searching," which will be a welcome enhancement for accessing cartographic materials. Planning and testing are also underway for loading databases for the Congressional Research Service and the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped by the end of this year.

Subject Subdivision Authority Records. More than 2,100 subject subdivision authority records have been created and are being distributed to control the approximately 3,100 free-floating subdivisions in the Library of Congress Subject Headings system. The project to recode instances of form subdivisions in existing subject authority records from subfield code $x to $v is also about two-thirds complete.

Pinyin "Day One" for Subject Headings. On July 5th, the Library began to establish new subject headings containing Chinese language terms romanized according to pinyin. Existing subject headings containing Chinese terms romanized according to Wade-Giles or other romanization schemes are being revised as a project on weekly lists between now and October, when pinyin will be adopted as the standard romanization scheme for Chinese terms in name headings and the bibliographic description of Chinese-language materials.

Thesaurus for Graphic Materials (TGM)   The TGM Web site <**http://lcweb.loc.gov/rr/print/tgm1/toc.html**> features a new search interface and almost 300 new subject terms geared to topics represented in photographs, cartoons, posters, prints, and drawings. After a two-year hiatus, new terms can be added. A printed volume will no longer be published.

Sears Subject Headings

The 17th edition of the *Sears List of Subject Headings*, a subject headings list devised especially for small to medium-sized libraries, was published this year. Headings in this list are accompanied by class numbers from the 13th abridged edition of the Dewey Decimal Classification.

The 7th edition of the Canadian Companion to the *Sears Subject Headings* will be published this fall.

UMLS Metathesaurus (http://www.nlm.nih.gov/pubs/factsheets/umls.html)

" In 1986, the National Library of Medicine, (NLM) began a research and development project to build a Unified Medical Language System® (UMLS®). The purpose of the is to aid the development of systems that help health professionals and researchers retrieve and integrate electronic biomedical information from a variety of sources and to make it easy for users to link disparate information systems, including patient records, bibliographic databases, factual databases, and expert systems. The project develops "Knowledge Sources" that can be used by a wide variety of applications programs to overcome retrieval problems caused by differences in terminology and the scattering of relevant information across many databases."

There are three knowledge sources:

Metathesaurus
SPECIALIST Lexicon
Semantic Network

"The Metathesaurus provides a uniform, integrated distribution format from about 60 biomedical vocabularies and classifications and links many different names for the same concepts. The Lexicon contains syntactic information for many terms, component words, and English words, including verbs, that do not appear in the Metathesaurus. The Semantic Network contains information about the types or categories (e.g., "Disease or Syndrome," "Virus") to which all concepts have been assigned and the permissible relationships among

these types (e.g., "Virus" causes "Disease or Syndrome"). NLM also distributes associated lexical programs and software helpful in producing customized versions of the Metathesaurus.

" NLM and many other institutions are applying the Knowledge Sources in a wide variety of Applications including patient data creation, curriculum analysis, natural language processing, and information retrieval. NLM's own applications include Internet Grateful Med® , and PubMed."

For additional information contact: E-mail: custserv@nlm.nih.gov or 1-888-FINDNLM

CLASSIFICATION

Library of Congress Classification (Report supplied by Dr. Barbara Tillett, Chief, Cataloging Policy and Support Office, Library of Congress)

1. <u>New editions</u>.   The 1999 editions of Library of Congress classification schedule class R (Medicine) and T (Technology) are now available from the LC Cataloging Distribution Service.
The 2000 editions of the following Library of Congress classification schedules were sent for publication:

B-BJ	(Philosophy. Psychology)
BR-BX	(Christianity. Bible)
KDZ, KG-KH	(Law of the Americas, Latin America, and the West Indies)
KJ-KKZ	(Law of Europe)
KK-KKC	(Law of Germany)
PJ-PK	(Oriental Philology and Literature, Indo-Iranian Philology and Literature)
PT	(German, Dutch, and Scandinavian Literatures)

2. <u>Religious legal systems</u>. The Library of Congress will be implementing two subclasses of KB-KBZ, the classification schedule for religious legal systems, later this year. The two subclasses are KBR (History of Canon Law) and KBU (Law of the Roman Catholic Church. The Holy See).

Subclasses KBM (Jewish law) and KBP (Islamic Law) are in advanced draft stage.

Dewey Decimal Classification
　　　　　See report by Joan Mitchell, Editor, Dewey Decimal Classification.

 Lois Mai Chan

United Kingdom

CLASSIFICATION RESEARCH GROUP

The CRG continues to meet on a regular basis at the School of Library, Archive and Information Studies, University College London. The attendance is small, but minutes of the meetings are distributed to a large number of interested parties on a worldwide basis.

Much recent activity has been concerned with the continued revision of the Bibliographic Classification, to which the members of the CRG have made a considerable contribution. The nature of leisure and the creative arts, problems of representing chemical compounds, the classification of music and the terminology of technology have all been discussed at meetings in the past year. The application of conventional indexing theory to the Internet and other electronic resources has also featured heavily in debate.

BLISS BIBLIOGRAPHIC CLASSIFICATION

Work on the revision proceeds steadily. Class AY/B, General science and physics, was published in November 1999, and Class C, Chemistry is very near to completion. Other main classes in an advanced state include Class U, Technology, the revision here being undertaken by Eric Coates and Class V, the Fine Arts, by Douglas and Joy Foskett.

A very detailed draft of Archaeology, which had been prepared in conjunction with the reorganization of the Haddon Library of Archaeology and Anthropology at the University of Cambridge, was published in the Bliss Classification Bulletin for 1999. The work in this area was carried out by staff of the Haddon and members of the Cambridge Bliss User Group.

BC2 continues to flourish in the University of Cambridge. An important consequence of its use in a number of libraries there is the availability (via the on-line catalogue of the University Library) of a very substantial number of machine-readable records with Bliss classification data.

Membership of the bliss Classification Association remains steady. A successful AGM was held at the National Institute for Social Work in London, and regular committee meetings are held at the University of London Library at Senate House. It is hoped to hold this year's AGM in Oxford, where there are several BC1 users. The major vehicle for information and publicity is now the official Bliss Classification Association website (http://www.sid.cam.uk/bcahome.html), and it is expected that in the near future this will be used to publish small scale revisions, upates and class changes.

BROAD SYSTEM OF ORDERING

Responsibility for the administration of the BSO has passed to the School of lIbrary, Archives and Information Studies at University College London. Eric Coates will continue to be involved in the intellectual maintenance of the system, but copyright now resides with the School. The BSO website will be incorporated into the main School of Library, Archive and Information Studies website during the summer of 2000.

ISKO

There was reasonable British representation at ISKO in Toronto last month, and about half a dozen papers were presented on topics which ranged from:
Thesauri, topics and other structures in Knowledge Management Software (Dextre-Clarke), Structural, linguistic and mathematical elements in indexing languages & search engines (Broughton), Interdisciplinarity (McIlwaine), KO in the workplace based on the sdhape of documents (Davenport), Decomposition of DDC numbers (Pollitt).

There are preliminary discussions taking place that may lead to the creation of an English chapter of ISKO and a possible merger with the CRG. This will be explored further at the CRG's September meeting.

TRAINING COURSES

We put on a 2 day introductory course on UDC at the end of June, at UCL, inconjunction with the LA and BSI. This, together with recent requests on lis-link for a course on LCC, a stated request for another, more advanced UDC course and for a general course on classification has led us to consider seriously offering more such courses and it is likely that we shall run a week long course next summer, giving people the option to attend all or part of it.

MIRACLE

Discussions have been taking place with the people involved with the MIRACLE project, a database of digital music for the blind, which is organized using the UDC. These may lead to the creation of a concordance between the LCC, UDC and DDC for music. Funding is being sought, and this will make an interesting experiment in mapping three very different general schemes,
should it come about.

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