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## A few words from the Chair / Le mot du président



by **Patrice Landry**

Chair, Classification and Indexing Section  
Division IV Bibliographic Control

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Dear members of the section,

As the newly elected chair of the Classification and Indexing Section, I take this opportunity to thank you for your interest in the work of our section. My commitment as chair is to pursue the rich work programme initiated by the Standing Committee under the dynamic leadership of my predecessor, **Marcia Lei Zeng**. We undertake this work knowing that we have the support of 112 members from 45 countries. It is our hope

that your issues and questions will be addressed by the work of our Standing Committee members.

To accomplish the work set out in our new strategic plan for 2005-2007 (<http://www.ifla.org/VII/s29/annual/sp29.htm>), the Section can rely on partly renewed Standing Committee membership. The committee is now composed of 21 members representing 15 countries. It is my pleasure to welcome the 9 new members elected for a 4-year term (2005-2009). They are: Françoise Bourdon (France), Billie Hackney (United States), Yvonne Jahns (Germany), Primalani M. Kukanesan (Malaysia), Sirje Nilbe (Estonia), Edward T. O'Neil (United States), Ingebjorg Rype (Norway), Eunice Maria Silva Pinto (Portugal), and Magdalena Svanberg (Sweden). As you will see in this newsletter, these new members bring a wealth of knowledge and experience to the Committee.

They are joined by an experienced core of returning members: Marie Baliková, Jo-Anne Bélair, Leda Bultrini, Lynne C. Howarth, Dorothy McGarry, David Miller, Senka Naumovska, Thordis T. Thorarinsdottir, Barbara Tillett (Secretary/Treasurer), Maria Witt and Ekaterina Zaytseva.

I also wish to acknowledge on behalf of the Standing Committee the important contributions of our 8 retiring members who have either served one or two 4-year terms. They are Marje Aasmets (Estonia), Lois Mai Chan (United States), Björn Dahla (Finland), Martin Kunz (Germany), Pia Leth (Sweden), Max Naudi (France), Júlio Vaz (Portugal) and Marcia Lei Zeng (United States).

Starting with this issue, the newsletter will have two new editors. Jo-Anne Bélair (Canada) and Billie Hackney (United States) will jointly edit the newsletter. They will bring a new approach and will integrate some of the ideas discussed at our Oslo meetings. From now on, the November issue will focus on the work of the Standing Committee and its members, while the May issue will preview the upcoming Conference and cover the recent developments in the area of classification and indexing in as many countries as possible.

This issue of the newsletter will review the activities of the Section during 2004-2005 and will present the planning of the programme for the future conferences. A summary report of the activities of the Section during the recent Oslo conference will be given with a special emphasis on the work of the Section's working groups. A

new feature of the newsletter is to focus on the work of the Standing Committee members, and this issue will introduce the new Standing Committee members elected for the 2005-2009 term.

I am looking forward to receiving your comments or questions on the work of our section. Please remember that your contributions are important to the work of the section.

## **Report of the Standing Committee of Classification and Indexing meetings, Oslo, 2005 / Rapport des séances du comité permanent, Classification et Indexation, Oslo, 2005**

by **Patrice Landry**

Chair, Classification and Indexing Section  
Division IV. Bibliographic Control

This report is a summary of the minutes of the two meetings of the Standing Committee that were held on Saturday, August 13 and Friday August 19 at the Oslo conference. The meeting Minutes can be consulted on the Section's IFLA page. ([http://www.ifla.org/VII/s29/minutes/s29\\_minutes2005.pdf](http://www.ifla.org/VII/s29/minutes/s29_minutes2005.pdf) )

The meetings were chaired by Marcia Zeng, the Chair of the Standing Committee and the minutes were taken by Barbara Tillett, the secretary. The first point of business was the election of the new Section Chair and Secretary for 2005-2007. Patrice Landry was elected the new chair and Barbara Tillett was elected ongoing Secretary/Treasurer. The new chair then appointed Maria Witt as Information Coordinator and Billie Hackney and Jo-Anne Bélair as Newsletter editors.

Reports were given on the section developments since the Buenos Aires Conference. The section's working groups reported on progress made over the last year. Marcia Zeng reported on behalf of Gerhard Riesthuis that the "final draft" of the Guidelines for Multilingual Thesauri was posted on IFLANET for review, and many positive comments and suggestions had been received. During the Oslo conference, the WG reviewed Gerhard Riesthuis's latest version, and Ia McIlwaine will prepare the final version with Gerhard Riesthuis during the Fall 2005. It is planned that the Guidelines will be posted on

IFLANET and would probably be issued as an IFLA Professional Report in 2006.

David Miller reported on the Working Group on Virtual Clearinghouse of Subject Access Tools and proposed some modifications to the action plan of the WG. He proposed that the group focus its attention on gathering information on tools used by national libraries and information centres. The aim is now to create a series of linked pages on IFLANET organised by geographical area / nation / language and topic. The WG will make a serious effort to contact a wide range of Library and Information Science professionals from around the world with special attention to establishing contact with librarians from regions with which we have very little contact.

Patrice Landry reported on the revised WG Guidelines of Subject Access by National Bibliographic Agencies. With the retirement of Martin Kunz, the group was reformed with a new mandate. During the conference, the WG decided to collect NBA indexing policies in order to determine if a survey is needed in order to provide sufficient information to compile general guidelines. The WG is planning to issue its Guidelines in 2007. The group will work in collaboration with the Bibliography Section WG on Guidelines for Electronic National Bibliographies. The section is also involved in the work of two other WG's. Marcia Zeng reported that the section is leading the Bibliographic Control Division's working group on Functional Requirements for Subjects Authority Records (FRSAR). The WG will be composed of core members as well as an "advisory group" composed of other interested parties.

Also, the Working Group on a Multilingual Dictionary of Cataloguing Terms and Concepts (MulDiCat) led by the Cataloguing Section working group will resume its work this coming year. Jo-Anne Bélair and Leda Bultrini will represent the section on this WG dedicated to building a multilingual thesaurus of cataloguing and subject indexing terms. Their task will be to contribute subject indexing and controlled vocabulary terminology terms.

The Section's Newsletter was discussed. Patrice Landry proposed that the content of the November issue be revised in order to focus more on the work of the Standing Committee and the work of its members. The new editors of the newsletter, Jo-Anne Bélair and Billie Hackney, will also gather information on recent IFLA activities. In particular they will report on the recent IFLA conference, and reports from the working groups.

The May issue will continue the practice of presenting recent developments in the field of classification and indexing in many countries, the so-called "countries reports."

The planning of future conference programmes proceeded with the organisation of both the Seoul and Durban conferences. The programme of the Seoul section's programme will be entitled "Interoperability for subject access for multilingual/multiscript networked environment, especially in Asia." A call for papers will be sent out in October.

The Durban conference programme was discussed and the working theme for that conference is "Partners for subject access to bring libraries and users together." This topic will be further discussed at the next section meetings in Seoul.

The programmes at the Oslo conference were discussed and it was agreed that the three papers from the round table discussion of principles and strategies be proposed to ICBC for publication. An introduction and conclusion should also be submitted. The paper by Unni Knutsen given at the Division of Bibliographic Control would be proposed for publication in the IFLA Journal.

## **Classification and Indexing Section Annual Report 2004-2005**

by **Marcia Lei Zeng**

Kent State University, USA.

Former Chair, Classification and Indexing Section  
Division IV. Bibliographic Control

### **Scope Statement**

The Classification and Indexing Section focuses on methods of providing subject access in catalogues, bibliographies, and indexes to documents of all kinds, including electronic documents. It serves as a forum for producers and users of classification and subject indexing tools. It works to facilitate international exchange of information about methods of providing subject access; to promote standardization and uniform application of classification and subject indexing tools; to initiate and promote advice on research in the subject approach to information; and to disseminate research results through open meetings and publications.

Programmes at recent IFLA conferences included papers on subject access resources and

applications in Europe and South America. Future programmes will include attention to activities in Europe, Asia, and Africa. A Working Group has developed Guidelines for the Construction of Multilingual Thesauri and released it for a world-wide review. Other Working Groups are continuing their work in establishing a Virtual Clearinghouse for Subject Access Resources that are used world wide and the Guidelines for Subject Access by National Bibliographic Agencies. The Section also participates in other activities of the Division of Bibliographic Control, such as FRBR model to subject authority records, which led to a new Working Group of Functional Requirements for Subject Authority Records (FRSAR). The section continues to co-operate with the Cataloguing, Bibliography, and Information Technology Sections and UNIMARC and to participate in other IFLA activities related to bibliographic control.

### **Membership**

The section has 115 institution and individual members from 44 countries (as of October 2004).

### **Standing Committee and officers**

The Standing Committee had 20 members from 14 countries during 2004-2005. The following nations are represented: Canada, Czech, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, Italy, Macedonia, Portugal, Russia, Sweden, Switzerland, and the United States. There were also five corresponding members. Marcia Lei Zeng and Barbara Tillett were the Chair and Secretary for 2003-2005. The Information Coordinator and Newsletter editor was Patrice Landry. Eight committee members finished their terms at the Oslo Conference and nine new members joined the Committee. They are from France, USA, Germany, Malaysia, Estonia, Norway, Portugal, and Sweden. The new committee elected Patrice Landry and Barbara Tillett to serve as the Chair and Secretary for 2005-2007. Maria Witt became new Information Coordinator of the Section. Billie Hackney and Jo-Anne Bélair are section newsletter editors.

### **Oslo conference, August 2005**

A programme jointly organized with the Cataloguing Section, entitled "**Cataloguing and Subject Tools for Global Access: International Partnerships**," was presented at the 2005 Oslo Conference. The program attracted about 200 people. Simultaneous translations were provided for all IFLA languages. The Classification and Indexing Section's part focused on subject tools such as classifications and subject headings. This year, our speakers

were from Czech Republic, Switzerland, Germany, Canada, and France. Their presentations covered many more than the countries they came from. The experiences of collaborative projects involving Slovakia, Slovenia, Croatia, Macedonia, Lithuania, Latvia, Austria, Germany, Switzerland, Canada, and France brought us the most exciting approaches to global subject access.

The papers and presenters were:

- 1) Maria Balikova: Multilingual Subject Access to Catalogues of National Libraries (MSAC): Czech Republic's collaborations with Slovakia, Slovenia, Croatia, Macedonia, Lithuania and Latvia;
- 2) Patrice Landry and Magda Heiner-Freiling: The use of the Dewey Decimal Classification for the organisation of national bibliographies: the German language approach proposed by Austria, Germany and Switzerland; and
- 3) Jo-Anne Bélair and Françoise Bourdon: The Répertoire de vedettes-matière and RAMEAU: two indexing languages in French: a necessary luxury.



Françoise Bourdon and Jo-Anne Bélair

After the presentations, a panel discussion was monitored by Gunilla Jonsson, Chair of Cataloguing Section, on the principles and strategies from different aspects, such as access and sharing of subject and name authority data as well as authority work in the archival context. Marcia Zeng talked about Sharing and Use of Subject Authority Data at the panel.

The Section participated in the Division IV open program, "**Bibliographic Control: current issues and initiatives.**" Marcia Zeng reported recent activities of the Classification and Indexing section and Division's new FRSAR Working Group activities.

The Section had its Standing Committee meeting in two sessions during the Oslo conference. The

meeting was attended by 20 members and many observers (11 and 9). Continuing and new working groups reported their activities. Plans for the 2006 and 2007 programs were discussed. The Strategic Plan for 2005-2007 was revised. Working groups had their meetings separately. Committee members also participated in the Division IV Social Hour activity where they met committee members from other sections in Division IV. The officers participated in the Division's officers meeting, held in two sessions, during the conference.

## Projects and working groups

### 1. Guidelines for the construction of multilingual thesauri

The Working Group met in Oslo after the meetings in Buenos Aires (2004), Berlin (2003), Glasgow (2002), and Amsterdam (2002). A decision was made to publish the Guidelines for the Construction of Multilingual Thesauri by early 2006. A final draft version of the Guidelines was posted on IFLANET for a worldwide review and received great feedback within two months. The Working Group has been chaired by Gerhard Riesthuis. Professor Ia McIlwaine are working on the final English version based on the comments received.

### 2. A Virtual Clearing-House of Available Subject Access Resources

The Working Group was established during the Berlin Conference to create a virtual clearing-house of available subject access tools. The WG, chaired by David Miller, had met online frequently and in person during the conferences. Members of the WG have prepared sample annotations of about 20 subject access tools. For the coming year, the WG plans to focus on identifying subject access resources, which are either used by national libraries or used on the national level. Examples of the latter would be in national union catalogues, or national bibliographies not maintained by a national library. In a second tier, the effort will be to include other important resources. Subgroups to deal with specific issues or regions of the world were formed at the Oslo Conference.

### 3. Guidelines for Subject Access by National Bibliographic Agencies

This Working Group was established at the Berlin Conference in 2003 and re-launched at 2005 Oslo Conference. This WG is chaired by Patrice Landry. The tasks are identified as to: collect and study the indexing policies and practice of the national bibliographic agencies, analyze data,

and draft guidelines. It is expected that the WG will issue the Guidelines in 2007.

#### **4. Division Working Group on Functional Requirements for Subject Authority Records (FRSAR)**

The Classification and Indexing Section is taking the lead role for the new Division-level Working Group FRSAR. Marcia Zeng, Maja Zumer, and Athena Salaba are in charge of the WG which has eight members. An Advisory Group of six members was also formed in 2005. The terms of the references of this WG are: to build a conceptual model of Group 3 entities within the FRBR framework as they relate to the aboutness of works; to provide a clearly defined, structured frame of reference for relating the data that are recorded in subject authority records to the needs of the users of those records; and to assist in an assessment of the potential for international sharing and use of subject authority data both within the library sector and beyond. The chairs met several times before and during the FRBR Dublin Workshop "FRBR in 21st Century Catalogues: An Invitational Workshop" in May 2005 and presented at the Workshop. The WG and AG met at Oslo Conference and decided to start examining the definitions related to Group 3 entities and investigating how real users use subject authority data. Two subgroups were formed.

#### **5. Cross-Section Working Group on MulDiCat**

This is a Working Group on Multilingual Dictionary of Cataloguing Terms and Concepts, established by the Cataloguing Section in 2002. Jo-Anne Bélair and Leda Bultrini will coordinate the involvement of Classification & Indexing members and volunteers.

#### **Section newsletter**

The section continues to publish a Newsletter for Section members, members of the Standing Committee and others interested in classification and indexing. Two issues have been published during the current year. This acts as a channel for imparting information about what is happening at the national level and for sharing the experiences of others. Countries that have reported activities of classification and subject indexing resources during recent years include Canada, Czech, Estonia, France, Germany, Iceland, Italy, Macedonia, Norway, Romania, Russia, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, and the United States. The newsletter is also an excellent forum for the discussion of matters of international concern relating to classification and indexing. Contributions are always very welcome.

#### **Future conferences**

##### **Seoul, 2006**

A programme for the 2006 IFLA Conference was discussed at 2004 and 2005 conferences. At the Oslo conference, the following theme for the Seoul Conference was chosen: Interoperability for subject access for multilingual/multiscript networked environment, especially in Asia. Possible speakers and topics from Asian countries were considered. A call for paper was sent out in November 2005.

##### **Durban, 2007**

A programme for the 2007 IFLA Conference was also discussed during the committee meetings. A theme was proposed for building partnerships for subject access to bring libraries and users together.

#### **Relationships with Other Bodies**

The Section continues to cooperate with other IFLA Sections and Divisions and with the Permanent UNIMARC Committee in various projects and activities. Barbara Tillett, secretary of the Classification and Indexing Section and chair of Division IV, serves as the chair of the planning committee for the series of cataloguing experts on an International Cataloguing Code (IME ICCs). She is also the liaison to the UBCIM Working Group on FRANAR. Barbara Tillett also continues to participate in the FRBR review group.



Barbara Tillett

#### **Seoul Conference: Call for Papers**

World Library and Information Congress  
72nd IFLA General Conference and Council  
Seoul, 20-24 August 2006  
Classification and Indexing Section  
Division for Bibliographic Control

#### **Programme Theme**

Interoperability of subject access for multilingual and multi-script networked environment, particularly for Asia.

The IFLA Classification and Indexing Section will be hosting a 2-hour session that will consist of the presentation of 3 papers.

The IFLA Classification and Indexing Section invites librarians, academics and others involved in research and projects in the area of interoperability among controlled vocabularies and classification schemes to submit proposals for papers on this theme.

If you are interested in contributing, please send an abstract of 200-300 words in English and relevant biographical information about the author(s) by December 15, 2005 to:

Mr Patrice Landry  
Chair of the Classification and Indexing Section  
E-mail: [patrice.landry@slb.admin.ch](mailto:patrice.landry@slb.admin.ch)  
Fax: +41 31 322 84 63

The submissions will be reviewed by a selection committee of the Classification and Indexing Section Standing Committee. The selection will be based on the abstract and the authors will be contacted by January 31, 2006. The full paper is due on April 15, 2006 to allow time for review of papers and preparation of translation. The papers must be an original submission not published elsewhere, no longer than 20 pages, double-spaced. Papers should be in one of the IFLA languages with a version in English to allow for translation. 20 minutes will be allowed for a summary delivery of the paper in the Classification and Indexing Section's programme.

The expenses of attending the Seoul conference are the responsibility of the author(s) / presenter(s) of accepted papers.

For information on the IFLA Classification and Indexing Section, please see <http://www.ifla.org/VII/s29/index.htm>. For additional information on this call for papers, you may contact Patrice Landry by e-mail.

## About Our New Members

**Françoise Bourdon** has occupied various positions at the Bibliothèque nationale de France since 1976, the most recent ones being managing the name authority file of the BN-OPALE catalogue, the services within the Direction du développement scientifique et des réseaux (DDSR) [= Direction of scientific development and networks], the Standards Office of the BnF. Since 2003 she has been head of the Service for bibliographic cooperation, in charge of the National Center for RAMEAU (French subject headings), the French ISSN Center, the BnF Standards Office, the definition and coordination of the bibliographic products proposed by the BnF, the liaison with the clients of the products, and the part of the BnF website devoted to information for professionals in the field of information and documentation. For IFLA, she was active in the Bibliography Section (secretary for 1987-1991, chair for 1991-1993 then member for 1995-1999), member of the Permanent UNIMARC Committee (2000-2003), active in the FRANAR Working Group (chair for 1998-2001, then regular



Françoise Bourdon

Yvonne Jahns

Sirje Nilbe

Eunice Pinto

member), and since 2005 is a member of the Standing Committee of Classification and Indexing Section. In 1990-1991 she was awarded a Robert Vosper Fellowship for an international study on authority files. She also works within the French Organization for standardization (AFNOR) and holds several teaching positions in various units for library and documentation specialists. She has published numerous articles, translations and several books on authority control.

**Billie Hackney** is Head of Monograph Cataloging at the Getty Research Institute Research Library. She has been working in the cataloging field since 1990. Joining the Standing Committee will allow her to expand her knowledge of international classification and indexing issues.

**Yvonne Jahns** has been employed since 1993 as a subject librarian at Die Deutsche Bibliothek - the national library and national bibliographic information centre for Germany. She works at the Department of Classification & Indexing in Leipzig in the field of law and economics. She is especially interested in crosswalks between thesauri and managed a German project for subject access by cross-searching catalogues in economic science some years ago. At the moment she is involved in introducing the Dewey Decimal Classification. A German edition has been published in October and Dewey numbers are now being integrated in the German national bibliography. She has always wished to work in an international atmosphere and enjoys very much both meeting other people and sharing knowledge at IFLA!

**Sirje Nilbe** has been involved in classification, indexing and authority control for eleven years as expert, decision-maker and teacher. She feels that closer contact with colleagues from other countries through C&I Section will help to keep her mind fresh and allow her to do her work better.

**Eunice Pinto** has been for the last ten years Head Librarian at the Serials Department of the Art Library of the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation, in Lisbon, Portugal. Previously she worked for the Public Library Network Program, at the Public Libraries Authority. Since 1994 she has also coordinated the Assistant Library Course at a professional school and has taught Collection Management as well. She is a member of the C&I Section in order to follow and participate in KO standard and project developments.

**Ingebjörg Rype** is Senior librarian at the National Library of Norway, the Bibliographic Department. She is responsible for the use of Dewey classification in the National Bibliography, and Secretary of the Norwegian Committee on Classification and Indexing.

**Magdalena Svanberg** works as a librarian at the Section of Bibliographic Development and Co-ordination at the Royal Library, the National Library of Sweden. The section has the overall responsibility for the quality and standards of the bibliographic records in the Swedish union catalogue, LIBRIS. Her main task is the development and maintenance of the Swedish subject heading language Svenska ämnesord. During the last year, she has also been working with DDC. This winter, she will lead a pre-study to investigate the consequences that a switch to DDC would have in Sweden.

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Co-editors of the Newsletter: Jo-Anne Bélair. Billie Hackney