Letter from the Chair

Dear Colleagues,

As I write this message for the newsletter, there are only a few more days until 2007.

2006 has been a busy year for some groups and individuals connected to the Cataloguing Section:

- the FRBR Working Group on the Expression Entity (Anders Cato, chair) and the FRBR Review Group (Pat Riva, chair): the first amendment to the Functional Requirements for Bibliographic Records conceptual model is out for worldwide review with comments due by Dec. 31;

- Patrick Le Bœuf and the Working Group on FRBR/CRM Dialogue: the group released a first draft of the object-oriented formulation of the FRBR model;

- the Study Group on the Future Directions of the ISBDs (Dorothy McGarry, chair) and the ISBD Review Group (Elena Escolano Rodríguez, chair): a draft of a consolidated International Standard Bibliographic Description was prepared in the first half of the year after a meeting of the Study Group in Frankfurt; the worldwide review period of that draft was July through mid-October; the Study Group met in Paris in early December to review the comments of the draft;

- the Working Group on a Bibliographic Standard for Digital Text Documents (Erik Thorlund Jepsen, chair) and the FRBR Working Group on Aggregates (Ed O’Neill, chair): these two groups met for the first time in Seoul;

- Ulrike Junger: she prepared and presented a paper on “Processing Metadata for Electronic Journals: the Example of the German Union Catalogue of Serials” at the Section’s open programme in Seoul; it will be published in Division IV’s journal, International Cataloguing and Bibliographic Control;

- Jaesun Lee: she was the local coordinator for the fourth International Meeting of Experts for an International Cataloguing Code (IME ICC) held in Seoul prior to the IFLA World Library and Information Conference;

- Barbara Tillett: with Ana Lupe Cristán (Library of Congress, U.S.) and Khaled
Mohamed Reyad (Library of Congress, Cairo), she edited the bilingual Arabic-English report from the third IME ICC held in Cairo in December 2005; she organized and moderated the fourth IME ICC in Seoul; plans are being made with Tienie de Klerk (National Library of South Africa) for the last IME ICC to be held in South Africa prior to the IFLA World Library and Information Conference in August 2007.

On the agenda for 2007 are the following:

• submission of the revised draft of the consolidated ISBD to the Standing Committee for review and approval in March;
• ongoing work of the groups mentioned above;
• resumption of work with the Classification and Indexing Section on MulDiCat, a compilation of cataloguing terms and concepts in various languages;
• addition and revision of more sections of Anonymous Classics and Names of Persons.

At the Section’s first Standing Committee meeting in Seoul, two members volunteered to handle the duties of the Information Coordinator of the Section until elections in 2007. (Due to a change in his library position, Patrick Le Bœuf resigned as Information Coordinator in July and as a member of the Standing Committee this month.) John Hostage is the coordinator of the section’s site on IFLANET; Bill Garrison is editor of SCATNews. I thank John and Bill for their willingness to assume these additional responsibilities. I thank Patrick for his service to the Standing Committee as Information Coordinator and as the previous Chair of the FRBR Review Group.

As 2006 comes to an end, I thank all of you for your contributions to bibliographic control within IFLA and in your institutions. I send you my best wishes for health and happiness in the New Year!

Regards,

Judy Kuhagen
(jkuh@loc.gov)

FRSAR News Report to IFLA, by Marcia Zeng

The terms of reference of the Functional Requirements for Subject Authority Records (FRSAR) Working Group include:

• 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.

Since its establishment in April 2005, the FRSAR Working Group has formed two subgroups. The first subgroup, led by Athena Salaba, co-chair and secretary of the WG, is charged with the study of user tasks related to subject authority record data. The second group, led by Maja Žumer, co-chair of the WG, is charged with the study of subject authority data entities. Subgroup members from eight countries have had heavy discussions through emails.

In an effort to develop user tasks based on use by real users, the User Tasks Subgroup conducted two surveys on the use of subject authority data. The first is considered as a pilot survey conducted at the 2006 Semantic Technology Conference in March, 2006 at San Jose, California. Participants mostly have been involved in developing semantic tools and semantic services at industries. The second web-based survey was conducted among librarians and information professionals during the months of May-July 2006. The survey received great response from communities all over the world (nearly 800 responses from individuals and institutions). Preliminary results
from both surveys and a draft list of User Tasks were presented at the 2006 Conference of International Society for Knowledge Organization (ISKO) in Vienna, Austria and at the 72nd IFLA General Conference and Council in Seoul, Korea. The report is available at: http://www.slis.kent.edu/~mzeng/FRSAR/FRSAR-ifla06.ppt Future reports will be released which will include a more detailed data analysis of the surveys.

Members of the FRSAR Working Group, User Tasks Subgroup, Subject Entities Subgroup and FRSAR Advisory Group met during ISKO 2006 and the 72nd IFLA Conference to discuss User Tasks, Subject Entities and plan for future FRSAR activities. Meetings were led by Marcia Zeng, chair of FRSAR Working Group. FRSAR website is at: http://www.ifla.org/VII/s29/wgfrsar.htm.

Report on the IME ICC4 Meeting, August 16-18, 2006, Seoul, Korea, by Jaesun Lee

The Fourth IFLA Meeting of Experts on an International Cataloguing Code (IME ICC4) was held August 16-18, 2006 at the National Library of Korea in Seoul, Korea. Once again this fourth meeting provided an opportunity to get the cataloguing experts together, this time from the Asian countries. Most of them were meeting for the first time, getting to know each other and to discuss the basic principles of cataloguing in today’s digital internet environment.

Invitations went out to 61 representatives from 17 countries in Asia: Bangladesh, Cambodia, China (also Hong Kong and Taiwan), Indonesia, Japan, Kazakhstan, Korea, Malaysia, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and Vietnam. Travel funds were again an issue for some country representatives, but we were able to find funding for a few of the participants. Even so, 44 participants joined us in Seoul, representing 12 countries in Asia. The members of the Planning Committee added 4 more countries: Canada, Italy, Spain, and the United States of America for a total of 16 countries and 49 registered attendees. There were also approximately 30 volunteers assisting with local logistics and serving as interpreters and recorders for the Working Groups. In addition to IFLA’s support (primarily to cover the expense of simultaneous interpreters), very generous support was received from OCLC and from the National Library of Korea and the Library of Congress.

Chinese, English, Japanese, and Korean were the official languages of the meeting with simultaneous interpretation through the plenary sessions. Meetings of the Working Groups typically were held in English or Japanese with volunteer interpreters helping in other languages. As with the earlier IME ICC meetings, a Web site was offered, this time in Chinese, English, Japanese, and Korean. The plan for the published report is to present it in the four working languages of the meeting.

The goal of the meeting was to increase the ability to share cataloguing information worldwide by promoting standards for the content of bibliographic and authority records used in library catalogues. This goal continues the goal of the 1961 International Conference on Cataloguing Principles to provide international standardization of cataloguing rules and principles.

Objectives for this fourth meeting in Seoul were to examine cataloguing codes currently used in Asia to compare their similarities and differences with the 1961 Paris Principles; to review and update the April 2006 draft Statement of International Cataloguing Principles from the earlier IME ICC meetings and to enhance the accompanying Glossary with terminology in the Asian languages for the key concepts in the principles.

Regarding the agenda of this meeting, background papers were presented on ISBD by Elena Escolano Rodríguez, on FRBR terminology and concepts by Pat Riva and on the Virtual International Authority File by Barbara B. Tillett.
One of the highlights of this particular meeting was the presentation of seven country reports; Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Nepal and Sri Lanka. It was to share information on the state of cataloguing rules and comparison to the Paris Principles and the draft IFLA Statement of International Cataloguing Principles. China, Japan, and Korea have a history of rule making bodies and have followed the Paris Principles with a focus on the needs of publications in their region of the world. Many other countries in Asia follow the Anglo-American Cataloguing Rules or have a local set of rules based on AACR2. The other Asian countries are invited to submit their reports to add to the published meeting report.

Much of the second day was devoted to the working group meetings for discussion of their topics and recommendations. For optimal communication of the participants, certified interpreters were provided for English, Chinese, Japanese and Korean.

The recommendations from each of the Working Groups are briefly described as follows:

**WG 1, Personal Names (Ben Gu, leader)**

This working group had no problems with the draft Statement of International Cataloguing Principles and the Glossary. Their discussion centered on differentiation and over-differentiation of personal names and the question of whether controlled meant a separate authority record for each entity. They think that there are inconsistencies between ‘5.1.3 Language’ and ‘5.5.1.1’. In case of ‘5.1.3’, there was ‘… in original language …’ but there was ‘… in the language and script of the catalogue …’ in section 5.5.1.1. So they recommend that ‘should be’ be changed to ‘could be’ or ‘may be’. In addition, they suggested that the terms ‘controlled’ or ‘controlled access points’ are not clear. Many cataloguers think ‘controlled’ means ‘authority control’. It also means differentiation. For this, cataloguers make more differentiation than necessary. There were also suggestions for cataloguing rules related to Indonesian names.

**WG 2, Corporate Bodies (Maria Lau, leader)**

This group agreed with the draft Statement concerning corporate names, but suggested moving the access point for years of publication or issuance out of the indispensable access points list and into the list of additional access points, as they are more likely to be used to limit or filter a search than be a primary or mandatory access point. They also spotted a couple of typographical errors to correct in the next draft.

There are also some opinions. One of them is regarding the title of section. About section ‘5.1.1 choice of access point’, one member questioned the appropriateness of the term ‘choice’. The suggestion was given to use ‘scope’ instead of ‘choice’. The group did not reach the consensus on the amendment but presented the opinion.

**WG 3, Seriality (Naoko Harai, leader)**

This group agreed with the principles but had some suggestions to improve the ISBD (CR) to better meet the realities of serial publications and integrating resources in the Asian world. The main issues of seriality were the major changes in the title proper of ISBD (CR). There should be more consideration made in treating major changes of Asian countries. The group all agreed that there was a need to have change. For example, the first five words show the difficulties that these nations are facing. It is hard to apply this rule in Asian countries. This group asserted that non-English speaking countries have a hard time grasping some of the words in the Statement of International Cataloguing Principles.

**WG 4, Uniform Titles and GMD (Yukiko Sakai, leader)**

The group suggested clarifying that a uniform title may be qualified by the name of a person, corporate body or place in addition to other attributes, such as date. They also felt a strong statement should be made about the national responsibility for creating uniform titles at least for classics and scriptures created in the country. They had some suggestions for additions to the Glossary related to name/title uniform titles and general material designations, and expressed the need for a global list of GMDs. In later
discussion it was pointed out that the GMD is a topic currently under discussion within IFLA and the Joint Steering Committee for Revision of AACR and that those developments will be coming soon and can guide the direction of updating the Statement in this area.

WG 5. Multipart Structures (Cheong-Ok Yoon, leader)

Although the group generally agreed with the Introduction and draft principles, they had several suggestions and questions about the convenience for the user and how that might relate to user-centric or a user friendly approach. They suggested that the section, ‘1. Scope,’ be broadened so that some aspects of the catalogue can be more user centric and user friendly. There were questions on the meaning of indispensable and of why the entity family was added. The word indispensable is underlined in bold type in 7.1.2. They know the meaning, but they suggested that it should be more clearly defined in the draft or in the Glossary part. The latter was clarified as coming from the archival community where family is an important entity. There was also discussion on the practices in each country with regard to multipart structures and the differences between rules and local practices. Especially, multivolume issues are more obvious in Asian countries than Western countries, so more examples, based on the unique situations in Asian countries should be provided for in the international standards.

About the Glossary, this group generally agreed with the definitions. One suggestion was made. There was a term physical unit in 2.1.1., but that term is not defined in the Glossary. They suggested that it should be added to the Glossary.

After presentation of the working groups reports, the main issues were again discussed.

- The typographical error ‘1961’ indicated by working group 2 will be corrected.
- “User centric” or “user friendly”, these issues will have more online discussion.
- 3.12 term “family” is an important part. So it will be left as it is.
- Section 5.3.1 and 5.5.11 will have more online discussions. But the term “should be,” “could be,” or “may be” are not used in a principle.
- The term “Uniform titles” will be added to the glossaries.
- About “corporate name” and “place”, a way to word these terms formally to avoid confusion needs to be developed.
- Regarding 5.5 Forms of Uniform titles, the new section of “5.5.2” recommended from the principles by the working group 4.
- 7.1.2.2 Indispensable access points: “variant points” does not include cross references. They wanted more discussion.
- “the years of publication…”, this will require further discussion.
- About “Controlled access points”, this will require further discussion as well.

The recommendations from the Seoul meeting were shared with the other Asian participants through the IME ICC4 email discussion list on the homepage.

IME ICC4 draft will be posted on the web. We will share it for any professional who could not participate in this meeting. The finalized draft of the statement from IME ICC4 will be provided to the IME ICC5 prior to its meeting. The 5th IME ICC will be held in the National Library of South Africa in Pretoria. It is planned for 14-15 August 2007.

IME ICC4 was quite a significant meeting in the sense that it was the first time for all Asian cataloguers to meet together. For the past many years, the meetings related to cataloguing have been held mainly in western library communities.

With this IME ICC4 as a momentum, I wish that many good Asian cataloguing practices will be normalized and established as the international cataloguing principles.

[Editor’s note: the section numbers referred to in this report are from the “Statement of Principles” document that can be found at: http://www.nl.go.kr/icc/down/060813_4.pdf]
Library and Archives Canada’s Web Resource Discovery Strategy,
by Margaret Stewart

Library and Archives Canada (LAC) was created in 2004 with new legislated powers to collect electronic publications on legal deposit, and to archive websites and web domains for preservation purposes. Legal deposit of electronic publications will come into effect in January 2007. With these technological, legislative and program changes, we anticipate a tidal wave of digital publications and websites in the near future.

LAC has built a significant collection of digital resources over the last ten years and the same policies and standards used for the cataloguing of print material have been applied to cataloguing material in the digital collection. However, it was clear that a cost-effective and realistic plan to achieve a measure of intellectual access in the face of an influx of potentially very large numbers of digital resources was needed. With this in mind, we have developed a strategy which supports a new approach to the description of digital resources. We are currently undertaking a number of pilot projects that will serve to test the effectiveness of the approach outlined below.

LAC is proposing two broad levels of access – basic access and supplementary access, with supplementary access provided in a number of ways.

Basic access will provide full-text indexing for all digital publications in the LAC collection, giving end-users with a Google-like searching experience, with results ranked in a meaningful manner.

Supplementary access will be achieved either through the reuse of automatically generated, extracted or externally supplied metadata or through the creation of standard bibliographic descriptions.

In the first quarter of 2006, LAC harvested the entire Government of Canada domain, comprising 1,500 domain URLs. We are currently exploring the use of author/creator supplied metadata, particularly in the context of the website harvest of the Government of Canada domain. Given that Government of Canada websites include Dublin Core metadata supplied by the government departments, we are transforming this data into MARC and assessing its effectiveness for resource discovery.

To assist in the description of digital resources subject to legal deposit, LAC is experimenting with auto-extracted metadata using tools to mine the content of a digital resource and capture basic descriptive elements including title, creator and keywords. In addition, the 2006 Legal Deposit Regulations state that a publisher must provide any available descriptive metadata with the digital resource. We are planning to define our metadata requirements and to develop guidelines for publishers in support of these requirements so that we are well-positioned to benefit from the publisher-supplied metadata.

Depending on the extent to which human intervention is required, the use of automatically generated, extracted or externally supplied metadata has the potential of serving as a cost-effective approach to providing access to digital resources. A key issue, however, is the lack of consistency in the form of name used for creator access points. We are reviewing workflows in an effort to take full advantage of the savings offered by using metadata from various sources; however, quality issues will influence decisions taken on where the metadata will reside (AMICUS, LAC’s bibliographic system, or in a separate repository) and whether the metadata is suitable for redistribution to other libraries.

LAC will also create bibliographic records according to the Anglo-American Cataloguing Rules with authoritative names and subjects for a selection of “significant” digital publications, based on criteria developed to build on the strengths of the LAC collection. With regard to the level of description, we have endorsed the “access level” record developed by the Library
of Congress for the description of digital resources since it offers cost savings over full level cataloguing by de-emphasizing certain descriptive elements that are not relevant for digital resources or do not support resource discovery.

Both the extension of legal deposit for digital resources and the website archiving activity have spurred LAC into rethinking existing cataloguing models. The strategy that we have developed will help us to evaluate the trade-offs between the quantity and timeliness of the descriptive records we make available and the quality of those records. We will continue to study our descriptive policies, systems and workflows to ensure that, first and foremost, we are meeting the expectations of the 21st century user.

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The Indexing and Cataloging Committee of the Library Society of China held a working meeting at the National Library of China, November 17-18, 2006. Twelve out of fifteen members of the committee attended the meeting. As a representative of the National Library of China and a guest speaker, Dr. Ben GU attended the meeting.

In this meeting, Dr. Ben GU (NLC) gave a report of the IME ICC4 and some new developments of IFLA cataloging-related activities, proposed a draft of principles (such as internationalization, user-centeredness and democracy) for future inter-institutional coordination and standard-making mechanisms, and called on a unification of Chinese library cataloging practices and a unity of Chinese library cataloging rule makers. Then, Ms. Qinfang XIE (CALIS) and Prof. Hanqing HOU (Nanjing Agricultural University) respectively analyzed the differences of descriptive and subject cataloging practices in major libraries in China. The committee members discussed the differences and reached consensus on most descriptive rules, while some rules concerning subject indexing are still to be discussed later.

Prof. Guangxiang HU (Chinese Academy of Social Sciences), who is a member of the committee and also a representative of the National Technical Committee for Information and Documentation Standardization, agreed to do coordination work for the National Standard for the Description Rules of Monographs, which is to be published very soon, incorporating the decisions of the meeting. Mr. Dongbo WANG (NLC), chair of the committee, hoped that the decisions would be adopted by the National Library of China and other major libraries in China, and will be considered in the future drafting of national standards and national cataloging rules.

I think that the meeting was very fruitful. It is a starting point for Chinese library catalogers to begin to consider their coordination seriously. Because representatives of major libraries attended the meetings, and the discussions were in a harmonious and democratic way, most libraries will consider adopting the decisions of this meeting.

According to the decisions in the meeting, there are fewer differences between Chinese cataloging rules and ISBDs, and the process of internationalization will be promoted further.

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Nominations for Standing Committee Members

A reminder to the Standing Committee members whose first terms end in 2007: the deadline for your nomination form for a second term is Feb. 7, 2007. (See IFLANET for more information: http://www.ifla.org/III/misc/callscm-e.htm)
75th IFLA General Conference and Council – 2009

Milan has been selected as the site for the 75th IFLA General Conference and Council. Congratulations to Standing Committee member Mauro Guerrini (president of Associazione italiana biblioteche) and his colleagues! An interview with Mauro appeared in a Korean English language newspaper with this announcement. Mauro cordially invites all of his colleagues to attend the 75th IFLA conference and to come and enjoy the sights, sounds and tastes of Milan.

Contributions to SCATNews are welcome at any time.

The deadline for the next issue is May 1, 2007.

Please send news items, articles, and comments to the Editor:

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All of the Cataloguing Section’s ongoing projects, activities, and publications can be found at

http://www.ifla.org

or go directly to

http://www.ifla.org/VII/s13/index.htm