ICABS Activity Report
August 2004 - January 2005

ICABS secretary

During this period the focus of Die Deutsche Bibliothek as the chair of the ICABS-Board has been on work of the secretary to coordinate and postprocess the ICABS programme during the World Library and Information Congress in Buenos Aires and to coordinate the plannings of the ICABS programme in Oslo.

Coordination
- WLIC Buenos Aires 2004 programme coordination
- WLIC Oslo 2005 programme coordination

Publications
- Oehlschläger, Susanne: IFLA-CDNL Alliance for Bibliographic Standards (ICABS) at the World Library and Information Congress in Buenos Aires
  In: International Cataloguing and Bibliographic Control (ICBC)
- Oehlschläger, Susanne: ICABS beim World Library and Information Congress in Buenos Aires
  In: Dialog mit Bibliotheken 16(2004)3
- Oehlschläger, Susanne: Ein Dach für vielfältige Aktivitäten: die IFLA-CDNL Alliance for Bibliographic Standards (ICABS)
  In: BuB 56(2004)12

Susanne Oehlschläger
Die Deutsche Bibliothek
February 2005
IFLA

*International Cataloguing and Bibliographic Control* (ICBC) was published on a quarterly basis. Four issues of this periodical completed Volume 33 (2004).

ICBS is devoted to issues, projects, research and new development in the broad field mentioned in the title. It provides an international forum for the exchange of views and best practice by members of the library and information management profession in general and those in the sectors of cataloguing, bibliography and indexing in particular.

Over the years *ICBC* has grown from a newsletter to a really international professional journal with currently around 800 subscribers worldwide. Apart from IFLA Conference papers and reports, it publishes commissioned articles but also unsolicited contributions, along with news items about relevant developments, workshops, publications etc. Articles are usually published in English but some have appeared in other IFLA working languages (French and Spanish).

A substantial number of translations of existing IFLA Publications in the field of bibliographic control was published. Among translations of ISBD-*, and FRBR-* publications - apart from the IFLA working languages (English, French, German, Russian, Spanish) - were those into Croatian, Czech, Italian, Japanese, Korean.

Sjoerd Koopman
IFLA Headquarters
The Hague
April 2005

*) International Standard Bibliographic Description

*) Functional Requirements for Bibliographic Records

British Library

This report covers the period from August 2004 to January 2005. The main developments are:-

FRBR maintenance and development
The ICABS/British Library liaison with FRBR Review Group is Alan Danskin.

Alan is in discussions about a proposed FRBR meeting to be hosted at OCLC later this year. An outline programme has been agreed and will now be more fully developed. Discussions are ongoing as to who will be attending. The BL has offered some support for the meeting under the ICABS programme. The exact nature of this support is yet to be decided.

Alan is also developing a questionnaire for system suppliers to gather information about FRBR related system developments. System issues were frequently raised during last year’s IFLA conference in Buenos Aires and this is felt to be an important area for investigation. This will be disseminated once the distribution list is completed, hopefully later this month.

Promotion of FRBR

Alan has given a presentation on FRBR to faculty and students at the University of Northumbria. He will also talk on FRBR in February to a meeting of SINTO, the information partnership for South Yorkshire and North Derbyshire.

Within the BL we have started quality sampling our own data using a methodology based on FRBR user tasks. A presentation based on the results is proposed for future IFLA meetings and also for the Quality Workshop planned for the CILIP Umbrella conference in July.

FRANAR

The ICABS/British Library liaison with the FRANAR Working Group is Andrew MacEwan.

Andrew continues to work with the FRANAR Working Group on the most recent draft issued in December, which incorporated changes made in Buenos Aires. Once this draft is finalised that will be the version that has passed the internal IFLA review stage. It is expected to be issued for worldwide review within a month or so. There will then be an opportunity to ensure promotion and raise the profile of this activity in the wider community.

FRANAR project

There have been no requests for support or funding during this period.

Financial Support

The British Library has budgeted a potential £5K to support FRBR and FRANAR activities in the 2004/05 financial year. The principle commitment so far, has been made to the consultants work on the FRBR/ISBD mapping. The level of support for the proposed OCLC meeting is not yet known. The level of funding available next year will be considered as part of the BL’s financial planning.

Wider ICABS related activity

Caroline Brazier represents the British Library on the ICABS Board.
Web Archiving

The BL’s Web Archiving Programme has implemented one of its major strands with the start of operations of the UK Web Archiving Consortium (UKWAC), where the BL is a partner along with the national Archives, the National Library of Scotland, National Library of Wales, the Wellcome Trust, and JISC. This is a 2 year project designed to archive c. 6000 sites of UK interest in various fields using the PANDAS software designed by the NLA. See http://info.webarchive.org.uk/members.html for further information.

The work runs in parallel to the library’s existing intake of digital materials on a voluntary basis under a code of practice agreed with UK publishers in 2000. Digital ingest, collection management, access and preservation is being developed in line with the regulations to be established under the newly expanded legal deposit legislation.

Work on a smart crawler is also continuing with the IIPC (International Internet Preservation Consortium).

Caroline Brazier, Alan Danskin, Andrew MacEwan
The British Library
January 2005
Die Deutsche Bibliothek

This report covers the period from **August 2004 - January 2005**.

During this period the focus of Die Deutsche Bibliothek as the chair of the ICABS-Board has been on work of the secretary to postprocess the ICABS programme during the World Library and Information Congress in Buenos Aires and to coordinate the planning of the ICABS programme in Oslo. Also in the field of support for the ISBD Review Group a lot of work has been done. Another main working field has been the VIAF cooperative.

**VIAF cooperative**
The goal of the VIAF project is to prove the feasibility of one model of a “Virtual International Authority File”. Two big national authority files for personal names - the “Library of Congress Name Authority Files (LCNAF)” and the “Personennamendatei (PND)” - are linked through a crosslink file, the VIAF. The VIAF provides crosswalks between the national authority files and enables users to search in the same way as in a physically unified international file. Within ICABS Die Deutsche Bibliothek and the Library of Congress are responsible for the VIAF cooperative. Another important partner in this project is OCLC. The project is divided into 4 stages:

1. Linking existing records
2. Build the server - Search and retrieval
3. Ongoing Maintenance - OAI Harvesting
4. End user applications - Display

At the present stage 1 of the project the Library of Congress and Die Deutsche Bibliothek are examining the results of the first matching of records to test the algorithm applied and to analyse the record elements used for the matching process. Further testing is planned. As a whole the project is running slightly behind its schedule agreed to by the project partners during their meeting in July 2004.

**ISBD maintenance and development**

Die Deutsche Bibliothek is the lead ICABS partner in supporting the work of the IFLA Cataloguing Section’s ISBD Review Group in developing and maintaining the International Standards for Bibliographic Description. We also work to encourage the harmonisation of national practices to follow these standards and to promote the results of the ISBD revisions.

**ISBD Review Group**

ICABS is represented on the ISBD Review Group by Renate Gömpel.

In Buenos Aires the ISBD Review Group set up a Study Group on Future Directions of the ISBDs. Among other terms of reference, the group is considering the use and values of an ISBD that combines into a single document provisions for the entire Family of ISBDs, in order to facilitate revision work and to abolish and further avoid inconsistencies in the ISBD stipulations. Die Deutsche Bibliothek agreed to support the "ISBD consolidation" work of the IFLA Study Group on Future Directions of the ISBDs by providing a first cut-and-paste version of current ISBDs for further consideration. Die Deutsche Bibliothek will host a meeting of the Study Group in April 2005.
Promotion for ICABS

Publications
- Gömpel, Renate: ICABS - a new approach to international co-operation
  In: IFLA Journal, 2005,1

Lectures
Past
Gömpel, Renate: Lectures on ICABS
- Hanoi, Vietnam, November 2004
- Darmstadt, Germany, January 2005

Hengel-Dittrich, Christel: Lecture on VIAF and FRANAR
Linz, Austria, September 2004

Forthcoming
Gömpel, Renate: Lectures on ICABS
- Frankfurt, Germany, February 2005 for Library managers from South Caucasus
- Düsseldorf, Germany, March 2005 at the annual German librarian’s conference

Renate Gömpel
Die Deutsche Bibliothek
February 2005
Koninklijke Bibliotheek

Period
August 2004 – January 2005

Contact person
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Goal:
To advance understanding of issues related to long-term archiving of electronic resources, in order to improve international co-ordination and to steer developments in the area of digital preservation.

Actions:
4.1 Explore the requirements/conditions for long-term archiving of electronic resources.
4.2 Migration & emulation: explore and promote strategies, methods and standards for migration and emulation.

Report:
To reach this goal the Koninklijke Bibliotheek (KB) will write a state-of-the-art assessment on the use of standards in digital archiving, based on the experiences of the worlds leading library institutions in the field of digital preservation. The assessment will address operational and R&D activities aimed at the long-term storage of electronic resources.

The KB-ICABS report will mainly be based on desk research, focusing on recent publications and research. Based on the experiences of the KB with digital preservation, we defined four specific questions on standardisation in the field of long-term archiving of electronic resources, which will be the main focus of the research.

These questions concern 1. the use of standards in the international library field on developing, implementing and managing electronic repositories; 2. standardisation on organisational aspects and work flow within digital preservation; 3. the use of standards in the research on the development of digital preservation strategies, for both preservation and permanent access and 4. the need for new standards on the development of future strategies.

The report will be available in the summer of 2005. It will give an overview of definitions, and of the state of the art of existing standards for digital preservation in the international library world and also presents best practices and main focal points on standardisation for long-term archiving of electronic resources, which can be used as starting point for further development, more coordinated research and future knowledge dissemination. In the period August 2004 – January 2005 desk research has been carried out and writing has started.

IFLA Session:
During the ICABS Meeting in Buenos Aires (August 2004) the ICABS-board agreed to organise a session on ‘Best Practices in Digital Preservation’ for IFLA 2005 in Oslo. The KB and the NLA have taken the lead to set up a draft programme for this session, ‘Maintaining access to digital collections’, which can be found on the ICABS webpages. In preparing this draft there has been close co-operation with ICABS partners of DDB, BL and LC. The final programme will be available in March 2005.

(IV/Februari 2005)
Library of Congress

MARC 21 and its XML derivatives

Documentation activities included posting to the web and printing the 2004 MARC 21 Concise document and issuance of the 2004 updates to the formats B plus other new web documents and translations. The Spanish version of the MARC 21 web site was greatly enhanced in October 2004 with the addition of a translation of the MARC 21 Concise Authority format made by Ageo Garcia in collaboration with colleagues from a number of Latin American countries. The popular explanatory booklet, Understanding MARC Authority Records was made available on the web (www.loc.gov/marc/uma/). It joins a companion booklet, Understanding MARC Bibliographic (www.loc.gov/marc/umb/), which is on the web site in both English and Spanish.

MARCXML, also available from the web site, provides a lossless pathway from MARC 21 to MARC in XML and then back. Several transformations were updated that move data to and from MARCXML and other XML metadata schemas such as MODS, Dublin Core, ONIX (bibliographic data content) - all downloadable from the web site. These transformations have been important for opening up MARC 21 data to easier manipulation with XML tools and use with XML-based protocols and formats such as Open Archives Initiative Protocol for Metadata Harvesting (OAI-PMH), SRW/SRU (see below), and the Metadata Encoding and Retrieval Standard (METS).

MADS, the authority data companion to schema for bibliographic data, MODS, was revised in late 2004 based on the many comments received during the open email/listserv review period. (www.loc.gov/mads/). A new version was prepared and released for review in February 2005. Harmonization with both MODS and MARC 21 and simplification were important objectives for the schema.

Z39.50 and SRW/SRU

Work continued on Z39.50 Next Generation (ZING) services: SRU (Search and Retrieve URL Service) which allows users to send a search using title, name, identifier and other parameters via a URL (http GET) and receive records in response, and SRW (Search and Retrieve Web Service) which supports a web search that operates over the web base protocol, SOAP, rather than directly through http. It is more robust than SRU is able to be directly over http. These XML-based search and retrieval protocols are semantically compatible with Z39.50, adapting the most useful parts of that protocol to the web environment.

The ZING Editorial Board is developing an Update service at the request of several users. Their approach is to profile the use of standards and practices, including web standards and special ones (like METS), for this new service. METS is of special interest because compound documents are a component of the service.
An important new part of the SRU/SRW web site is the Short Topics section (www.loc.gov/z3950/agency/zing/srw/short-topics.html). It contains brief discussions of issues that have come up around the protocol and often points to future work. A recent short topic on the SRU/SRW web site highlights the similarities and differences of SRU/SRW and the W3C’s XQuery that is under development. The ZING Editorial Board is discussing taking CQL to the W3C for standardization consideration. An article in DLib magazine’s February 2005 issue highlighted the possible synergies between OAI, the popular harvesting protocol and SRU/SRW (www.dlib.org).

A first step toward formal standardization of SRU and SRW was made by the registration of those protocols with NISO. They were approved in October 2004. (www.niso.org/registration/registration_approved.html)

**Metadata and XML metadata schemes**
The work of the PREMIS Working Group, an international task force developing core data elements for the preservation of material, completed its draft report and data dictionary in February 2005. It will be posted for worldwide review in March. This 18 month effort builds on the work of earlier groups and experiments such as CEDARS, NLA initiatives, NEDLIB, and others. The goal of the group was to define the elements and evaluate alternative strategies for encoding and managing preservation metadata. A schema for using the element list in METS documents is now under preparation.

Version 1.4 of the Metadata Encoding and Transmission Standard (METS) was released in late 2004 (www.loc.gov/mets). It contained adjustments to make it more compatible with MPEG 21. In addition several profiles for images and for paged text have recently be submitted and approved by the Editorial Board.

**Monitor work on PIDs**
The Library of Congress added news posting to the URI Resource Page in December 2004, January and February, 2005, reporting on actions and activities relating to URIs taking place in the IETF and the W3C (www.loc.gov/standards/uri/). The site explains the differences and relationships of URIs, URLs, and URNs, along with the roles of identification, resolution, and persistence, as they are currently understood.

Sally McCallum
Library of Congress
August 2004-February 2005
(February 2005, revised)
National Library of Australia

Update to ICABS Action Plan (February 2005)

Goal: Advance understanding of issues related to long-term archiving of electronic resources

Action 3.3 Web harvesting
Explore and promote methods to archive web-based publications collected by web harvesting.

Actions and update (at February 2005)


The Library joined the International Internet Preservation Consortium (IIPC) in July 2003 and has been actively involved in its work since then. In close cooperation with the Bibliothèque nationale de France, we led a Working Group to investigate the identification, acquisition, storage and display of publications and web sites that are database driven. A tool named Xinq has been developed to enable the automatic production of access interfaces for archived databases. Xinq will be made available open source through the IIPC.

Based on its experience in creating the PANDORA Digital Archiving System (PANDAS), in November the Library was asked to lead the initial phases of a new IIPC project, the development of a Curator Tool, which will enable non-technical staff of collecting agencies to initiate and manage web archiving programs.

The Library sends a representative to all IIPC Working Group meetings and hosted a meeting of the Steering Committee in Canberra in November 2004.

(ii) Hold an international conference on digital archiving – COMPLETED (November 2004)

The international conference Archiving web resources: issues for cultural heritage institutions, was held at the National Library in Canberra from November 9-11 2004. Its main objective was to identify significant issues facing cultural heritage institutions in collecting web resources and to explore how the issues are being addressed. Major research programs and projects were included in the program.

The program was deemed to be a great success with 200 delegates and around 30 speakers representing a range of institutions around the world. A report on the conference and details about speakers and the program are available on the conference web site at http://www.nla.gov.au/webarchiving/.
(iii) Automated deposit and archiving of online government resources

The Commonwealth Metadata Pilot Project ([http://www.nla.gov.au/ntwkpubs/gw/65/html/p04a01.html](http://www.nla.gov.au/ntwkpubs/gw/65/html/p04a01.html)) aims to improve access to Australian government information published online by automating the contribution of metadata to the national bibliographic database provided through the Kinetica service, and by automating the archiving of content associated with the metadata in PANDORA: Australia’s web archive. Data is converted from its original format to the MODS standard and then to MARC format for loading onto the national database.

During 2004 the Library added seven additional government agencies to the group with which it worked during 2003, making thirteen in all, exploring the workflows and processes required to automate acquisition of descriptive metadata. It enhanced procedures and infrastructure for acquisition of this metadata for online government publications for the National Bibliographic Database (made available through its Kinetica service). This work will continue in 2005.

The work to enhance PANDAS to enable the batch loading of metadata acquired through the Commonwealth Metadata Project and the automated harvesting of files has been held up because of the need to re-engineer PANDAS to improve stability. However, this work is scheduled as high priority for resumption once the re-engineering has been completed in April 2005.

(iv) Explore and promote methods to archive web-based publications collected by web harvesting – COMPLETED (August 2004).

The PADI subject gateway ([http://www.nla.gov.au/padi/](http://www.nla.gov.au/padi/)) to digital preservation resources has been modified to incorporate information that provides an overview of approaches to archiving web based publications. Brief descriptions of a number of archiving programs that illustrate how the various approaches are being implemented have been linked to the overview page. These will be updated on an on-going basis in consultation with the owners of the programs described.

(v) Explore more cost-effective ways for creating resource discovery metadata for web resources selected for archiving. – NEW ACTION (September 2004)

Currently the National Library of Australia provides full MARC cataloguing for all web resources selected for archiving in PANDORA: Australia’s web archive. With the aim of reducing the cost of this component of the archiving process, a review of standards and international approaches to metadata creation for web resources will be undertaken, basic requirements determined and options for providing access assessed.

An assessment of the new Access Level record proposed by Library of Congress is currently underway.

The results of the review will be made available through PADI. It is expected that this action will conclude in late-2005.

**Action 3.4 Preservation of digital materials**

*Work out a survey of existing standards, guidelines and codes for preservation of digital materials (in co-operation with IFLA’s Preservation and Conservation Section)*

Actions and update (at February 2005)
(i) By means of PADI, prepare a review of existing guidance documents (such as standards, guidelines and codes) that address digital preservation issues and identify any significant gaps in PADI coverage.

The review of existing guidance documents listed in PADI is underway. Information gathering has been completed and initial analysis of the information carried out. However, closer analysis is needed to provide a useful report, given the plethora of guidance documents and the dearth of universally applicable formal standards associated with digital preservation practices.

(ii) Establish a working relationship with the Koninklijke Bibliotheek (KB) to cooperate more formally on actions contributing to ICABS Goal 3.3 (Long-term archiving of electronic resources.)

- NEW ACTION (September 2004)

In order to avoid duplication of effort and to ensure maximum benefit from resources available at both institutions to carry out research in this area, NLA and KB will review actions with the view to working more closely together either on compatible strategies. Discussions have been held with KB but an area for collaboration has not yet been identified.

(ii) Critically review existing PADI structures and interfaces to ensure they offer useful and easy access to information about existing standards, guidelines and codes for preservation of digital materials (i.e., guidance documents) – COMPLETED (December 2004)

Following a review of PADI structures and interfaces a number of new approaches have been implemented that should make it easier to find readily useful information. A number of “trails” have been incorporated in PADI to guide beginning users to a small number of focused resources. The thesaurus used for the PADI database has been updated to better reflect current understandings. Finally, a mechanism has been developed to distinguish more up to date resources from those that may be less current although still of historical interest.

(iii) Work with IFLA PAC partners and UNESCO to identify digital preservation “readiness” issues in SE Asian and the Pacific. The objective is to:

- Review information that is already available on the issue
- Develop a set of “readiness” indicators – i.e., what needs to be in place to embark on a digital preservation program
- Provide guidance on how to improve levels of readiness

A checklist of readiness factors and guidance on improving readiness was prepared and incorporated into a UNESCO funded workshop on digital preservation conducted by the National Library of Australia at the National Library of Malaysia in December 2004. The checklist will be revised based on experience gained at the workshop.

Pamela Gatenby
National Library of Australia
February 2005
National Library of Portugal: IFLA UNIMARC Core Activity

I – UNIMARC in WLIC/IFLA 2004 (Buenos Aires)

1. The IFLA UNIMARC Core Activity organized a session under the topic *The holdings record as a bibliographic control tool* with the objective of discussing the importance of holdings data and the content and use of holdings records. The session was jointly prepared with the Library of Congress MARC 21 Office thus enabling participants to be informed about both UNIMARC and MARC 21 Holdings format.

It had the support of ICABS and Division IV – Bibliographic Control UNIMARC and MARC 21 are activities represented within ICABS remit and this session was the first opportunity to join the efforts of two major bibliographic standards. The session took place Thursday 26 August (Morning) and was very well attended. Programme and papers are available at: [http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla70/papers/](http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla70/papers/)

2. UNIMARC was presented in the ICABS session which took place Thursday 26 August (Afternoon) with a brief overview of strategies and activities ongoing. The paper is available at: [http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla70/prog04.htm](http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla70/prog04.htm)

3. During Division IV Open Session that took place Wednesday 25 August UNIMARC was also presented, with a summary of the Permanent UNIMARC Committee action plan and future projects.

4. For the first time UNIMARC was present at IFLA booth where there was opportunity to meet people, discuss UNIMARC issues and hand out the new leaflet, which was also distributed in UNIMARC, ICABS and Division IV sessions.

5. The Permanent UNIMARC Committee (PUC) held and ad-hoc meeting Wednesday 25 August to monitor activities like UNIMARC/Holdings format, UNIMARC/Authorities revised edition, Guidelines for Music and UNIMARC/Bibliographic Update 5.

6. The first UNIMARC Advisory Board meeting took place Friday 27 August. Among the issues discussed, a report of activities and a financial report were distributed and the project of organizing an international conference in Lisbon, March 2006, about UNIMARC and Bibliographic Standards was put forward and had the agreement of the Board.

II – Permanent UNIMARC Committee activities

PUC finished the UNIMARC/Holdings Format and the revision of UNIMARC/Authorities Manual which will be posted on IFLANET on February.

Preparations for the annual meeting are ongoing. It will take place 7-9 March 2005, in Lisbon.

III – UNIMARC in WLIC/IFLA 2005 (Oslo)

Again in conjunction with ICABS, Division IV and this time also with the Information Technology Section, the UNIMARC Core Activity organizes a session on *MARC/XML derivatives: the state-of-the art* to take place at IFLA Conference in Oslo.

The aim is to present and discuss the developments and projects for MARC/XML representations, either in the UNIMARC or in the MARC 21 format.

The approved program is as follows:
Joaquim Ramos de Carvalho (University of Coimbra, Portugal) – An XML representation of the UNIMARC Manual: a working prototype

Sally McCallum (Library of Congress, Washhington D.C., USA) – MARC XML in use

Vladimir Skvortsov (National Library of Russia, Saint Petersburg, Russia) – UNIMARC/XML Slim Schema: living in a new environment

Mike Taylor and Adam Dickmeiss (Index Data, UK) – Delivering MARC XML records from the Library of Congress Catalogue using SRW, SRU and Z 39.50

Fernanda Maria Campos
Deputy Director, National Library of Portugal
Director, UNIMARC Core Activity

10 February 2005