

**INTEREST GROUP FOR BIBLIOGRAPHIC STANDARDS (IGBIS)  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (1<sup>ST</sup>) & BREAKAWAY SESSION  
24 SEPTEMBER 2003**

Minutes of the First Annual General Meeting and Breakaway Session of the Interest Group for Bibliographic Standards (IGBIS) during the Library and Information Association of South Africa (LIASA) Conference held on 24 September 2003 at 09h00 at the Rustenburg Civic Centre.

**Welcome and Attendance**

Tienie de Klerk (National Library of South Africa and Chair / Convener of IGBIS) welcomed a very well attended meeting of 41 people from various institutions throughout the country. Apart from the academic institutions and specialist libraries, the meeting was particularly well attended by the public library community – provincial library services as well as individual municipal libraries. In her introductory address, Tienie de Klerk reported an increase of membership of IGBIS (from 6 to about 40 members) since February 2003.

Most of the attendees at this meeting were LIASA members and will provide good scope for growing future IGBIS membership. She stressed the importance of capable regional staff joining and taking part in IGBIS activities and mentioned that the Northern Cape and Mpumalanga have no members.

**Constitutions**

Matters and changes around the national LIASA Constitution and Draft Constitution of IGBIS were discussed later during the meeting. After going through the IGBIS Draft Constitution the following change was recorded:

At 4.6:

“ ... Departments of Library and Information Science, or other major LIS role players / stake holders (e.g. the National Library of South Africa, SABINET Online’s Standards Committee, the Association of South African Indexers and Bibliographers (ASAIB), library consortia)”

changed to:

“ ... departments of Library and Information Science, or other major LIS role players / stake holders”

**On the bibliographic scene – with Joan Mitchell (OCLC) on DDC 22, and other happenings**

Before introducing the world-renowned Joan Mitchell, editor-in-chief of the Dewey Decimal Classification (DDC) system, Ann van der Walt (from SABINET Online and Treasurer of IGBIS) highlighted some exciting developments in bibliographic infrastructure and information networking with more cooperation through consortia, SabiCat participation and resource-sharing locally.

Internationally – besides the release of the 22<sup>nd</sup> edition of DDC (the topic of Joan Mitchell's talk) - other developments include:

significant revisions in AACR2 “rationalizing the description of ‘integrating resources’ (everything from serials to websites)”  
the AACR2's Joint Steering Committee Functional Requirements for Bibliographic Records (FRBR) model that “is changing how we look at catalogues and catalogued entities by distinguishing between works, expressions, manifestations and items”  
the Virtual International Authority file cooperative project (an International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA) initiative) and Z39.50 opening doors for fuller global cooperation  
the Dublin Core Metadata Element Set officially recognized by ISO (the International Standards Organization)

In addition to her highly demanding role as Editor-in-Chief of the Dewey Decimal Classification system, Ms Joan Mitchell has been a member and/or chair of various committees working in the field of cataloguing and classification in the American Library Association. She recently served as a chair of the IFLA Working Group on the UNIMARC classification format and also serves on the Scientific Advisory Council of the International Society for Knowledge Organization as well as the editorial board of the journal Knowledge Organization.

Members of the meeting were relieved to hear that the DDC 22 does not contain any complete or extensive revisions compared to other recent editions. The DDC 22 includes major updates to schedules and tables, many new numbers and topics and some structural changes.

Ms Mitchell clearly defined the **major updates** in DDC22:

**Computer Science** – New topics such as “virtual reality” and “markup languages” and the inclusion of general purpose application programmes such as word processing and spreadsheets relocated from 652.5 to a new development at 005.5

**Religion** – Reduction of Christian bias in the schedule, an expansion for sources of the Bahai Faith at 297.938, a revised and expanded 299.6 for religions originating among Black Africans and Black African descent and in 299.7-.8 for religions of American native origin

**Social groups and cultural institutions** – Duplicate provisions for groups and institutions consolidated with updated terminology introduced throughout 305-306

**Law** – Improvements relating to the law of nations, human rights and intergovernmental organizations

**Mathematics** – 518 (not used since the 1950s) used for a new development for numerical analysis

**Chemistry** – Classes 544 and 545 retired and expanded at 543.1-.8 for analytical chemistry

**Oceanography** - Regularized standardized subdivisions and created a new development for oceans and seas in 551.461

**Medicine and Health** – Revised 610.73 to relocate specific types of nursing to the specific branch of medicine

**History and Geography** – Moved interdisciplinary and descriptive works on facilities for travelers from 647.94 to 910.46 and to specific area numbers in 913-919. Includes an important new expansion for the Holocaust at 940.5318

**Tables** – Various changes including the relocation in Table 6 of Ndebele from –963977 to –963989 (from Sotho to Nguni)

DDC 22 includes many **new numbers** for a wide variety of topics such as 302.231 for Digital media, 381.177 for Online auctions and a new number plus subdivisions for computer art at 776

**Structural changes** include the removal of Table 7, the streamlining of the Manual and the updating of selected captions

Ms Mitchell ended her talk by emphasizing ways in which we can make a difference:

- Sharing standard numbers in cataloguing
- Suggesting updates and new developments
- Proposing vocabulary mapping
- Participating in reviewing and testing
- Studying end user representations
- Offering recommendations

[Full transcript of her talk is available at:

[http://www.sabinet.co.za/sabicatweb/sabicat\\_news.htm](http://www.sabinet.co.za/sabicatweb/sabicat_news.htm)]

**Information organization and storage : writing standards for the South African LIS practice : a progress report, by Sally Witbooi – Dept. of Library and Information Science, University of the Western Cape**

Sally Witbooi – a lecturer at the Department of Library and Information Science at the University of the Western Cape – gave an inspired talk recording progress and explaining various issues regarding standards writing.

It was reported that no standards were completed as yet and that there are many difficulties as a result of different practices and points of view. For example, some institutions place emphasis on theory and other on the practical work, how do you distinguish between a professional and a paraprofessional (basic and advanced levels), different standards and formats that are used (ISBD & ISO, AACR2, MARC 21 and Dublin Core)

She explained that the outcomes-base (OBE) model to be used for South African standards writing is in line with the National Qualifications Framework (SQF) and that the Standards Generating Body for Information and Library science (SGBILS) has identified seven groups to write standards for the profession or sector.

They will focus on the following areas

Collection development  
Information organization and storage  
Information retrieval  
Document delivery  
Management  
Education  
Knowledge management

Concepts and principles of an outcomes-based system were explained as well as the manner in which knowledge and competence are assessed.

Of particular interest to IGBIS are the standards that will be developed for Information organization and storage:

Standard 1 – Catalogue information resources  
Standard 2 – Classify information resources  
Standard 3 – Create and manage databases  
Standard 4 – Process information resources physically  
Standard 5 – Store information resources  
Standard 6 – Analyze and organize specialist information

In view of all this, a positive future is envisaged for cataloguers with cataloguing recognized as a core activity in the library and information discipline.

[Full transcript of her talks available at:

Sally Witbooi's talk was followed by a competition where two attendees won prizes – one of the prizes being free LIASA-IGBIS membership for a year (Tsakani Mathebula, HSRC) and a sponsored cash prize from SABINET Online (Ina van der Merwe, UNISA). The question was: What is the number of groups that SGBILS (Standards Generating Body for Information and Library Science) identified to write standards for the profession / sector (Answer: 7 groups)

## **Membership**

Elmarie Broodryk repeated some of the advantages of membership of a professional association as listed in a 2002 LIASA membership survey. Some of the advantages listed include:

Provides a professional development framework and continuing formal and informal educational programmes  
Conference and seminar attendance at member rates  
Professional newsletters, magazines and other publications  
Access to job vacancies via the listserv  
Participation in regional activities with colleagues through meetings, seminars and workshops  
Participation in special interest groups for access to specialist expertise and experience

Networking, mentoring and career development with professionals across library sectors  
Representation on key issues and national bodies such as SAQA  
Access to grants and funding for special projects  
Opportunity to act as a powerful advocate for the LIS sector in South Africa

She furthermore stressed the importance of standardization (according to Roget's Thesaurus – uniformise, regularize, normalize, stabilize, harmonise, etc.) with particular reference to bibliographic standards and highlighted two of the main objectives of IGBIS:

To promote standardization in bibliographic work nationally amongst a united group of library and information workers, and other interested parties; and,  
To address issues which affect the application of bibliographic standards

She illustrated the difficulties (conflicting entries) surrounding standardization as applied by South African libraries where authority records created by the Library of Congress are preferred rather than the “well-researched authority records for South African authors, personal and corporate” created by the National Library of South Africa – the National Bibliographic Agency of the country .

### **Topics and Experts**

Names of experts and suggestions for themes or topics were called for at the beginning of the meeting and collected in the Topics & Experts collection box.

#### **Topics:**

AACR2

Authority control

Cataloguing standards

DDC 22 – Brainstorming session or Workshop

Electronic materials, Cataloguing of

Form / Genre subject headings – Which thesauri should be used? Should these subject headings be added to bibliographic records?

MARC21 – Additional to telematic course. More personal with special examples on certain deviations, etc.

Section for asking questions on the IGBIS web page?

Training cataloguer's in all bibliographic standards

#### **Experts:**

**AACR2**

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#### **Authority and Quality control**

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Marais, Hester (UNISA)

### **Cataloguing**

Coetzee, H S (Helena) (Former Lecturer of Library and Information science at University of Pretoria)

Minaar, Desiree (University of Port Elizabeth)

### **DDC / Web Dewey**

Marais, Hester (UNISA)

Van Eeden, Welna (UNISA)

T: (012) 429-3488 F: (012) 429-2925 [veedeiw@unisa.ac.za](mailto:veedeiw@unisa.ac.za)

### **Electronic theses and dissertations**

Watkins, Ansie (UNISA)

### **Government Publications**

Annandale, Hanusia (City of Johannesburg Library & Information Services)

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### **Name Authorities**

- Engelbrecht, Santie (NLSA)

### **Serials Cataloguing**

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Noble, Mandy (UCT)

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### **LCSH (Library of Congress Subject Headings)**

Fritz, Leonie (City of Johannesburg Library & Information Services)

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### **Web cataloguing**

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### **Videos, monographs, heading reports**

Beauty Dlangamandla (TWR)

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### **Election Results**

The term of the Interim/Steering Committee of IGBIS expired with this Conference. Six nominations were received but no election will take place and committee members will decide amongst themselves who will fill which one of the six ExCo positions. They are:

Doreen Rabe, SABINET Online

Elise Roberts, COJLIS

Karin Marais, SA Weather Service

Lida Lochner, Tshwane Library and Information Services

Madely du Preez, Department of Information Science, UNISA

Martha de Waal, SANB, NLSA

The current chair / convener, Tienie de Klerk (NLSA) will be an additional member without portfolio, for continuity purposes.

### **Annual and Financial Reports**

The IGBIS Annual report, October 2002-September 2003 (including a financial report) was included as part of the handouts at the meeting

### **Closure and Lunch**

The meeting ended at 13h00 and was followed by lunch at the Oasis Room at the Rustenburg Civic Centre