

intentions the terminological control of the vocabulary of the special language is made complicated.

A separate classification scheme of individual languages (p.227-45), provided with an index (p.247-305), arranges by way of a decimal classification individual languages partly according to genealogical, partly according to geographical criteria. For lack of space it cannot be reviewed in detail here.

To sum up: The Münster classifiers give us an open classification system" (p.VI) of a highly tentative and approximative orientation. The system succeeds two former editions (1986, 1987), all of them based on the initial *Systematischer Katalog der Allgemeinen Sprachwissenschaft* (Münster, 1983). It tries to be as neutral as possible as far as theoretical backgrounds are concerned and unmistakably opts for hospitality and flexibility. It allows for the fact that many linguists tend to define their science as a 'contact science' (p.VII). The Münster classification devotes great care to both the objects and the concepts of linguistics (such as 'opposition', 'markedness', 'substitution'). Devoid of any classificatory elegance, it has its roots in the pragmatic cataloguing of the holdings of a special library, rather than in a wish for the sophisticated organization of linguistic knowledge.

Werner Bies

1 Cf. Fluck, H.-R.: *Fachsprache. Einführung und Bibliographie*. 3rd ed., Tübingen: Francke 1985 (UTB 483), p.82 and Kürschner, W.: *Grammatisches Kompendium. Systematisches Verzeichnis grammatischer Grundbegriffe*. Tübingen: Francke 1989 (UTB 1526), p.20.

2 Some aspects of the classification of linguistics are discussed in: Dutz, K.D. (Ed.): *Studien zur Klassifikation, Systematik und Terminologie. Theorie und Praxis. Akten der 6. Arbeitstagung des Münsteraner Arbeitskreises für Semiotik*, Münster, 25. u. 26. Sept. 1984. Münster: Inst. f. Allgemeine Sprachwiss. 1985. (MAKS Publ.). *Studium Sprachwiss. Beiheft 5; Arbeiten z. Klassifikation*, 5).

Dr. Werner Bies, Universitätsbibliothek der FU Berlin, Garystr. 39, D-1000 Berlin 33

BEAUBIEN, Denise B., PRIMACK, Alice L., SEALE, Colleen (Eds.): *Software for Patron Use in Libraries*. *Library Trends* 40(1991)No.1. Champaign, IL: Univ. of Illinois. 197 p.

The aim of this timely issue of *Library Trends* is defined by the issue editors on page two: "... To provide one comprehensive guide that covered all aspects of patron-use software in all types of libraries".

The issue comprises nine articles, plus a brief introduction by the issue editors, and provides a comprehensive treatment of this very topical subject. The subject areas covered include experience in several different library environments, consideration of legal and copyright issues, and discussions of physical access, service provision and software selection. This explicitly multi-dimensional organization of the material is valuable to establish perspective, and ensure comprehensiveness. The editors are to be congratulated on this approach and its successful execution.

The development of information technology - of which end-user software tools, as discussed in this issue, are only one relatively small component - is one of the, if not the dominant, transforming forces impacting human society during the last thirty years. These changes have of course not been ignored by librarians, but the necessary radical re-evaluation of well-established organizational methods and procedures has not yet got up to full speed. (A valuable discussion on the impact of information technology on information providers, appropriate in this context, has recently been given by Richard N. Katz (1)).

I believe that the speed of development of the technology and the impact this has on service providers is - if anything - underestimated by several of the contributors. INTNER recognizes and points out the high volatility of the subject area in her contribution, and appropriately points to two other areas of great importance: the very recent emergence of multi-media technology, and the significance and impact of network technology. When considering the provision of software to library users it is necessary always to bear in mind the symbiotic relationship which exists between computer hardware and software, and to recognize that software without its corresponding hardware platform is useless. Personal computer software will often be superseded after one year, usually after three years, and will be of only curiosity value after five. Similar comments might be made in relation to hardware. This rapid obsolescence is a factor which has to be recognized and taken into consideration.

The future relationship of campus library and computing center - an inevitable topic of discussion in the context of this subject - is touched upon by BRADY & ROCKMAN & WALCH (p.75). Their conclusions appear to be tempered by caution; this is an organizational issue which would bear further investigation and discussion.

Finally a word of warning: In any discussion of publicly available and -distributed personal computer software the topic of computer viruses is of considerable importance, the potential for damage enormous. These issues also are addressed by BRADY & ROCKMAN & WALCH, but I feel that they simplify the issue unduly, which could engender a feeling of complacency and false security. The threat which viruses prove is a very real one, and prevention far from an easy issue. This cannot be successfully achieved by simple procedures alone; even the use of appropriate anti-viral software and a check list are probably going to prove inadequate in the library environment. Prevention and cure call for a significant level of technical expertise. Viral software technology is developing and evolving at an extreme rate, and will presumably continue to do so until personal computer operating systems are designed and developed to hinder virus propagation.

This periodical issue will be of value to library planners and policy makers responsible for new initiatives and user service offerings. No less, however, does it have a message for directors of college and university computing facilities by highlighting and discussing an area of common interest. These individuals are perhaps less likely to

include *Library Trends* in their regular literature coverage. They will be done a service if this issue is brought to their attention.

Douglas Brotchie

(1) Katz, Richard N.: Financing new information access paradigms, or why academic information managers need cost models. *Cause/Effect* 15 (1992) No.2, p.6-12

Dr. Douglas A. Brotchie, University Computer Services, Taeknigardi, Dunhaga 5, 107 Reykjavik, Iceland

Juan A. SAGER: **A Practical Course in Terminology Processing**. With a Bibliography by Blaise Nkwenti-Azeh. Amsterdam/Philadelphia: J. Benjamins 1990. XI, 254p.

Depuis de nombreuses années, J. Sager (University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology) est un des grands noms dans le domaine de la terminologie. Il vient de publier le résultat de ses cours, de ses recherches et de ses activités dans des commissions de normalisation. Le premier chapitre, c.-à.-d. l'introduction du sujet, donne une définition nuancée de ce qu'on entend aujourd'hui par terminologie. L'auteur étonnera probablement certains lecteurs par son point de vue: pour lui, la terminologie n'est pas une discipline indépendante (mais elle est très importante pour presque chaque programme d'étude). Au cours de trois chapitres successifs, l'A. passe en revue les différentes dimensions de la terminologie: d'abord la dimension *cognitive* (chap. II, avec e.a., un bon exposé sur

les concepts), ensuite la dimension *linguistique* (chap. III, avec e.a. la formation de termes et des néologismes, sans mention toutefois de la distinction entre les néologismes conceptuels et les néonymes), enfin la dimension *communicative* (chap. IV, avec e.a. un exposé sur les différents aspects de la normalisation, où un plus d'information historique aurait été utile). Les quatre derniers chapitres traitent de la pratique quotidienne de la terminologie, ce qui répond parfaitement à l'orientation générale du livre: la compilation de la terminologie (e.a. ses principes et les nouvelles tendances dans le domaine), l'"*emmagasiner*", la *recherche* et l'*usage* de la terminologie. Une bibliographie systématique, composée par un ancien élève de l'auteur, complète le volume. Comme dans presque toute bibliographie, on peut remarquer l'absence de l'une ou l'autre publication, par ex. le magistral ouvrage de L. Guilvert, *La créativité lexicale*. Bien que nous puissions accepter que Sager ait eu des raisons valables pour ne pas rédiger un index, un tel instrument de recherche aurait été utile. Ce volume respire la personnalité du Prof. Sager tel qu'on le connaît par ses cours, ses exposés et ses publications: on y trouve son souci d'être pratique et systématique, de tout expliquer de façon complète et pourtant concise. Ce manuel, le premier du genre en anglais, pour autant que nous sachions, sera d'une grande utilité pour tous ceux qui s'occupent de terminologie, et complètera la *Terminologie in Theorie und Praxis* de H. Felber et G. Budin, publiée un an avant l'ouvrage de Sager et que ce dernier n'a probablement pas pu utiliser.

Henri Leclercq

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