

View". Indeed the work has already begun. In his article "An Odd Point of View: Some Reflections on Table 1i in the UDC Common Auxiliaries", Geoffrey Robinson of the BSI questions the role of these common auxiliaries on the grounds that the table "is superfluous in an aspect classification such as UDC that already provides for the expression of the relationship of any one concept to another through the use of the colon". Parts of the table, in particular ".000 auxiliaries and the subdivisions for personnel" have been relocated in Table 1k-05 'Persons' where they properly belong" and work on "assessing the extent to which the remainder of the point of view table is superfluous is well underway". The Editor would "like to hear urgently from anyone who strongly supports the use of this table and who actually implements it to any great extent."

The full "Report of the Editor in Chief" of UDC appears in *Extensions and Corrections* for 1997. As always, the Editor encourages UDC users to peruse *Extensions and Corrections* carefully and invites comments and suggestions on the ongoing revision of the scheme.

#### Awards

Congratulations to Professor Dr. Emilia Currás who has been awarded the Kaula Gold Medal Professor Currás, who holds a PhD in Chemistry from the Universities of Berlin and Madrid is presently the Director of the Scientific Information and Documentation Unit, Universidad Automata de Madrid. She has been active in FID as a member of the FID Council and of the Spanish Council of FID and in ISKO as President of the ISKO-España and member of the ISKO's Scientific Committee. She has published widely and is well known in international information science research and education circles throughout the world.

#### In Memoriam

Cyril William Cleverdon, one of the world's best known and respected information scientists, died in England on December 15, 1997. Cleverdon decided early in life that he wanted to become a librarian, but his professional career took its most important direction in the late 1930s when he became librarian of the newly founded College of Aeronautics at Cranfield, England. While in this position he was instrumental in founding the Aslib Aeronautics Group and as a special librarian became interested in indexing techniques and their effectiveness. Ultimately his professional involvement led to grants from the National Science Foundation (US) and his research as Director of two Aslib-Cranfield projects (1958-70). He was a

pioneer in information science, particularly in research to determine the factors involved in the performance of indexing languages. The Aslib-Cranfield projects are a landmark in the history of the development and improvement of information storage and retrieval systems. While there were many who criticized his work, Cleverdon's findings and his principles of recall and precision ratio are still in use today. His research is frequently cited, references to his work can be found on the Internet and the influence of his research continues to this day. His work is arguably one of the most outstanding contributions to the design of information storage and retrieval systems of the latter half of the 20th century. As a highly regarded information scientist, Cleverdon performed many important tasks during his career. Among these were Director of the Conference on Merchandising Information Storage and Retrieval and Director of the NATO Advanced Studies Institutes. He also received many honours testifying to his international stature. Among the awards which recognized his achievements were: the Award of Merit, from the American Society for Information Science (ASIS), Honourary Fellow of the Library Association, Biennial Award of the Special Information Retrieval Group of the Association for Computing Machinery, and Fellow and Past President of the Institute of Information Science Professional Award. One writer has referred to him as "the father of information science." A tribute to Cleverdon including an assessment of his contribution to information retrieval will be published in the June 1998 issue of the *Journal of Documentation*.

Professor Phyllis Allen Richmond, internationally recognized scholar in classification research, passed away in Cleveland, USA, on October 6, 1997, after a long illness. Professor Richmond received her university education from Western Reserve University (later Case Western Reserve) and the University of Pennsylvania where she received a PhD history of science in 1946. After a brief period of time as a researcher in the medical field, she returned to Western Reserve where she received a Master of Science in Library Science Degree (M.S.L.S.).

Professor Richmond had a highly creative mind and as a researcher, librarian and university professor she combined her expertise and interest in medicine with library and information science research and teaching. Her academic career began at Syracuse University in 1969 and she became a Professor at the School of Library Science at Case Western Reserve in 1970, a position which she held until her retirement in 1984. She endeavoured to instill in her students an interest in classification theory through one of the few advanced level courses offered in that subject in the United States at that time. She participated actively in classification research internationally, pre-

sending papers at the FID/CR International Study Conferences on Classification Research in Elsinore, Denmark in 1964 and in Bombay in 1975. She was a prolific author and wrote more than 70 articles on topics ranging from the history of science and medicine to technical articles on various aspects of library and information science, including her primary interest - classification. Always interested in new approaches to the use of classification, in 1977 Richmond spent time at the British Library studying PRECIS and its application. The result was a book entitled *An Introduction to PRECIS for North American Usage*.

Professor Richmond was an ardent supporter and scholar of the work of the Classification Research Group (UK) and was a corresponding member of the Group and an instigator in an attempt to form a similar group in the US. From the outset she embraced both library science and information science contributing much to the eventual coalescence of the two disciplines. Over time her contributions were honoured by both groups. In 1968 the American Documentation Institute (later ASIS) presented her with its Technical Referee Award and in 1972 she received the Award of Merit from ASIS "for her contribution to the understanding of the theory and practice of subject analysis, in general and classification in particular". In the American Library Association she worked enthusiastically, serving as a committee member and chair, as a speaker at conferences and workshops and as assistant editor for *Library Resources & Technical Services*. She also served as a consulting editor for *International Classification* (now *Knowledge Organization*) and was a member of the editorial board of the *Journal of the American Society for Information Science*. For her contributions to library science, in 1977 Professor Richmond was awarded the Margaret Mann Citation by the American Library Association for her outstanding contribution "in the fields of cataloging and classification as a writer, scholar, practitioner, teacher, and contributor of common sense and wisdom." Her expertise and her creative insight will be sadly missed. However, she has provided a legacy for those who follow to carry on.

### IFLA Section on Classification and Indexing

In its Annual Report for 1996-1997, the Chair, Donna Duncan (Canada), reported on a number of projects being carried out by the Section. The Working Group on Principles Underlying Subject Heading Languages (SHLs) has completed the major portion of its work and a document went out for a six-month world-wide review in May of 1997. At the IFLA Conference in Beijing a draft document had been reviewed and a decision made to add a Russian contribution

but not to include MeSH subject headings because they represent a specialized subject heading system. The enhanced review document includes an overview of examples from ten subject heading systems and nine countries. The Working Group, chaired by Maria Inês Lopes (Portugal) is considering revisions with a view to producing a final document for the 1998 IFLA Conference in Amsterdam. In conjunction with the project on the State of the Art Survey of Subject Heading Systems, a Working Group of Dorothy McGarry and Edward Swanson (USA) had been established to analyze the survey responses and to recommend future action. Their recommendation was that national libraries who had not responded and even those who did need to be re-contacted in order to obtain initial information or to determine the nuances of subject heading systems in use. The project was re-examined during the Section's Standing Committee Meetings in Copenhagen.

Another major project of the Section has been to prepare a report on the *Requirements for a Format for Classification Data*. The seven page report has been approved and is available on the Internet ([www.ifla.org/VII/s29/projects/rep1.html](http://www.ifla.org/VII/s29/projects/rep1.html)). In a related discussion, the Joint Working Group's subcommittee recommended that "a separate UNIMARC format for Classification data" be created. The format will parallel the content and development of the MARC Format for Classification Data, so as to make possible the interchange of classification data represented in either format. This recommendation was accepted by the permanent UNIMARC Committee in March 1997 and work is going forward.

At the 1997 IFLA Conference in Copenhagen, the Section held a program at which 3 papers on classification matters were presented. As is the custom of the Section, one of the papers presented came from the country in which the Conference was located. Hanne Albrechtsen (Denmark) presented a paper on "The Order of Catalogues: Towards Democratic Classification and Indexing in Public Libraries" Albrechtsen's concern is one of how knowledge should be structured in digital libraries which combine text, graphics, pictures, sound, etc. In her presentation, she focused on Database 2001, a project of a Danish public library. Designed as a virtual library on the web, menus were designed as graphical layers of icons representing user groups and kinds of materials available. The subject icons in the databases went through several revisions. Efforts were made to use standard DDC class numbers and it was found that users found the classification difficult to understand. As a result the research team experimented with a more pragmatic and much more weakly structured classification designed to reflect the kinds of questions actually posed by different user groups. While the resulting