

Meeting of ICRIS and *The Indexer* Representatives and Guests Keele University, UK, 2 September 2011

Present: Ruth Pincoe (ICRIS Coordinator; ISC/SCI), Pierke Bosschieter (NIN), Caroline Diepeveen (NIN), Jill Haliday (SI), Sanet Le Roux (ASAIB), Maureen MacGlashan (*Indexer* editor; SI), Paul Machen (*Indexer*; SI), Christopher Phipps (*Indexer*; SI), Pam Scholefield (*Indexer*; SI), Richard Shroul (ASI), Christine Shuttleworth; SI).

Ruth Pincoe opened the meeting at 2:05 pm and welcomed everyone present.

1 Introduction and News

Jill Haliday announced her resignation as SI representative to ICRIS. The committee thanked her for her work and commitment throughout her many years as SI representative.

Sanet Le Roux reported that the next ASAIB workshop will be on tax matters and will include representatives from the South African tax office.

Richard Shroul reported that he will attend the forthcoming China Indexing Society conference to be held at Jinan City, Shandong Province, 19–21 September 2011.

Caroline Diepeveen noted that Elske Janssen will attend the Frankfurt Book Fair and will present a talk on the SI Training Course

Ruth Pincoe reported that the ISC/SCI had held a joint conference with the Editors association of Canada / Association canadienne des réviseurs in Vancouver in late May 2011. The sessions in the indexing “stream” were attended by both indexers and editors.

2 International Agreement Revisions

[a] Newsletter access to members of sister societies

Proposed new wording for clause 7 and a new schedule (Schedule D) that were developed through the ICRIS meetings held in Providence (April 2011) and Vancouver (May 2011) [see minutes for the ICRIS meeting in Vancouver 26 May 2011] were reviewed:

With these proposed revisions, online member newsletters will be made accessible to the governing bodies of each Society or Associate group or network through their ICRIS representatives. Those governing bodies may then make the newsletters accessible to members of their Society or Associate group or network through members-only areas of their websites. The proposed new Schedule D stipulates that this reciprocal arrangement applies only to the *ANZSI Newsletter*, the *ASAIB Newsletter*, the *DNI Newsletter*, the *ISC/SCI Bulletin* and *SI Sidelights*; it does not apply to *The Indexer* or to *Key Words* (which is a journal published by ASI).

It was queried whether *Key Words* would continue to be distributed electronically through the ICRIS list. Richard Shroul replied that *Key Words* would be made available to ICRIS on the understanding that it would not be distributed to the general membership of any of the societies or networks.

Richard also pointed out that the China Indexing Society (CIS) is not included in the revised wording. Maureen MacGlashan said that CIS is signed up to the ICRIS list; they do not have a newsletter but they post news to their website which can be freely accessed. They also publish a journal, which Liqun Dai looks through to see if any of the articles were suitable for translation for *The Indexer*. One Chinese article is currently in the pipeline, and others appeared in the September 2009 issue of *The Indexer*, which was guest-edited by CIS. It was agreed that CIS should be added to the list in Schedule D. Maureen said she would ask Liqun to approach CIS about this revision and request correct details. The wording of Schedule D was agreed to in principle, subject to any further changes required to include CIS. Ruth Pincoe emphasized the importance of tying up loose ends on this and other revisions for the Agreement well before the upcoming Triennial meeting, which will be held in July 2012.

[b] Use of the acronym ICRIS

It was agreed that ICRIS was a useful acronym for identifying the body of international representatives and that we should use it. Ruth pointed out that “ICRIS” should also be worked into the proposed revision of the International Agreement. Maureen suggested that this revision could be done during the upcoming ICRIS meeting (11 September 2011) at the ANZSI conference. Maureen also suggested that we use ICRIS to identify the e-mail list; Caroline Diepeveen agreed to contact the SI webmaster about this change.

[c] Frequency of official ICRIS meetings

It was agreed that official ICRIS meetings to accept revisions to the International Agreement should remain at the present schedule of three-year intervals because it takes time to fully discuss and agree on such changes. The continuing discussion of issues related to the International Agreement at informal ICRIS meetings over the last few years has been extremely helpful and that these discussions could and should be continued.

However, it was also agreed that discussions of other matters could also be discussed and, where appropriate, agreed and acted upon. International attendance at the various society conferences is greater than in the past, but not all societies have been represented at all meetings. This might be due in part to financial considerations. It was agreed that ICRIS meetings held at conferences should be scheduled well in advance so as to make it easier for societies to identify possible representatives, and perhaps to take advantage of members who might be travelling for other reasons. With advance planning, it should be possible to identify specific ICRIS meetings that would have representation from as many Societies as possible, in order to make decisions about various current issues. The possibility of more frequent official ICRIS meetings should be explored more fully. It was pointed out that Society representatives at ICRIS meetings should be fully briefed by their respective boards or governing bodies so that they can make a full contribution to discussions.

3 New Concerns

[a] SI Training Course

It was confirmed that the SI Training Course has been offered to the other societies and is available where agreements have been made: currently ASI have their own version of the course; individual members of ISC/SCI and ANZSI may take the SI course. Janet expressed regret that ASAIB had not responded to the offer from SI and said she would approach the ASAIB Committee. It was agreed that both NIN and DIN should now be included in the offer of access to the SI course. Jill agreed to compose a message concerning the availability of the course to members of the other societies and networks.

[b] ASI's Digital Technology Task Force (DTTF)

Richard indicated ASI's desire that members of all the societies join the LinkedIn ASI-DTTF group; a number of SI members, including most members of the SI PTG, are already signed up. It was agreed that proliferation of LinkedIn subgroups was a disadvantage because of the repeated posting of the same points to the different groups.

4 The Indexer

Maureen reported that after careful consideration, it had been decided, for reasons of the financial implications and the loss of production flexibility, not to proceed with outsourcing non-editorial aspects of *The Indexer*. Maureen stressed that most of the headaches as far as the journal was concerned (above all marketing, and efforts to increase subscriptions) would vanish if the other societies could follow the ISC/SCI lead and make subscription to *The Indexer* a member's benefit once again. (A discount on individual society members' subscription rates was available to any society putting in a bulk order.) Ruth stated that for ISC/SCI *The Indexer* was an important membership benefit, due to the quality and relevance of its articles. Richard regretted that it was unlikely that ASI would include subscription as a members' benefit during the present economic climate. On other *Indexer* matters, Maureen reported that Paul Sweum was about to replace Terri Hudoba as Around the World Editor. The December 2011 issue, guest edited by ISC/SCI, was on schedule with all the articles now with the production editor for copy-editing and setting. Jan Wright is making headway on the March 2012 issue, which will focus on digital trends. The June 2012 issue will be guest edited by ANZSI.

The meeting closed at 3.45 pm.