



Bulletin

Indexing Society of Canada
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Post-Conference Issue!

**Ten for Ten: Perfecting Our Craft
The ISC/SCI 2010 Conference**



[Dawson College, Montréal]

Conference coverage starts on page 21.

Breaking News!

Our 2011 Conference will be held jointly with the Editor's Association of Canada/Association canadienne des réviseurs (EAC), May 27 to 29, 2011
Simon Fraser University, Harbour Centre, Vancouver, BC

Watch the website for details!

Indexing Society of Canada

Société canadienne d'indexation

ISC/SCI
P.O. Box 664, Station P
Toronto ON CAN M5S 2Y4

Web (English)

<http://www.indexers.ca/>

Web (français)

<http://www.indexers.ca/accueil.html>

Webmaster/Webmestre
FRED BROWN

**ISC Executive
Officiers de la SCI**

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Membership Renewal Notice

If your membership expires June 31, 2010, you should have received a renewal reminder in early June. With the increased frequency of *The Indexer*, the grace period for renewing is shorter, so if you haven't sent in your cheque, do so. To renew please print out and fill in the form at the following link:

<http://www.indexers.ca/application.html> (English)

<http://www.indexers.ca/applicationfr.html> (français)

and mail the form with your cheque to:

The Membership Secretary, ISC/SCI
P.O. Box 664, Station P
Toronto, ON
Canada M5S 2Y4

Important: Please remember to add the ISC/SCI Membership Secretary to your list of people to contact when your details change.

Call for Bulletin Contributions

Author Guidelines: Submit unsolicited articles electronically in DOC or RTF formats, artwork in PDF format, and photographs in TIF or JPG format. Please contact the editor, Natalie Boon, at:

natalie@booninformationservices.com

Advertising in the Bulletin

Full pageCDN \$80.00

Half pageCDN \$40.00

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Joining ISC/SCI

Membership Categories and Fees

Individual \$90

Student \$60*

Institution \$105

(For members outside Canada, add \$10).

* Student membership is available for full-time students only.
Please inform ISC/SCI of your course name and institution.

For more membership information, please visit our website at
<http://www.indexers.ca/membership.html>

Co-Presidents' Message

Montreal: City with a Small Mountain

This year's conference venue was well within sight of Mount Royal, the small mountain with a big impact. (Really, for Western Canadians, it is hard to think of Mount Royal as more than a hill!) Montreal, like most towns and cities in Canada, is built on a grid, but here this pattern is interrupted by the small mountain, adding to the European flavour and lending the impression of a more complex streetscape. The result is that the mountain is frequently used for orientation when giving directions from one place to another, such as from Dawson College, the conference venue, to the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts/Musée des beaux-arts de Montréal, the banquet venue. Small with a big impact is also descriptive of our stimulating, informative and well organized ISC/SCI annual conference.

For those unable to attend, you will get a flavour of the proceedings from the following pages. For those who did attend, you will be reminded of some of the details you may have missed. Personally, I (Viv) was impressed with the arrangement of the sessions, with lecture-style presentations illustrated by smoothly running audio-visual equipment interspersed by panel discussions, participatory individual presentations and roundtables, with the first (very full) day's programme ending with an introduction to qi gong that got us all up and punching — yes, punching!

Once again we were pleased to welcome two international guests, Hilary Faulkner from the Society of Indexers (UK) and Pilar Wyman from the American Society of Indexers (US).

At our annual general meeting we began two consultation processes: the first, which by necessity must be short, concerning the time, timing, and venue for the 2011 conference; and the second on how the membership would

like us to best use our funds. We have small but significant savings that should be invested in our membership. How should this be spent? An improved website? More outreach? Research? Development? You will be hearing more about both of these initiatives very shortly. And we hope to hear from you!

The executive is vital and on the move, with a few significant mid-term changes. The vacant Eastern Canada Representative position has been filled by Anna Olivier; Fred Brown is taking on the responsibility of the website; and Dina Theleritis will be shadowing Debbie Schryer, the *Register* editor. Dina will also be coordinating meetings for Toronto area indexers. Thanks to long and dedicated service of Cheryl Lemmens, former webmaster, and Gillian Faulkner, former Toronto coordinator, and welcome to the new people.

During this coming year your executive will be considering the comprehensive draft proposal on indexing awareness and marketing by Andrea McKay. In her conclusion to the draft proposal, Andrea states, "The purpose of this document is to begin the discussion of indexing advocacy by the ISC/SCI and propose a prototype to test the premise through a marketing campaign directly targeting authors." If this is of interest to you, please contact us for a copy. In fact, if there is anything of concern or particular interest to you, please contact us. The more we hear from you, the better it is for all of us.

Thank you to everyone who organized, contributed to and attended the Montreal conference, 2010. And here's to 2011, wherever and whenever it may be!

— Vivien Cartmell and Mary Newberry
Co-presidents

Message de la part des présidentes

Montréal, une grande ville avec une petite montagne

Cette année, du site de notre congrès nous pouvions voir le mont Royal, cette petite montagne qui fait beaucoup d'effet (enfin, si on vient de l'Ouest canadien, parler de montagne est un bien grand mot!). Comme dans la plupart des villes canadiennes, le tracé des rues de Montréal suit un quadrillage, mais ici il est interrompu par cette petite montagne, ce qui accentue le petit cachet européen de la ville et donne une certaine complexité au paysage urbain. Le mont sert souvent de repère pour se rendre d'un endroit à l'autre, comme c'était le cas entre le Collège Dawson, où se tenait le congrès, et le Musée des beaux-arts de Montréal, où a eu lieu le banquet. Petit avec beaucoup d'effet, c'est ainsi que l'on pourrait qualifier également le congrès annuel de l'ISC/SCI, une fois de plus stimulant, informatif et très bien organisé. Ceux et celles qui ne pouvaient pas être présents pourront avoir une idée de nos activités dans les pages qui suivent. Si vous y étiez, elles vous rappelleront des détails que vous avez peut-être oubliés. Personnellement, et c'est Viv qui parle ici, j'ai été impressionnée par le déroulement des séances, avec des présentations de style causerie accompagnées d'illustrations audio-visuelles sans défaut, entrecoupées de discussions en groupes, de présentations individuelles et de tables rondes. Notre première journée (bien remplie) s'est même terminée par une séance de Qi gong où nous nous sommes tous retrouvés à donner des coups de poing — oui, vous avez bien lu!

Une fois de plus, nous avons eu le plaisir d'accueillir deux hôtes de l'étranger : Hilary Faulkner, de la *Society of Indexers* du Royaume-Uni et Pilar Wyman, de la *American Society of Indexers*.

Lors de l'assemblée générale annuelle, nous avons entamé deux exercices de consultation : le premier, bref par la force des choses, a concerné la date, la durée et le lieu du congrès 2011, et le second la meilleure façon d'utiliser nos fonds. En effet, nous avons de petites économies, non négligeables malgré tout, qui devraient être investies au profit des membres.

À quoi devrait servir cet argent? À améliorer le site web? À organiser des activités de diffusion? À faire avancer la recherche ou le développement? Vous en saurez plus sur ces deux exercices dans un avenir très proche. Nous comptons bien aussi que vous nous disiez ce que vous en pensez!

Notre dynamique conseil d'administration a subi quelques changements importants à mi-mandat. Le poste de représentant pour l'Est du Canada est comblé par Anna Olivier; Fred Brown est notre nouveau webmestre et Dina Theleritis aidera Debbie Schryer, la rédactrice en chef du Répertoire des membres. Dina coordonnera aussi les réunions des indexeurs du Grand Toronto. Nous tenons à remercier, pour leur long dévouement, Cheryl Lemmens, notre webmestre sortante, et Gillian Faulkner, l'ex-coordinatrice pour le Grand Toronto. Bienvenue aux nouveaux membres du conseil!

Au cours de l'année qui s'en vient, votre CA étudiera le projet de proposition détaillé sur l'indexation et son marketing soumis par Andrea McKay. Dans sa conclusion au projet de proposition, Andrea déclare : « Le but de ce document est d'amorcer la discussion sur la promotion de l'indexation par la SCI/ISC et de proposer un prototype pour tester la prémisse au moyen d'une campagne de marketing ciblant directement les auteurs. » Veuillez nous contacter si vous voulez recevoir un exemplaire de la proposition. En fait, n'hésitez pas à nous contacter si quelque chose vous préoccupe ou vous intéresse tout particulièrement. Plus nous avons de vos nouvelles, mieux c'est pour tout le monde.

Un grand merci à tous ceux et celles qui ont organisé le congrès 2010 de Montréal, qui y ont contribué et qui y ont participé. Au succès de celui de 2011, quels qu'en soient la date et le lieu!

— Vivien Cartmell et Mary Newberry
Coprésidentes

Traduction par TransSigma Translations,
Regina, SK,
Révision par Anna Olivier.

Editor, comments from . . .

Welcome to the post-conference issue of the *Bulletin*!

In this issue, you'll find the reports from the executive that detail the hard work that our executive does to keep the association moving (starting page 9). There's also Jennifer Hedge's report on the archival project (page 19).

Session reports from this year's annual conference are another big part of this issue. It was jam-packed with information, so you'll get a taste of the onslaught here. Unfortunately, it's hard to capture the full conference experience in print. If you haven't made it to a conference yet, or recently, I highly recommend it. They always reinvigorate my zest for indexing. There aren't too many indexers out there, so it's good to see them in person. Not to mention, we're good company! (Session reports start on page 21.)

Conference photos are thanks to Brian Hogan and Audrey McClellan. If you have any photos of other ISC/SCI gatherings, we'd love to have them at the *Bulletin*.

Directly following my piece, we have a letter from Maureen McGlashan, the editor of *The Indexer*. She's also a fan of conferences. I think she gets to more than me—I'm jealous.

If you haven't heard about the Green Paper, and even if you have, you should read the

article by Andrea McKay on page 6. "Proposal to Promote Indexing Awareness among Authors" goes into her reasons for writing the Green Paper. She makes a lot of sense. We indexers tend to keep a low profile. I think it goes with the personality type that is attracted to a job where you spend lots of time by yourself.

If you feel like taking a break from the serious side, Heather Ebbs has contributed another crossword on page 20.

I'm currently working on gathering content for the fall issue. Have you found any new resources? I know I'm always happy to hear about new tools. If you'd like to write a longer article, that's also welcome. Feel free to come up with your own idea, or ask me for suggestions. Submissions are accepted in both English and French.

My thanks to all who contributed to the production of this issue. TransSigma Translations of Regina, SK, translated the Co-Presidents' message. Anna Olivier was our French language editor. Christopher Blackburn and Gillian Faulkner were our English language proofreaders.

Natalie Boon,
Managing Editor, *Bulletin*

From the editor of *The Indexer*

I see it's just six months since I last wrote for the *Bulletin*, on the eve of Christmas 2009. I wrote quite a lot about my travels, all now very much *les neiges d'antan*, with new travels already both behind and ahead of me. Of first importance, and braving all that volcanic ash, was my trip to Minneapolis for the 2010 ASI Conference. As a second-timer, I knew some of the ropes and was particularly glad to renew acquaintances (and encouraged that some of them told me how much they were enjoying *The Indexer* following my arm-twisting last year to get them to subscribe).

I'm sure others will be writing in this issue of the *Bulletin* about their experiences so I'll limit

myself to saying that it was once again a frenzy of activity from those 7am working breakfasts through to the final early evening reception, followed by some international networking over a good dinner, courtesy of the excellent Radisson Hotel restaurant across the way from the Conference Hotel. One thing that struck me was not how much divided indexers in different lands, but how much united us. I made what I am told was a passionate plea for us to understand and take advantage of the fact that indexing is truly an international profession. This was manifest in the interesting discussions (over those good dinners) which the three international representatives (Ruth Pincoe, Max McMaster and I) had about ways in which

From the editor of *The Indexer* (continued)

international cooperation could be driven forward. The energy and hard work Ruth is putting into this is much appreciated by the rest of us. One way in which it can be helped to prosper is by building on the “whenever two or three international reps are gathered together” principle to ensure that we create an “international liaison” identity whenever we find ourselves at the same conference. Hunting as a pack makes it much easier to spread the international message than trying to get ourselves noticed individually. And of course, we are really lucky (says she!) in having a ready-made instrument—*The Indexer*—at our service. Promoting it as the international journal of indexing is one thing the international liaison group can really help with.

In this vein, I’m much looking forward to carrying on the good work first at the CSI Conference in Shanghai (where Liqun Dai and I will be joined by Mary Russell, ANZSI President, and possibly one or two other international representatives) and then at the SI Conference in Middelburg (The Netherlands) where it looks as if there will be a good “international” attendance. Other conferences I have lined up for September 2010 include the

European Society of International Law meeting in Cambridge, followed by the IALL (International Association of Law Librarians) Annual Meeting in The Hague, a follow up to their 2009 Istanbul conference, which I wrote about last time.

I find conferences of this sort in my subject specialism (international law) invaluable for keeping myself up-to-date with what’s going on, for maintaining and developing contacts—much the best form of marketing—and for promoting the cause of both indexing and *The Indexer*. And of course it helps to satisfy my wanderlust, and my taste for good food and wine. My one regret is that I never make it to an ISC/SCI conference—Montreal was so tempting—but no doubt Hilary Faulkner looked after my interests well. I look forward to reading reports in this *Bulletin*, and in *Sidelights*. And who knows... Finally, let me trail another “Canadian” article, in the September issue of *The Indexer*, where Julie McClung writes about indexing BC parliamentary proceedings in dual format—I’m already exploring the possibility of following her method for a new project I’m about to embark on.

—Maureen MacGlashan: 10 June 2010

Proposal to Promote Indexing Awareness among Authors

By Andrea McKay (BlackCatIndexing.com)

Indexing is a skilled service required by the publishing industry for the successful and effective use of their information products, but there is not a strong awareness within client communities of the potential a good index has to add to the value of an information resource. Marketing is required to promote awareness of indexes, their value to clients, and the effort and skill involved in their creation. Indexing is, unfortunately, a business with low profit margins. It is impractical for indexers to launch independent national marketing campaigns to promote indexing awareness. I would like to put forward the proposal that the ISC could work as a representative voice in a nationwide campaign to promote indexing awareness and understanding to indexing client communities.

This need not be expensive, or require a prohibitive amount of man-hours. Thanks to the Internet, which has become an integral tool for business communications, it is possible to disseminate large amounts of information targeted at specific client communities at little cost and a manageable amount of volunteer effort. Potentially, the ISC could develop advocacy information products such as a website explaining the value of indexes, a guide on how to hire and work with an indexer, and a standardized series of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) to be offered for inclusion on publishing and author organization websites.

To test this idea on a small scale, I have drafted a proposal suggesting the ISC develop some information advocacy products targeting a single client community that may be slightly

Proposal to Promote Indexing Awareness (continued)

disconnected from the established publishing community and possibly unaware of the potential value of good indexes: independent writers. Thanks to the wonder of modern information technologies, I expect this group to become more active and increase their proportionate involvement in publishing information products (books, ebooks, websites, etc.).

I use the term *information products* rather than *books* because I am an information management consultant who has worked for almost twenty years with books, databases, and websites, trying to develop information resources and systems that optimize the findability of publications, data, and alternative format information resources. Presently, back-of-book indexing is a hobby for me that I hope will expand to something more when I decide to retire from the consulting field.

As I investigated indexing as a career and a business (talking to indexers, reviewing documentation, lurking on listservs), I often heard frustration expressed about how publishers and authors do not appreciate the value of having their materials properly indexed by a skilled professional. To begin by targeting the author community seems an excellent opportunity. At one point in my career research, I attended the meeting of an authors' group in Ottawa for a discussion they were having on publishing non-fiction books. At the question period, I brought up the process of having a book indexed. Some of these authors had published multiple books, and some of them had worked with publishers, but there was only one person there (other than myself) aware that there were skilled individuals who specialized in creating indexes. Some hadn't included indexes in their books because of expense, others because they considered a good table of contents sufficient. To determine the full extent of this lack of awareness, I scanned the websites of authors' groups. Even the websites of such prominent groups as the Canadian Authors Association made no mention of indexing. Advice was provided about copyright, ISBN, Cataloguing-in-Publication (CIP), illustration, layout, and other aspects of the publishing process, but there was no mention anywhere of indexes.

I determined that it was necessary for these groups to be made aware of indexing, the value it adds to a publication, how it fits into the publishing process, and how to find an indexer. As my experience as an Information Management Consultant has included client assessments, information needs identification, and information product awareness, I drafted a Green Paper for submission to the ISC executive for their consideration.

A *Green Paper* (as defined by Wikipedia) is "a tentative report of a proposal without any commitment to action." I have composed a proposal and preliminary plan for the development of an indexing awareness campaign targeting independent authors, which, if successful, may contribute to the development of a long-term strategy for promoting indexing awareness among broader client communities. The paper outlines a plan for the full awareness campaign process, involving the following activities:

- Information gathering – the primary tool for this will take the form of surveys (one of indexers concerning their relations with authors, another of authors concerning their knowledge of indexes and their value)
- Data analysis – examination of input to determine strengths and weaknesses in indexer-author relations and to identify methods to communicate index awareness
- Options assessment – evaluate approaches for communicating indexing awareness to the author community
- Action plan development – preparation of promotion materials and identification of specific marketing targets
- Action plan implementation – dissemination of materials to targeted client organizations and the maintenance of ongoing communications
- Results review and next steps – information gathering about author response to awareness campaign and consideration of campaign expansion to other client communities.

**Proposal to Promote Indexing Awareness
(continued)**

This proposal is very much in the early stages, and I fear proceeding with it any further without the support of the indexing community at large. I would very much like to hear any comments you may have concerning this proposed venture, and am willing to share the draft document with anyone who cares to examine it. To obtain a copy, please send an email request to amckay@sympatico.ca.

CROSSWORD SOLUTION

Crossword can be found on page 20.

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2010 Annual Reports

Co-Presidents:

Viv Cartmell and Mary Newberry

Prepared by Viv Cartmell with (very little assistance from) Mary Newberry

A year has slipped by and once again we're looking forward to the annual conference of ISC/SCI in Montreal, "Ten for Ten: Perfecting Our Craft." Christine Jacobs and her team of assistants have created an interesting programme, and they have very ably taken care of all conference-related details—thank you.

Immediately after the 2009 conference in Toronto there was a flurry of activity that kept us on our toes and thrust us into our role as co-presidents. When all the dust of summer settled we got into the swing of more regular activity of the Society. We've had two executive meetings: an in-person meeting in Toronto and a distant meeting using Skype. Mary is a gifted chair and she managed both meetings with élan. She was also responsible for investigating and using Skype for long-distance participation at the November 2009 meeting and for a total distance meeting in March 2010. In the latter we used a combination of computer access and telephone access.

As mentioned in our spring report, Mary will be attending the Book Summit in Toronto in June 2010 during which she will be exploring the impact on indexing of the rapidly expanding field of electronic publication.

Achievements of the ISC/SCI during the past year include liaising with the Editors' Association of Canada (EAC) initiated by Heather Ebbs. This task of working together in areas of common interest will be continued by Elizabeth Macfie later this year. The 2009 liaison work resulted in a special offer to ISC/SCI members who are not members of EAC of a one-year subscription to the Association's newsletter, *Active Voice/Voix active*.

The Society's magpie pin has been produced and launched. It is available for sale via mail or at our local meetings and the annual conference. Thank you to Heather Ebbs for all her work on this project. As well, many thanks to Bradley Ebbs for the striking design he created.

Internal and outreach work has been proceeding as can be seen from the reports of ISC/SCI

executive members. As well, the special project of creating a proper archive of the Society continues. Jennifer Hedges is working on this project and she diligently reports on her progress.

There are some mid-term changes to the executive. Cheryl Lemmens is stepping down as webmaster after many years of excellent work and countless hours of volunteer time. Fred Brown will be taking on this task. During this coming year Debbie Schryer will have an assistant, Dina Theleritis, who we hope will take on the task of producing the *Register* after the 2011 conference. Another appointment is the Eastern Canada representative, Anna Olivier. We know that the indexers in Eastern Canada are pleased to have a representative again.

So, after weathering our first year as co-presidents, we're happy to tackle the second year which is bound to have some unique challenges. Thank you, executive colleagues, for your continuing support!

May 2010

Past President:

Heather Ebbs

Being past president has proven to be quite a relaxing position. I get to voice my opinions, without having to do too much.

One thing I did do this year, which you will see elsewhere, was to organize the design (thanks to my brother Bradley Ebbs) and manufacturing of our new magpie pins. I quite like them, and so far the reviews have been positive.

My major responsibility is to advise the new presidents, and they've been so adept that I haven't had to do a thing in that regard.

International Liaison:

Ruth Pincoe

Report from Executive meeting, 25 May 2010

Ruth Pincoe attended the ASI meeting in Minneapolis a week prior to the current meeting and met with the other international members. In particular, Ruth enjoyed her meetings and discussions with the representatives of the Society of Indexers (SI) (Maureen MacGlashan)

International Liaison (continued)

and the Australia and New Zealand Society of Indexers (ANZSI) (Max McMaster). The current president of ASI is Frances Lennie, and the president-elect is Richard Shrout, both of whom are experienced with and interested in international issues.

The SI meeting will be on September 29th in Belgium.

The International Agreement amongst the sister societies and affiliated networks and groups is coming up for revision. There have been a number of changes made already over the last couple of years, including separating out principles from processes to enable the latter to be changed without having to go through the entire ratification process in the future. There are still some concerns from SI and ANZSI about the clause relating to free advertising in each others' newsletters, given the differing schedules. There is concern that the free advertising could "get out of hand". This continues to be discussed, and feedback would be welcomed.

At the current meeting, it was noted that it was never foreseen that the offer of mutual free advertising would ever get out of hand, nor has it in the many years of the existence of the agreement. Further, should problems begin to arise, it is expected that the societies would cooperate in problem solving.

The International Agreement will be an agenda item for the fall meeting of the executive.

Register of Indexers Available Editor: Deborah Schryer

The 2010 *Register of Indexers Available* contains fifty-three indexers who work in English (the same number as in 2009) and four who work in French (that number down from five in the print version in 2009).

Next year will be my fourth and last as editor of the *Register*. I'm pleased to say that during production for 2011 I will have the assistance of someone who can take over from me for the next term. Many thanks to Dina Theleritis for volunteering to jump in and help.

I thought it would be helpful to include a summary of some information from the March 2009 edition of *The Indexer*, in which the "Around the World" column compared "Indexers-available-type publications."

Society	Format	Mail to publishers	Fees
ISC/SCI	Print and online	Yes	\$40 per year
ANZI	Online only	No	Free
ASI	Online; print by request to headquarters or by PDF available for download	No (not stated)	Fee (not stated)
ASAIB	Online – PDF available for download	"ASAIB compiles and maintains a register of free-lance indexers and bibliographers, which it disseminates to the publishing industry."	Not stated
DNI	Online	No (not stated)	Not stated
NIN	Online	No (not stated)	Free
SI	Online only; Word file available for download or print version from lulu.com	No	£20 per year

Register of Indexers Available Editor (continued)

This is meant as food for thought in my ongoing efforts to make the *Register* less onerous to produce. While the ASAIB is not quite clear whether they actually do mail their directory, it seems like ISC is just about the only organization that mails the directory. This is an extremely time-consuming task, with questionable use to the recipients (who we suspect search online for indexers). Not only that, with postage increasing each year, it's increasingly expensive.

Other organizations provide their directories freely in PDF or Microsoft Word, so that paper is not involved unless specifically requested by a publisher. Trying to reduce the amount of paper we use is a goal of most organizations these days.

In the future I would like to see more discussion of this topic—by the executive and members as well.

Treasurer: Gillian Watts

I am pleased to present the year-end financial statement for 2009. We have done well this year, in spite of concerns about the economy. Although we had budgeted for a deficit of about \$1,000, we ended up with a surplus of \$2,143. However, while some of this was because of a strong Canadian dollar — hence a less costly *Indexer* — this figure was achieved by not doing a couple of things. The printing and mailing of the membership directory was deferred until 2010, so that cost has still to be incurred, and only three issues of the *Bulletin* were produced instead of four. Our reserves remain healthy, with \$15,000 invested in short-term GICs and a healthy balance in our current bank account. In a bolder-than-usual move, we have budgeted for a surplus of \$925 in 2010.

Because our AGM occurs in the middle of the year, here is a brief update on our financial progress for 2010. As of the middle of May we had revenues of just over \$8,000 (including conference registrations) and expenditures of about \$3,000, and there was about \$10,000 in the chequing account.

BALANCE SHEET (as of December 31, 2009)

Assets

Chequing account	6,877.28
GIC	15,000.00
Accounts receivable	10.00
Undeposited funds	3,800.00
Total	25,687.28

Liabilities

Accounts payable	1,000.00
Total	1,000.00

Continued on next page

Treasurer (continued)

ISC/SCI Year-End Financial Statement, 2009

	Budget	Actuals
Income		
Membership dues	10,000	12,230
Conference	7,000	6,509
<i>Register of Indexers Available</i>	2,000	2,000
Publications revenue	—	—
Interest income	—	165
Miscellaneous income	200	10
Total	19,200	20,915
Expenses		
Membership (including directory)	900	13
Conference	4,850	6,678
Executive expenses:		
Telephone	100	528
Executive travel	1,000	1,454
International liaison travel	1,800	1,438
<i>Bulletin</i>	2,000	1,776
<i>Register of Indexers Available</i>	1,000	798
<i>The Indexer</i>	6,000	4,401
Internet expenses	500	462
Operating expenses:	500	
Office supplies		—
P.O. box rental		163
Postage & delivery		57
Bank charges	300	235
Regional groups:	600	258
B.C.		79
Edmonton		—
Calgary		—
Toronto		263
Ottawa		—
Montreal		—
Volunteers, honours & awards	150	—
Outside services	500	700
Miscellaneous	50	12
Total	20,250	18,772
Income less Expenses	-1,050	2,143

Treasurer (continued)

ISC/SCI Budget, 2010

Income

Membership dues	12,000
Conference	6,000
<i>Register of Indexers Available</i>	2,000
Interest income	150
Miscellaneous income	50
Total	20,200

Expenses

Membership (including directory)	450
Conference	6,000
Executive expenses:	
Meeting costs & telephone	200
Executive travel	1,500
International liaison travel	1,500
<i>Bulletin</i>	1,850
<i>Register of Indexers Available</i>	850
<i>The Indexer</i>	5,000
Internet expenses	500
Operating expenses:	
Office supplies	50
P.O. box rental	175
Postage & delivery	100
Bank charges	250
Regional groups	400
Volunteers, honours & awards	100
Outside services	300
Miscellaneous	50
Total	19,275

Income less Expenses **925**

***Bulletin* Managing Editor: Natalie Boon**

We published all three of our constitutionally-required issues this year.

I'd like to thank the volunteers who helped with the *Bulletin* this year:

Conference reporters – Christopher Blackburn, Vivien Cartmell, Christine Jacobs, Jane McGuire, Audrey McClellan, Deborah Schryer, Trine Schioldan

French language editor –Anna Olivier

French language translator – Mona lordache

Photographers – Brian Hogan, Anna Olivier

Proofreaders – Edna Barker, Susan Brown, Cheryl Caballero, Viv Cartmell

Writers – Christopher Blackburn, Noeline Bridge, Heather Ebbs, Jennifer Hedges, Lois-Anna Kaminski, Maria H. McDonald, Mary McDonald, Mary Newberry, Trine Schioldan

Membership Secretary: Audrey McClellan

As of May 15, 2010, we have 121 members. Nine members did not renew last June, and thirteen did not renew in December. Twenty-one new members have joined, so we have only one less member than we did last year.

The geographical breakdown of the membership is as follows:

Within Canada		Membership Types	
British Columbia	28	Individual	111
Alberta	8	Student	2
Saskatchewan	5	Institutional	8
Manitoba	1	Institutional members are distributed as follows:	
Ontario	55	Alberta	1
Quebec	11	British Columbia	2
New Brunswick	2	Ontario	2
Newfoundland & Labrador	1	Quebec	1
Nova Scotia	1	Italy	1
		United States	1
Outside Canada			
United States	7		
Italy	1		
Turkey	1		

The following members have joined or rejoined since the last AGM:

- Ursula Acton, Proof Positive Editorial Ink, of Saskatoon, SK
- Vicki Austin, Webbird Communications, of Mississauga, ON
- Christine Bayer of Toronto, ON
- Gaile Brazys of Calgary, AB
- Cheryl Caballero of Toronto, ON
- Stephanie Casemore, Gray Lion Publishing, of Napanee, ON
- Tracy Clack of Oka, QC
- Cheryl Dalwood of Calgary, AB
- Franc Gagnon, The Write Intention, of Longueuil, QC
- Jenny Govier, Colborne Communications, of Toronto, ON
- Lindsay Hodder, Lindsay Hodder Editing, of Hamilton, ON
- Nancy K. Humphreys of California
- Marenca Kherani, Search Justified Selection, of Toronto, ON
- Elaine Ménard of Montreal, QC
- Riça Night, Edgewords, of Toronto, ON
- Sandra Otto, Fencerow Editorial Services, of Toronto, ON
- Michèle Pickios of Toronto, ON
- Rouvena A. Robert of Toronto, ON
- Frances Robinson of Mississauga, ON
- Dania Sheldon of Gabriola, BC
- Dina Theleritis, InFolio Editing and Indexing, of Toronto, ON

Please update your *Membership Directory / Liste des membres* as follows:

- Natalie Boon's new address is 2100 Bloor Street, Suite 6192, Toronto, ON M6S 5A5
- Julie Lobb's new email address is axisindexing@shaw.ca

Webmaster: Cheryl Lemmens

Web-related activities from June 2009 to June 2010 can be summed up as follows:

(1) **Web Site Redesign**

As mentioned in previous reports, both home pages have been redesigned with two goals in mind: less visual clutter, and (perhaps more importantly) more information. Links to interior Web pages are now provided at the top of each page, followed by Society news (e.g., links to the conference pages, information about regional meetings).

The history of the Society has been moved to a new page, "About the Society," and further expanded with content from the Wikipedia article on the ISC/SCI. Future additions to this page could certainly include information about the Tamarack Award, as well as the indexing award currently being discussed. A French version of this content ("À propos de la Société") would be another welcome addition.

(2) **Upgraded Web Hosting Account**

Our account with Webnames was upgraded from Basic to Business Standard, providing us with support for CGI and Perl, technologies that would be of help in setting up online *Register* forms (discussed immediately below).

(3) **Online Register Forms**

Four online *Register* forms were created in the summer of 2009: the English and French main forms, and the English and French forms for minor changes. The goal of creating these forms was to enable online completion of the forms by members, as well as a way to send the completed forms to both the *Register* editor and the Webmaster. After I created the forms, I discovered that the *mailto* command in HTML works only with Microsoft Outlook, and began researching the use of CGI and/or Perl to enable e-mailing via any competing mail system or interface. At the time of writing this, I have not been able to devise such a script, but because the forms have already been built, the bulk of the work has already been done (that is, should the e-mail form project go ahead).

(4) **Google AdWords**

In September 2009, we took advantage of a coupon offer from Google AdWords to create an ad for the Society targeting authors looking for indexers. This process is detailed in a report published in the Winter 2009 *Bulletin*.

We did garner enough hits on our ad link to use up our budget. Work and time constraints did not enable me to follow up on this small endeavour (i.e., to ask members if they received any business because someone clicked on the ad), so I don't know how successful the campaign was. My feeling is that potential clients would be more inclined to consult the *Register*, whether in print or online. To that end, I would not recommend an ongoing Google AdWords campaign for the Society, as the amount of work involved in continually monitoring the account and testing and adjusting the keywords would probably not result in increased business. Still, it has been an interesting experiment in using another facet of the new media to promote indexing by Society members.

(5) **Conference Pages and Register of Indexers**

As usual each year, conference information has been posted on the Web site, with pages on venue, accommodations, registration and fees, the program and banquet, and the AGM all up and running. Many thanks to conference coordinator Christine Jacobs and her team for providing all the necessary information in a timely manner – it has been much appreciated!

The *Register of Indexers* for 2010 was posted in March. Thanks as always to Debby Schryer for her tireless work on this publication, and assistance in the preparation of the online *Register*.

(6) **Signing Off**

This will be my last report to the membership as Webmaster, so I'd like to close by thanking everyone in ISC/SCI for their invaluable assistance and support over the past seven years. I accepted this job on an "interim" basis back in 2003, and it's been an exceptional working *and* learning experience. A heartfelt thank you to all executive members with whom I have served, and to my fellow Society members.

REGIONAL REPORTS

Western Canada Regional Representatives: Sheilagh Simpson and Elspeth Richmond

Report submitted by Elspeth Richmond

May 14, 2010

Greetings from the rain forest where the sun is shining, the birds singing and almost everyone is wearing sandals in hope that this good weather will last until next November (unlikely).

We've met as a group at the Vancouver Public Library three times since the fall. This is a good meeting place—central with the necessary equipment outlets and comfortable seating. There are between fifteen and twenty people in our list of contacts, not all ISC members.

Ten of us were present in November to hear Naomi Pauls of Paper Trail Publishing give an excellent presentation on what one editor expects from an indexer. (Thanks to the Conference Organizers last June for this idea.) Naomi is both an indexer and an editor who hires indexers. She brought handouts and some of the books on which she has worked. Her talk sparked some good discussion and then we did a peer review of Paul MacDonnell's indexing project.

In January we had a respectable turnout to hear Geoff Wright, the ergonomist in residence with the City of Vancouver, give us an invaluable presentation on workplace ergonomics. Geoff defined ergonomics as "the science of people at work." Ergonomics optimizes the design and use of tools to fit the worker.

Tips for avoiding injury included:

- Keeping the top of your computer screen at eye level, or a bit lower if you wear progressive lenses or bifocals, so that you move your eyes instead of your head to view the screen. If you work with two documents at once, use a large screen to accommodate two 8 1/2 X 11 pages side by side or put one screen above another.
- For a laptop, use a separate keyboard.

- Learn to mouse with your left hand. When you mouse with your right hand, you have to reach around the number pad which causes discomfort.

If your feet can't touch the floor, use a footrest.

- Don't rest your wrists on a keyboard pad. Use palm support instead.
- Keep elbows and knees at right angles.
- You need a 27" opening for a keyboard tray.

Following Geoff's presentation we peer-reviewed Jean Lawrence's index for *Let Them Eat Prozac* by David Healy (Toronto: James Lorimer, 2003).

Jean gave an excellent summary of the book, an exposé of the relationship between the drug industry, pharmaceutical companies, and academics. David Healy is a whistleblower who once worked for drug companies, which put him at odds with colleagues who accepted money from drug companies.

Indexing issues included:

- 400 pages, a lot to index
- abstract ideas
- permutations on names of drug companies, the result of many merges and splits
- a plethora of common and scientific drug names necessitated a lot of cross-referencing
- the need to accommodate both a popular and academic audience

While indexing, Jean noticed that page 91 was missing and advised the publisher, who concluded that it was too late to fix the problem. With her characteristic wit and humour, Jean told us that she and the publisher "conspired to pretend" that page 91 existed.

Western Canada Representatives (continued)

Ideas discussed:

- Orphan subheadings, that is, headings with only one subheading. One solution put forward is to index the main idea with “about” as one subheading and the orphan subheading as the other subheading.
- Whether to put *the* at the beginning of a heading and then alphabetize with the main idea letter or whether to put *the* at the end.

Jean reported that the author loved the index.

On April 17 we held our last meeting until the fall. Although we intended to discuss marketing ideas and time-saving tips for using indexing software, we spent the entire meeting on Suher Zahar's index for a book on education in the Arab world, the 400 page *World Yearbook of Education 2010: Education and the Arab World: Political Projects, Struggles, and Geometries of Power* edited by André E. Mazawi and Ronald G. Sultana. This was a massive undertaking with a short turnaround time for a first-time indexer. Suher gave a very well-thought-out presentation and it was unfortunate that there were only three of us present. We were so impressed that we decided to ask Suher to present the index again at our fall meeting.

The week before four of us met at UBC's School of Library, Archival and Information Studies to take part in INSYNC – an initiative of ASI's Pacific North West Chapter. Groups met throughout the Pacific Northwest and basically followed the same agenda. The idea was to cut down travel and accommodation costs. We reviewed two indexes, had lunch (paid for by the Chapter) and then should have reviewed the marketing materials provided for us. Our group spent so much time on the indexes we never did get to the marketing discussion. The feedback from all the groups was very positive and we were fairly typical in what we accomplished.

There were only four of us at the December social event—a dinner at Bridges Restaurant. It was a pleasant evening but a disappointing turn out.

Our success in communicating with indexers who might be interested in joining our meetings has been mixed. We tried using Gmail, with the help of Paul MacDonnell, but are now relying on the ISC's listserv and Outlook. We've had

indexers from the Fraser Valley, Vancouver Island and the Okanagan attend. Unfortunately, attendance at our last meeting was disappointing.

Thank you to Pamela Ovington for her excellent minutes for our January meeting.

Sheilagh and I took turns attending Executive meetings this year, via Skype. This certainly helps us keep connected. Thank you!

I'm sorry to report that neither Sheilagh nor I are able to attend this year's conference in Montreal. We'll be thinking about you in beautiful Montreal.

Prairies and Northern Canada Regional Representative: Viv Cartmell

Activity in the Prairies and North region over the past year has almost been a carbon copy of previous years. Confession: somehow the regional representative doesn't get around to organizing a small local meeting, even though there are now a handful of ISC/SCI members living in Saskatoon.

A report from the private sector indicates that indexing work is coming in relatively steadily and that there are projects in the offing. It's good to hear that people are managing to survive the recent recession and so far managing through this ever-increasing rush to publish only online.

In the public sector, that is the legislatures of Alberta and Saskatchewan, there's usually something to report.

In Alberta “the Legislature adjourned April 21, about a month early... It was a very light agenda this spring, and now the ministers are crisscrossing the province meeting and greeting and finding out what people are thinking. No major issues came up during the session, though the flagship bill (Bill 1, Alberta Competitiveness Act) gave the opposition a great opening to get their philosophy out there and criticize the government...

“[Estimates] are done here in standing committees now, so the discussion is much more detailed and full of “in” terminology—almost incomprehensible in some cases.

Prairies and Northern Canada Representative (continued)

“Our staff has been busy since the end of session transcribing meetings of the Electoral Boundaries Commission which has been going around the province having public meetings about the proposed new constituency boundaries. This has to be done after every second election to account for population shifts. Some meetings were well attended, but at others nobody showed up. We really are an apathetic bunch in this province!

“It should be an interesting election (due approximately in early 2012) as the Wildrose Alliance (even further right than the Conservatives) is getting all kinds of attention. There were even two PC MLAs who crossed the floor this spring to join them. There was also a Liberal MLA who left the Liberal party to sit as an independent. So lots of shifting going on.”

In Saskatchewan the current session ends on May 20th. The Speaker has sent a buffet lunch invitation (for May 20th) to all staff. It's a thoughtful gesture that is appreciated: free lunch! We had a week of extended hours, officially 8:00 a.m. to midnight, so our Parliamentary Publications department was extremely busy. There were times when double committees met morning, afternoon, and evening: seven documents in a day. Although the Legislature is no longer working extended hours, they continue to meet frequently in committee where they're pumping through estimates and legislation. The vitriolic atmosphere in the House this session is a boon for the news media in Saskatchewan. It wouldn't be surprising if such acrimony continues until the next provincial election that is slated for November 7, 2011.

Eastern Canada regional report Prepared by Viv Cartmell

I'm delighted to announce at the end of this reporting year that Anna Olivier has accepted the position of Eastern Canada regional representative. The position was vacant until recently, so I was trying to use email to keep in touch with some of our few indexers scattered in the Atlantic Provinces.

Noteworthy events over this past year include Noeline Bridge's attendance at the ANZSI conference in October 2009. Noeline presented a paper and she was also ISC/SCI's official

representative at the conference. Her interesting conference report appeared in the spring 2010 issue of the *Bulletin*. From the Newfoundland and Labrador House of Assembly Trine Schioldan shared information on her special project to index the compiled proceedings from 1932, a critical year in the history of governance in Newfoundland. The House of Assembly documents and index will eventually be available on their website: <http://www.assembly.nl.ca>

The current news from the Newfoundland and Labrador Hansard follows.

“His Honour the Lieutenant Governor John C. Crosbie opened the Third Session of the 46th General Assembly of Newfoundland and Labrador on March 22, 2010 with the Speech from the Throne. Question Period thus far in this session has focused on health care issues (air ambulance and government's unresolved agreement with the Newfoundland and Labrador Medical Association—which files in my index under “N”ewfoundland and Labrador Medical... rather than “M”edical Association).

“We've had no Speaker's rulings in this session as nearly attention-grabbing as Speaker Milliken's ruling in Ottawa ... on parliamentary privilege.

“My work plan for the coming months includes indexing the 2010 session, and eventually the 1933 proceedings. Those again will be challenging due to the very different Standing Orders / parliamentary procedures of the day.”

Thank you to those in the Eastern Region who have shared information to include in the last three reports for the ISC/SCI executive and membership at large. Now that Anna is taking on the representation of the Eastern Region, perhaps the frustration of indexers there will be alleviated. Perhaps they'll be treated to some action, some meetings, and other communications, rather than a few frantic bleats from me asking for input!

ISC/SCI Archives, Report to the Executive

May 25, 2010

Prepared by Jennifer Hedges

In my last report I said that I would be unable to attend the annual conference in Montreal and pick up files Peter Greig had ready for the archives. I was concerned about getting the files to Toronto, let alone Port Stanley. As it turns out, this will be quite easy—Peter has reasons to travel to southwestern Ontario and has a car that will carry as many boxes as mine. So, I am hopeful that by the end of this calendar year we will have started the process of collecting the paper records.

Part of the job of creating an archival collection is developing a records management policy. At November's meeting I asked Ruth Pincoe if she was aware if the Editors' Association of Canada had such a policy (Ruth had worked on the EAC archives). Ruth suggested I contact Beverly Ensom. I finally got a chance to send her an e-mail and got a very helpful reply from her.

Questions I asked included:

- Does EAC have a records management policy?
- Is new material being added to the archives at McMaster?
- How are active records handled? (e.g., collected at the national office, held by the current incumbent, etc.)

- In what format are the current records (i.e., electronic or paper or both?)

Beverly copied her reply to me to Carolyn Burke, who also replied to my e-mail.

Beverly was responsible for drafting guidelines for "a rationale and methodology for ongoing archiving." Her draft was submitted to the national executive, which has not yet had the personnel to finalize the policy and put a working system in place. At present, new material is not being added to the archives at McMaster.

As ISC is beginning to go through the archiving process, Carolyn wondered whether we might work together on developing our respective records management policies. I'm not sure of the best timing for working on our policy, but I leave it to the executive to decide on a response to Carolyn's suggestion. I will forward her e-mail to the executive as directed.

Bev also sent links to a number of websites that she found helpful, as well as the draft of EAC's policy. I will review these documents over the summer.

[below, Mary Newberry presenting Jennifer Hedges with Tamarack Award at Toronto meeting; See *also* page 31]



Crossword

A Conference of Indexers

by Heather Ebbs

Across

- 1. Pile
- 5. Witticism
- 9. Holy basin
- 14. Gumbo ingredient
- 15. ___ 500
- 16. Thicket
- 17. Land of twins and cats?
- 18. British slammer
- 19. Organic compound
- 20. ISC/SCI's Eastern Canada representative
- 21. There's an old one in France, and a New one in Louisiana
- 23. Pal
- 25. Grammatical gender
- 29. 8th mo.
- 30. Squeal or squealer
- 32. Offer an opinion (with up)
- 33. Force out
- 36. Century characteristic
- 38. Bit of gear for Carrie Underwood
- 39. Philosopher
- 40. Sorting basic
- 41. Force out
- 43. Caesar's seven
- 44. Relative quantity
- 46. Opposite of 28 Down
- 47. Additions
- 49. Embarrassed
- 50. Bird
- 51. Saw
- 53. Gulls
- 55. Drew
- 58. Peruvian
- 61. Some are proper
- 64. Concern of Legolas and Galadriel
- 65. Young horse
- 66. Ignition device
- 67. Feed the pot
- 68. Great lake
- 69. Barnyard cries
- 70. Gomer's dining hall
- 71. Quebec premier

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12	13
14					15					16				
17					18					19				
20					21				22					
		23		24					25			26	27	28
			29				30	31			32			
33	34	35				36				37		38		
39						40				41	42			
43				44	45					46				
47			48		49					50				
51				52				53				54		
			55			56	57				58		59	60
61	62	63				64					65			
66						67					68			
69						70					71			

Down

- 1. She parked on a bus, and became a civil rights symbol
- 2. Related
- 3. One of the Montreal conference's student helpers
- 4. High honour in ISC/SCI
- 5. Moving session at ISC/SCI conference
- 6. Single
- 7. Baal or Carrie Underwood
- 8. TV's Gomer
- 9. Part of an act
- 10. Even chance
- 11. Choose
- 12. Consume
- 13. Pricing term
- 22. Oppositional prefix
- 24. Word with space or wear
- 26. Race official
- 27. Tales of heroes
- 28. Right-hand page
- 30. Offer a new offer
- 31. U.S. gas company
- 33. Legolas and Galadriel
- 34. "There it is", in Montreal
- 35. With a cold demeanour
- 36. Fill
- 37. It's "hotter than a pepper sprout", according to Cash and Carter
- 42. With 50 Down, winner of 4 Down
- 45. Jason's ship
- 48. Penguin captain
- 50. See 42 Down
- 52. Protuberances
- 53. Shelters
- 54. Saw logs
- 56. Wee nip
- 57. Descendants
- 59. Abel brother
- 60. Protected from weather
- 61. Montreal conference topic and movie maker
- 62. Belonging to us
- 63. Cda's neighbour

Solution page 13.

Conference 2010

Ten for Ten: Perfecting Our Craft

The World through Words Keynote Address by Michèle Hudon

Prepared by Heather Ebbs

Michèle Hudon presented a stimulating keynote address on words to get things started at the ISC/SCI 2010 conference. She is a past president of the Indexing and Abstracting Society of Canada and an associate professor at École de bibliothéconomie et des sciences de l'information, Université de Montréal. Michèle is the author of the recently published *Guide pratique pour l'élaboration d'un thésaurus documentaire*, and is a Canadian delegate on the working group tasked with structuring and writing ISO 25964, a new international standard to be published at the end of 2010 under the title *Information and Documentation—Thesauri and interoperability with other vocabulary*.

Michèle began by reminding us of the importance of words throughout our lives: a child's first word is recorded and discussed by proud parents; the last words of the dying are recorded and played back with nostalgia. Countries are built, business agreements are written, and friendships are created or broken, all through words.

Michèle then introduced three major themes: linguistic relativity, multilingual and multicultural lexical issues, and language and words in the World Wide Web.

Linguistic relativity

Linguistic relativity (the Sapir-Whorf hypothesis) is the idea that language, culture and thought are interdependent. But does language shape culture, or does culture shape language? And are languages equal, or are some languages "better" than others? Can all languages express

all concepts? The linguistic relativity principle says that we cut up nature and organize it into constructs. The words we use are agreed upon throughout our speech communities. But all observers do not see the same picture of the



universe unless the linguistics are similar. The major differences arise not so much with objects, but with constructs of time and space. Differences are also apparent in metaphors. In current discussion of linguistic relativity, linguists look at the interface between thought, language and culture and describe the degrees of relationship.

Language users differ in age, profession, and education. Our usage of words varies according to whom we are talking. Instinctively, we know how important language is.

Language in a country or community is more than a sum of its components. Language is a way to show the flag. Even the "same" language varies. For example, English in the United Kingdom, the United States, Australia and Canada.

As the main component of language, words fulfil two main functions: communications (sharing or controlling ideas, informing, enlightening) or aesthetics (self-expression, self-identity, the creation of beauty). For indexers, the communications function is most important.

Words have a place in time—some are old or forgotten, others are too new to be widely used. Words are not static—they move in time and space and relocate regularly.

Multilingual and multicultural lexical issues

The semantic differences between pairs of languages vary considerably. Language differences are related to geographic, political, cultural, and philosophical differences. It is hard to translate one natural language into another.

Keynote (continued)

Yet translation is critical to the functioning of words.

Multilingual and multicultural thesauri are tools used to aid in translation, but no two thesaurus constructors will build them in the same way. Originally, multilingual thesauri were for specialists, particularly for English-speaking researchers to access data produced in another language. The problem is that such thesauri demand a very strict translation; interlingual communication can be achieved, but at the expense of intercultural communication. Stretching a language to fit the language of another culture makes it almost unrecognizable. If translation from one language to another were straightforward, automatic translation would be better than it is. Translation is not a matter of finding which word B translates word A. Words and constructions in one language seldom have absolute equivalence in another.

There are five types of equivalence:

- name equivalence (the easiest to establish)
- connotative equivalence (harder to pin down—when words trigger the same associations and connotations)
- legal equivalence
- pragmatic equivalence (the words are accepted and useable)
- formal equivalence

Good translators will say that exact equivalence is not the object. Functional equivalence is. A translation should cause the same reaction in the target audience as the source text does in the original. A multilingual thesaurus demands that each term in the source language has an equivalent in the target language. But equal status of language should mean that each language is able to preserve its capabilities of expressing the concepts and connotations most appropriate to that language's culture.

Words and the World Wide Web

We are exposed to new objects almost every day—new produce at the store, new technologies, and so forth. As a result, children

and adults learn new words almost every day. The notion that words are created only when they are needed is fading rapidly. Words, terms and expressions are now forced on us. We are bombarded with ideas and words that we have never heard before. Linguistic isolation is no longer viable.

With the Internet, and the globalization of communications and information, we hear and read even more words and concepts. In some ways, this can be good. But we know that in other aspects of life, globalization can have negative consequences as well, including economic pressures and the exploitation of natural resources by foreign companies. Should we fear that the significant consequences on our inventories and uses of words will also be negative?

For example, the dominance of English worldwide as the language of research and business can be detrimental to other languages, as it reduces their use. But it can be detrimental to English, because in the effort to communicate, instead of having the choice of five slightly different words to describe the same object or concept, you have the choice of only one, because it is the one that is understood by a foreign audience. Words are chosen to communicate, but their other function, of self-expression and aesthetics, may be lost.

Only time will allow us to discriminate between the good and bad effects.

New Standard for Thesaurus Construction and Management Speaker: Michèle Hudon

Prepared by Audrey McClellan

Michèle Hudon, a delegate to the working group tasked with structuring and writing a new international standard on thesauri, gave us an overview of the process and an update on the working group's progress.

She began with a brief discussion of the importance of thesauri standards, which recommend how to develop and maintain structured vocabularies of subject terms and concepts for information retrieval. They also give guidance on the exchange of data between multiple vocabularies. Thesauri standards apply to vocabularies used for retrieving information from text resources such as knowledge bases, bibliographic databases, and collections of full

Thesaurus Construction Standard (continued)

text documents, as well as catalogues of images or artifacts such as those in a museum collection. They do not apply to the preparation of back-of-the-book indexes, although many of their recommendations may be useful for that purpose. Nor do they cover the structure of authority files of proper names of people, organizations, and places, although they recognize that these may sometimes interact with vocabularies of subject terms.

Michèle noted that even when we think we're using natural vocabulary in a search for information (whether online or somewhere else), there's a thesaurus behind the interface that replaces the word we entered with a keyword. International standards are essential to ensure these systems work together; otherwise users have to learn a new vocabulary every time they use a new system.

The most commonly used standard of controlled vocabulary is that set by the International Standards Organization (ISO)—ISO 2788 for monolingual thesauri (established in 1986) and ISO 5964 for multilingual thesauri (1985). Other standards tend to be compatible with these ones. When you think about how much the information management environment has changed in the last three decades, it's surprising they have lasted so long. Although the principles have retained their validity, the changing context and scale of use means an update is long overdue.

Michèle told us that ISO reviews each of its standards every five years by sending a notice to members of the committee responsible for a specific standard. The members vote on whether it's time to revise or withdraw the standard, or if it's okay to continue with it as it is. There are twenty-six member countries on the thesauri committee, TC46, including Canada, which has its own national thesaurus development standard that links with the ISO one. In 2002, British members started saying we should do something with the standard. Britain was reviewing and updating its own thesauri standard, and in 2007 presented its own new standard — BSI 8723: Structured vocabularies for information retrieval (2005) — as a possible replacement for the ISO.

In July 2007, TC46 accepted the proposal to produce a new standard, updating and expanding the scope of ISO 2788 and ISO 5964

to reflect the information environment of the 21st century. TC46 set up Working Group 8 (WG8) in October 2007 to prepare a working draft of the new standard, ISO 25964. The group took Britain's BSI 8723 as a starting point.

The convener of WG8 is Stella Dextre Clarke of the UK, who works in the field of thesaurus construction. She manages all activities of the working group: organizes meetings (phone or face to face), prepares working documents, writes minutes, ensures draft standards comply with ISO guidelines and templates. For example, certain auxiliary verbs cannot be used: *must* is not allowed in a standard. *May*, *should*, and *shall* are used instead; *can* or *might* are used in non-normative mode. She also ensures timelines are respected. The seven experts in WG8 are from the UK, France, Denmark, Germany, the US, and Canada, and are a mix of academics, practitioners, and librarians. Canada is lucky to have two members. We have them because we're a bilingual country. Another group of experts doesn't participate in all the activities of the group but will contribute to work on multilingual thesauri as requested by members. External experts will answer questions from the inner circle but do not produce any documents. In all, fifty people are directly working on the new standard.

There have been monthly teleconferences on the first Monday of each month since July 2008. These run from twenty minutes to four hours. There have also been three face-to-face meetings to date. Two subgroups were formed to cover specific sections — one on multilingual thesauri, which Michèle led; another to create a data model.

WG8 started off with the British standard, but group members concluded that its five-part structure wasn't what was needed. They cut it back to two parts: thesauri and mapping (Parts 1 and 2). Part 1 covers thesauri for information retrieval, giving general principles and rules for developing and managing monolingual and multilingual thesauri. At one point multilingual thesauri were relegated to Part 2 and described only as mapping, but the Canadian and French representatives objected, arguing that a multilingual thesaurus is still in fact a thesaurus and should be covered in Part 1.

By November 2008 WG8 had a committee draft of Part 1 ready for international circulation. Generally, if reviewers require a lot of changes at this stage, there will be more drafts until the working group has an acceptable draft

Thesaurus Construction Standard (continued)

international standard (DIS). This is still not a public document, but it is circulated to members and is put to a vote. Whether it's accepted or not, the working group receives more feedback. Countries that vote against acceptance must present a report saying why it's not acceptable, while those who support the draft can indicate things that still need to be changed. At this step there's often one or more translations prepared. Standards are written in English and are translated into French, and often German.

The WG8 issued its DIS in August 2009 — in English only. In this case, AFNOR, the French standards group, is revising its own thesauri standard, and the French member of WG8 heads the AFNOR group, so it's possible the AFNOR standard will end up being the French version of the ISO standard, even if it's not exactly the same as the English version.

Once the comments from international reviewers have been integrated, a final DIS will be sent out for review. There's no vote then, but members have two months to let the working group know if there are any other changes that need to be made. Then the standard becomes public.

Working groups are given thirty-six months to produce a final DIS. If they haven't produced one in that time, the existing draft is erased and they start over. Michèle explained that there is so much time at the draft stage because national standards bodies have to find reviewers who will respond quickly to the draft (they are usually given only two months to comment), and few people are willing or able to put energy and time into the process. To give a sense of the commitment required, Michèle told us that the first draft sent around for international review was 132 pages of small print.

The original timelines for ISO gave a completion date of October 2010. In January 2008 this was revised to December 2010 for Part 1 only. Originally Parts 1 and 2 were a single standard, but the group decided to separate them and requested a second work proposal for Part 2. This will adjust the timelines and take some heat off the working group. They expect to have a committee draft of Part 2 ready for circulation by the end of August 2010.

The working group has faced challenges in terms of team and project management as well as content. Some of the team and project

management issues are related to the number of people involved and the fact that some people have had to leave the group, which means existing members must get new ones up to speed — and hope that they don't leave as well. Other management issues are:

- Only the two UK members have English as a first language; for others it is their second or third language, which can make communication difficult. Email and face to face are somewhat better than teleconferences.
- It is hard to continue a conversation through email or a collaborative website between conferences. All members are volunteers, so they have other tasks to work on (especially those who are practitioners, running their own businesses). There ends up being a flurry of messages just before the next conference, and the result is that it's not really a conversation.
- Keeping track of documents and versions of documents can be problematic.
- Members must be diplomatic when dealing with suggestions from ISO voting members. For example, Canada asked WG8 to review all its definitions. The group decided not to do this but didn't want to discourage Canada from making comments on the next draft.
- Meeting deadlines is always an issue.

Some of the content issues include

- Standardizing terminology (using preferred terms instead of descriptors)
- Defining terms
- Deciding what should go in and what shouldn't, and what should be kept from previous standards
- Multilingual and multicultural issues
- Deciding how much detail to provide — is it necessary to anticipate all problems and issues? As a thesaurus designer, Michèle Hudon wants simple standards but not details on how to do things—for that she'd look at a manual!

Thesaurus Construction Standard (continued)

One issue that came up recently was that the terminology standards group is also working on an update. Members of the two groups realized they share a lot of the same terms but aren't defining them the same way. The terminology standards group is just starting out, so members suggested they follow WG8 definitions, but this may not work out. WG8 members are librarians, while terminology people are linguists and don't necessarily define terms the same way.

Michèle is pleased with some of the decisions made by the working group. She thinks they have produced better examples of thesaurus terms, particularly where they are talking about disambiguation of terms, grammatical form of terms, singular or plural forms, names, abbreviations, or acronyms, than were in the previous ISO standard or the British standard. There used to be one clause about equivalence relationships, but now there are two: one for monolingual thesauri and another for thesauri across languages. This addresses which term is equivalent to another, and how they are equivalent.

The new standard, ISO25964-1, isn't out yet, but it will be ready about a decade after TC46 first started talking about it. In the meantime, Michèle says the review is a lot of work but also a lot of fun. She asked if any ISC/SCI members are interested in reviewing Part 2. She and other members of the working group will need to put names forward of potential reviewers.

Approaches to Indexing – Mary Newberry

Prepared by Audrey McClellan

As the workshop commenced, Mary thanked Kari Kells for the idea for the session. Kari had led a similar session at the ISC/SCI conference in Calgary in 2003 and also co-wrote a book, with Sherry L. Smith, about two indexers indexing the same material independently and discussing their different processes. Mary stated that the aim of the session was not to judge whether the anonymous indexers had made right or wrong choices, but to discover different ways of indexing, different ways of getting to the same information. She asked that participants not identify their own indexes or explain why they

had made the choices they did as "that's not what the exercise is about."

Before the conference, Mary had circulated an article by G. Thomas Couser, "The Cases of Oliver Sacks: The Ethics of Neuroanthropology," for participants to index. She received seven indexes and provided handouts for the workshop in which she had collated the contributions by letter —i.e., the entries for A from all indexes were gathered together and set off by different fonts to show which index they were from, as were the entries for B, C, etc.

Mary explained that she chose this particular essay because it had enough complexity to give a sense of the issues that will come up in indexing, particularly in terms of concepts, not just proper names. She started us off with a discussion of the case histories covered in the essay and pointed out that different indexers either gathered them under an entry for *case history*, listed them by subject name throughout the index, or did not index them at all, perhaps because the subjects were identified by pseudonyms. We discussed whether they should be included in the index under the specific medical disorder (i.e., under T for Tourette's syndrome). We also debated the appropriateness of indexing pseudonyms. It made sense to do so because people who've read the book will know to look them up. Then the question arose of how you index pseudonyms when they take the form of a first name and initial. We decided we'd usually index under first name, as we'd do for characters in a book. This also distinguishes case study subjects from cited authors. It might be a good idea to have a headnote explaining decisions like this, as a reader can't always guess what you're doing or why.

During this discussion we also noted that the terms *case study*, *case history*, and *case report* are used in the text with slightly different meanings. We wondered if readers would pick up on that difference. We decided that indexing all the terms and cross-referencing to the others might be overkill, since they all start with *case* and would presumably follow one another in the index. You could have an entry for *case histories or reports* that collected all of them, in spite of slight difference in meaning. However, if there were a discussion of the difference between the terms, you would want to index that.

Mary then asked us to break into small groups of five or six and suggested that we look at how

Approaches to Indexing (continued)

particular issues were dealt with—including the concept of deaf culture/disability, the metatopic (Oliver Sacks), and cross references—and the effect for different audiences in terms of efficiency, effectiveness.

The group I was in began by looking at how people indexed the ideas of deaf culture and deafness as a disability. We noted that it was hard to choose an entry keyword, as subentries didn't always work with them. For example, a subentry under *disability rights* was *colonized by medical profession*, which isn't exactly what the text was talking about. Most indexers had non-intersecting entries for *deaf* and *disability*, and we wondered if there should have been a see-also reference to *deaf* under *disability*. This might be considered offensive by deaf people, who don't necessarily consider themselves disabled. Couser makes the point that Sacks treats deafness as a culture but does say it's a disability, so it should probably be included under any discussion of disability. We noted, in passing, that while *Deaf Culture* was capitalized in the text, it was usually lowercase in the indexes—did this indicate that the indexers were clumping references to deafness as a concept and as culture?

During our discussion of deafness and disability, we shifted to talking about how *neurological issues as disability* is one of the metatopics: the essay discusses how Sacks treats people with neurological disabilities in his writing, and also addresses the ethics of Sacks' writing. How do you deal with this in an index? If there were more chapters, an indexer would have a better sense of how to address this issue. You could also index *disability* as a concept (this would encompass issues like the discussion of whether deafness is a disability or not) but gather descriptions of the disabilities' occurrences under *disabilities, people with*.

We recognized *ethics* as another metatopic, and most of the sample indexes had an entry for *ethics* but didn't really tie references to this subject together. (Although one had an entry that read "*neuroanthropology, ethics, 1-12.*")

A third metatopic is, of course, *Oliver Sacks*, and we looked closely at how the different indexers dealt with this one. Index 2 had a lot of specific entries that covered all pages of the essay, and Index 3 was also comprehensive. Index 1 was too brief, Index 4 was "all over the map," and

Indexes 5 and 7 didn't have an entry for Sacks at all but did include him under different entries.

On closer inspection, we realized that Index 4 had an entry for Sacks first and then an entry for his work. The result was messy, but we liked the idea and wondered if that was the best way to deal with the works: should there be an entry under W for "works" that discusses the evolution of his writing? Or should there be a subentry under Sacks with the head PUBLISHED WORKS, and the works as sub-subentries under it? If you're indexing something that discusses only one work, you'd cross reference that work, but if it's a whole book about one author, you've got to break the works out somewhere and it makes sense sometimes to have them all under the author's name. You could list works chronologically or there might be other ways to organize: e.g., before and after certain events, different styles the author used, evolution of the author's work, etc.

When groups reported back to the whole gathering, we noted the difficulty distinguishing between disability as a concept and disability cases. One person who has worked with authors who have disabilities said that you learn to emphasize the person, not the disability, referring to them as a person with the disability, not as a disabled person. So would one index put cases under P (*people with*) with a cross reference from D (*disability*)? And is it the responsibility of the indexer not to cause offence? Would such indexing veer too much into editorializing, moving away from what the author had written?

Another issue we discussed in the full group was indexing the metatopic. We realized that readers do want to be able to find information about the metatopic, but the indexer has to be careful not to overdo it and end up with an entry that includes a "1-end of book" locator. Some participants suggested, for the list of works, using double posting: putting page numbers where references to works are found under the author's name rather than cross referencing and sending the reader to another entry for one page number.

Participants agreed that the text and sample indexes were useful in that they showed how people interpret the same thing differently (e.g., some don't index Sacks at all; others have many entries for this metatopic). We talked about terminology and what you do when an author is using terms that you might not think are politically correct. One group also suggested

Approaches to Indexing (continued)

taking one page number and looking at the ways different people described/indexed what was on that page.

For future workshops, participants suggested that it might be better to print entire indexes separately, rather than gathering entries by letter, so you can put them side by side for a complete comparison. They also said it was a good idea to put out a global request for indexes, but if the workshop organizer also targets people who work with different types of material, participants would be able to see how they deal with specific issues. It might be good to choose an article that is less scholarly. But we all agreed that this kind of exercise is a valuable way of looking at indexing, showing us how other indexers think and work and also suggesting how readers might be using our indexes.

Ethics in Indexing Panel Session

Chair: Heather Ebbs

**Panel members: Joan McGilvray,
Carolyn Brown, Christine Jacobs**

Prepared by Christopher Blackburn

This session looked at different scenarios involving ethical questions. It was chaired by Heather Ebbs, an indexer whose extensive experience is known to all of us. Heather now instructs indexing for the University of California Berkeley Extension Program. She is a past-president of both ISC/SCI and of the Editors' Association of Canada.

The panel members were Joan McGilvray, coordinating editor at McGill-Queen's University Press; Carolyn Brown, former manuscript editor of the *Canadian Medical Association Journal*; and Christine Jacobs, a longtime indexer, who currently chairs the Information and Library Technologies Program at John Abbott College.

Scenario One

In the first scenario presented by Heather, indexer and author disagree about the topic. As the indexer works through a self-published book on child nutrition, she finds herself strongly opposed to the author's views: she feels they do not reflect current research and in some cases could even be dangerous. There are also many typos. What should the indexer do?

Christine Jacobs pointed out that the indexer has a relationship with the text, with the reader, and with the author. You could stand back and say this material is a bit too complicated for you (putting it on yourself, rather than the author). But, you have agreed to tackle it, and there may be a deadline. The problem with standing back is that you not only disagree with the text, but you actually find it inaccurate. The indexer should express her opinion concerning the editing—perhaps suggest that to do the author's work justice, the book should be copyedited professionally.

The other panelists agreed. Carolyn Brown said, "If you feel something is bad you should ask the author to check her sources and provide references."

Following discussion among the audience as to whether an indexer should "keep the index neutral" or should "accurately display the viewpoint of the text," Christine suggested that the indexer should keep herself neutral as much as possible, but may diplomatically call the author's attention to material that inadvertently may have been expressed incorrectly.

Scenario Two

Heather's second scenario involved a publisher who finds the quality of work from one of her indexers to be slipping. She calls the indexer to talk about it and learns that she has been subcontracting regularly, without telling the publisher or the author.

Joan McGilvray emphasized that the person contracting is still responsible for the work. If the index is not good, the publisher has a problem and there's no easy way to correct it.

Carolyn Brown said that as a client she sometimes puts in the contract that the indexer must get her approval before subcontracting is done. She emphasized the importance of transparency.

Christine Jacobs suggested that you can refer the client to other indexers instead of subcontracting, if you are too busy to supervise a subcontracted job properly.

Audience members expressed their views. One said she doesn't subcontract because of her concerns about controlling quality. She wants to make sure the client knows that she was the person doing the job. Others agreed with the need for open communication with the client,

Ethics Panel (continued)

with one comparing the situation to hiring a plumber, expecting he will do the job himself, but finding he sends someone else.

Indexing Papers with Ethical Problems

Carolyn Brown gave a presentation on ethical problems in publishing that affect the indexer based on her experience in the indexing of scholarly journals. Ethical problems in this area include plagiarism and studies with poor methodology, or even fraud, arriving at results not replicable by other researchers. When plagiarism is reported, or results are disputed, editors investigate the facts and may send a report to the institution that sanctions the author. The publisher decides whether to publish a follow-up (possibly an erratum or a retraction). A retracted article remains in the published record, even online. But attention must be called to the fact that it has been retracted. Carolyn showed an example of pages printed over in large red letters: "RETRACTED".

This is important to journal indexers because the index should show the retraction as well as the publication. Below the title of an article (cited as usual) any retractions, whether published as an editorial retraction or as a retraction from the authors, should be cited. The index must be comprehensive and reflect all content of the journal.

Final Scenario and Words of Wisdom

Heather presented a final scenario in which an editor sends pages of a scholarly text and asks you to index any mention of a Canadian First Nation, but to only touch broadly on aboriginal peoples from other countries, and not to include any reference to evolution, even though the author does describe it.

Christine said she would tell the editor that she wants to reflect the work accurately. Joan suggested asking what will happen if a reviewer points out gaps in the index—gaps won't help the reader, the author, or the indexer. From the audience, one member spoke of the author-editor-indexer relationship, which another indexer suggested should be author-editor-indexer-reader.

In final words, Joan stressed the importance of being aware of ethical issues. Carolyn suggested proceeding with caution on any ethical issue, and trying to get all the information

before acting. Christine expressed her belief in self-reflection, and in the ongoing consideration of ethical choices that affect our indexing lives. These questions help make indexing an art, not just a collection of techniques.

Indexing archival images

**Speakers: Céline Arseneault,
Katherine Kasirer, Elaine Ménard**

Prepared by Viv Cartmell

In this session the audience was treated to three short presentations on image control and retrieval, ranging from the academic to the practical.

Elaine Ménard

Elaine Ménard, an Assistant Professor at the School of Information Studies, McGill University, Montreal, opened with an explanation of her research on image search and retrieval on the internet.



Searching for images on the internet presents challenges, such as the type image, and the language and vocabulary needed to retrieve appropriate results. The types of images include the artistic, documentary, and the ordinary that are used for commercial and illustrative purposes. Image retrieval vocabularies have challenges and present differing results.

Indexing Archival Images (continued)

For example, controlled vocabularies become outdated and they are often only in a single language thus limiting results. Other image retrieval challenges include the matching of the image and the text; and that the query language and the indexing language must match in order to facilitate retrieval.

Elaine explored the intricacies of searching and retrieving images through a practical study using controlled and uncontrolled vocabularies in both French and English, having students retrieve a specific set of images. The study participants had questionnaires to complete and these results were analysed. Elaine was able to determine that controlled and uncontrolled vocabularies had different results. As well, through this study she was able to evaluate the effectiveness, the efficiency, and the human efficiency of image retrieval on the internet. A significant finding was that monolingual retrieval was more efficient, effective, and satisfactory. In turn, there is a great need for multilingual approaches to image retrieval.

In conclusion, Elaine's research is a launching pad for a large field of potential research.

Céline Arseneault



On a more practical level, Céline Arseneault explained the integrated management of images at the Montreal Botanical Garden (MBG). Céline is a botanist and librarian at the Garden and she is particularly interested in the management, retrieval, and preservation of digital institutional information and documentation. The MGB's

large collection of slides was relocated to the library in 1984 where the responsibilities include archiving, documentation, support, and retrieval.

By 2006 the image collection had expanded to include CD-ROMs, videos, and DVDs. Management and retrieval was complex and labour intensive, and there were parallel systems for the various collections. To provide consistency in management and retrieval, the library explored digital management systems and decided that a single system for all images would resolve many of the problems it had been encountering. The system chosen for their work is Fotoware. The large slide collection is gradually being digitized and added to the single database.

The library uses Dublin Core for control of the metadata within the Fotoware system. To facilitate image retrieval vocabulary, the official Latin names for plants are used with the occasional addition of French and English names. Céline pointed out the significance of indexing to retrieve the images. As well, she mentioned the change management the library has experienced during the process of controlling the images from the manual age to the digital age. She stated that they now have to establish a weeding policy for the digital image collection, as it is growing exponentially.

Katherine Kasirer



To round out the session, we had Katherine Kasirer enlighten us about the stock shot collection at the National Film Board (NFB). A *stock shot* is a photograph or filmed footage of an action, scene, or special effect, such as a

Indexing Archival Images (continued)

sunset, that is stored in a library and can be borrowed from that library and inserted into a film, programme, or commercial where the script calls for such a scene. The use of a stock shot does not require a credit line nor an additional payment to models or talent who appear in the shot.

We were given a summary of the history of the NFB, established in 1939, and its collections. The online database collection increases by about one hundred titles per month. The stock shot library is a collection within the NFB. It has a wide range of users—from students to feature film producers.

Katherine described the development of the collection and the necessity of bibliographic control. She described the development of a controlled vocabulary thesaurus, as well as all the elements of a catalogue record for each stock shot. The work was originally created for a card catalogue. With a manual tool information retrieval was time-consuming and laborious. However, as with so many library collections, the stock shot library is now available online. Users can rapidly retrieve images, and view them immediately, thus enhancing their experience of using the stock shot library.

These panel presentations were very informative on various aspects of image control and retrieval.

Loosen Up, Let the Energy Flow: Qi Gong

Speaker: Helena Goris

Prepared by Gillian Watts

Helena Goris's session was a welcome break from the intellectual rigours of the conference's first day. Helena is an alternative health practitioner and yoga teacher who comes highly recommended by Christine Jacobs. She explained that qi gong (pronounced *chee gung*) was developed by Chinese Taoists to significantly improve a person's energy flow in a short time. *Qi* means *life force* or *energy*, and *gong* means *skill*. In qi gong, exercises, meditation, and breathing techniques are combined to improve overall health and make us feel better.

In its various forms, this movement system can be a martial art, a healing practice, or a form of meditation. It can be done while doing other things, such as chores, but must be done mindfully in order to feel the energy. The most important aspect of qi gong, especially for desk-bound indexers, is its emphasis on breathing, posture, and stretching. Stretching helps prevent repetitive stress injuries and reduces tension and pain in the muscles and joints.



Helena led us through some breathing exercises to get oxygen into our bodies and tired brains, then showed us how to stand and sit (and breathe) properly for improved posture and relaxation. We learned self-massage techniques for the head, shoulders, arms, and hands and useful stretches to do after sitting at the computer for a long time. Then we tried the *Eight Silken Movements*, or *pal dan gum*, which are simple exercises meant to improve body alignment and energy flow. The big favourite was “punching with angry eyes”—obviously indexers have plenty of pent-up frustration.

Besides providing extensive handouts, Helena had plenty of information on qi gong and health resources. One is *The Joy of Feeling: Bodymind Acupressure*, by Iona Marsaa Teegarden (Jin Shin do Foundation, www.jinshindo.org), which has illustrations of the Eight Silken Movements. For stretching exercises, she recommends the *Yoga Journal* and Rodale Press's *Fit, Firm and Flexible* (2003). For information on alternative

Qi Gong (continued)

medicine and well-being, she likes the websites of Dr. Andrew Weil (www.drweil.com) and Dr. Ben Kim (www.drbenkim.com) and the helpful hints at www.acupuncture.com (just ignore the products for sale). You can also check out qi gong on YouTube, which has lots of videos demonstrating the various movements.

The Tamarack Award 2010

Jennifer Hedges was honoured with the Tamarack Award during the conference banquet at Le Collectionneur dining room at the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts/Musée des beaux-arts de Montréal. Jennifer has served on the executive as Membership Secretary, and she is the moderator of the online executive list and of the online list for ISC/SCI. For the past few years she has voluntarily worked on the archives project for the Society: gathering records from across the country, working through them, organizing them into some semblance of order, and trying to find a repository for them. Jennifer regularly reports on her progress in this venture which will take several more years to complete.

Although Jennifer was not able to attend the conference this year, we were able to bring her into the award ceremony. After the announcement, Mary Newberry placed a telephone call to her and most of us could hear the surprise in her voice at the unexpected news of winning a Tamarack. We all applauded loudly and cheered her over the wires.



[Mary Newberry phoning Jennifer]

Congratulations and thank you, Jennifer!

The Tamarack Award was instituted in 2004 by Ruth Pincoe, then President, to recognize members who go “above and beyond the call of duty” in their volunteer work for the Society. It is awarded annually and is the subjective decision of the President or Co-Presidents. It is called the Tamarack because the physical acknowledgement of the award is a small version of a tamarack-twig decoy created by the Cree people of the James Bay area.



[Viv Cartmell holding Tamarack award]

For photo of Jennifer receiving the award in person at a Toronto meeting, See page 19.

Past winners are Beth Macfie (2004), Noeline Bridge (2005), Cheryl Lemmens (2006), Jane Maguire (2007), Ruth Pincoe (2008), and Gillian Watts (2009).

Mary Newberry and Vivien Cartmell
Co-Presidents