INFOTERM NEWSLETTER
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New Member

Infoterm is proud to introduce its new Member

The Language Institute of the Austrian Armed Forces at the National Defence Academy, Vienna

A Short Overview

The National Defence Academy (NDA), Vienna, founded in the 18th century, provides the highest level of officer training and scientific research[1] in the Austrian Armed Forces (AAF).

The NDA comprises the following Institutes and Divisions:

- Institute for Higher Military Command
- Institute for Strategy and Security Policy
- Institute for Human and Social Sciences
- Institute for Conflict Research and Peace Support
- Documentation and Information Centre
- Austrian Military Journal
- **Language Institute of the Austrian Armed Forces (SIB/LVAK)**

The SIB/LVAK is primarily responsible for language training and translation/interpretation in the AAF. One of the most important factors, in order to fulfil these missions, is terminology research and terminography.

The Institute, headed by Brigadier General Horst WALTHER, consists of four Departments:

Department I (central responsibilities):
- Planning, coordinating, supervising and supporting language training and testing in the Armed Forces
- Evaluation of language training, translation/interpretation
- Production, administration and provision of training material
- Supervision of terminology research, designing and updating terminology databases
- Translation support by translation memory systems
- Administration of external personnel (additional language teachers and translators/interpreters)
- Further and advanced training of language staff (internal and external)
- Administration and equipment

Departments II to IV (Languages):
- Language training and testing
- Translation/interpretation
- Selection and evaluation of instructors, teachers and translators/interpreters as well as of teaching material
- Didactic and methodological research
- Development of curricula, teaching and testing material
- Terminology research

Department II (Germanic languages), composed of four Sections:
1. Tactical English
2. English Translation
3. English Training
4. German as a foreign language

Department III (Romance and other languages), composed of three Sections:
1. French
2. Italian
3. Finno-Ugric languages & other languages (incl. administration of training and translation in languages like Arabic and Chinese. For these tasks, external personnel is contracted)

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[1] except research in armament technology, which is provided by the Armament and Defence Technology Agency

Department IV (Slavic languages):
1.   Western Slavic languages
2.   Eastern Slavic languages
3.   Southern Slavic and Balkan languages

The SIB/LVAK distinguishes between four language categories:
1.   Command and working languages (English, French, German)
2.   Languages in the Joint Operation Areas (military and civilian personnel, local population)
3.   Languages spoken in neighbouring countries
4.   Languages for information purposes (Arabic, Farsi, Ukrainian)

The Language Institute not only trains Austrian soldiers but also offers German language training programmes to foreign officers in Austria. Furthermore, the Institute provides assistance in language training and translation/interpretation to other Austrian federal ministries like the Ministry of the Interior, the Foreign Ministry, and the Ministry of Economics and Labour.

For further information, please see: http://www.bundesheer.at/organisation/beitraege/lvak/esib/esib.shtml

Terminology Science and Methodology

Web-based Approaches to support Terminology Standardization Projects

Dr. Christian Galinski, Infoterm

Changing environment for terminology standardization

From a purist theoretical point of view, the reality of terminology standardization shows a lot of exceptions, even contradictions as far as fundamental principles are concerned (among others, due to domain specific theories/ methods and pragmatic conventions in various subject fields). The following phenomena may lead us to question some of the "traditional" assumptions in the field of terminology:

- Often it is not clear, whether "classification" means "concept classification" or "theme classification" (ISO 197; ISO 15253) *(more often than not it is just terminology)*;
- Sometimes there is a differentiation between
  - o   general terms and definitions (ISO 197) and
  - o   specific terms and definitions
- There are all kinds of term collections in ISO terminology standards:
  - o   list of equivalent terms (ISO 194),
  - o   terms and symbols (ISO 701) and lists/tables of terms and symbols (ISO 561:1974),
  - o   botanical names, part of plant used as spice, common names (ISO 676),
  - o   multilingual table separate from definitions (ISO 6345),
  - o   terms, definition, formula or symbol (ISO 1151),
  - o   tables or matrixes (ISO 710),
  - o   profile (=term), measurement, graphical unit, short symbol, required measures (ISO 5261),
  - o   complex tables with terms, definitions, occurrences, characteristics/attributes… (ISO 10782) in a systematic form, where it has to be differentiated between types of characteristics…;
- Any kind of chemical or mathematical formula may occur in ISO standards (ISO 472) as well as any kind of shortened formula, symbols replacing a formula etc.;
- Generic names (ISO 2076) are side by side with short forms, characteristics (no definition) and examples for the generic;
- Even colours may be significant/characteristic (e.g. ISO 3864);
- Concept systems can be represented in many forms: classification (ISO 6621; ISO 4378 etc.) full-fledged concept system (ISO 8090);
- Terminology information belonging together may be split up in two or more chapters (ISO 10209).

Last but not least, all Latin and Greek characters plus some special characters (e.g. in mathematics) occur for instance in ISO 31:1992 (units etc.), and are re-used in many terminology standards; some or all of them may also occur as superscript or subscript (or both at the same slot), in bold form or in italics signifying different meanings, in simple or complex formulas, in figures (e.g. technical drawings) etc.

Some of these phenomena may be trivial issues stemming from layout features still governed by traditional print technology, others may be substantial also for terminological theory and methods. Therefore, the conclusion can be drawn that the hitherto prominently verbal-linguistic term-oriented approach to terminological data management may need some adaptation, which takes non-linguistic representations of concepts as fully equivalent to verbal-linguistic representations into account. Thus, a generic data model can be achieved, which is applicable to all kinds of "structured content" (here: content items at the level of concepts or lexical semantics – which in fact represent the most fundamental entities of scientific-technical knowledge) from the outset.

ISO standardized terminologies (and other kinds of standardized structured content) are essential for many purposes and applications. They are not only benefiting ISO itself, but also constitute a certain socio-political obligation to make them accessible as widely as possible. However, terminology standardization is not only a goal in itself (e.g. for the purpose of ensuring common understanding of details in standards), but has an impact on many existing or potential new applications. This is reinforced by ICT-driven globalization, which integrates more and more countries into world economy and affects all sectors of economy, society and walks of life – not to mention the processes occurring in standardization itself. On the other hand, products and services have
to be increasingly implemented in a way that allows for and facilitates the adaptation to local languages and cultural conventions – and also to new kinds of uses and re-uses. Hence, the growing importance of localization, which triggers the need to standardize the methods for a more efficient localization.

A web-based approach to support terminology standardization

Some new considerations have been put forth recently in various frameworks of ISO activities, which try to conceive elements of a system support for cost-efficient terminology standardization in the form of web-based distributed cooperative terminology work. A Wiki-type work-group system is proposed, supplemented by additional information system components (NOT just an additional template for terminology work within the framework of the preparation of subject standards) comprising (for each individual terminology standardization project):

- a ***discussion forum*** open to all (but contingent upon prior registration and in accordance with certain rules of good conduct) to discuss a limited number of closely related terminology entries (possibly in one lead language – not necessarily English) on the basis of terminological principles and methods which should be system-supported from the very beginning of the project (without making things too difficult for the experts);
- an ***easy-to-access bibliographic database*** with information on "qualified" sources suggested by the members of the discussion forum (by means of quality evaluation and verification/validation processes supported by the system – thus bibliographic entries can be made by anyone according to established rules, which would constitute a "validation and qualifying process" for suggested sources);
- a ***moderation group*** composed of a number of selected field experts (partly drawn from the respective TC[1] and also comprising some of the editors) to analyse and summarize (and evaluate) the essence of the contributions in preparation for decision making;
- an ***editorial group*** made up of decision makers from the respective TC to introduce consolidated entries (equivalent to CD[2] stage) on the basis of defined ToRs (terms of reference) and RoPs (rules of procedure) into the terminology collection of the respective TC, in preparation of a final decision on which entries will be integrated into the respective International Standard (other entries could/should be kept as "non-standardized" for future reference);
- a terminology database (either an extension of the planned ISO Concept Database or a dedicated system) with the following additional characteristics among others:
    - full compliance with the future ISO Concept Database data model,
    - history to many/most of the text fields plus extensive source information, reflecting the reasoning behind decisions in the process of terminology standardization (to be kept by the respective committee in order to save time wasted on recurring discussions in later stages of terminology standardization);
- an administration database with factual data on experts (their addresses and contact details, etc.), related institutions/organizations, etc.;
- other tools for the secretary/secretariat of the respective project.

Some of the above data are of no interest or value any longer, when the respective terminology reaches International Standard level, but will be of greatest importance again, when terminological data are revised in the respective standardization processes at committee level.

Additional support for terminology standardization

Additional support for terminology standardizing activities could be conceived and implemented fairly easily in the form of:

(1) Active and passive dissemination of information during the elaboration stage:
- All experts working in the same or in a related field identified on the basis of ICS (International Classification for Standards) could/should obtain the new terminology data at the level of CD (see item above) (*active*);
- All NMBs[3] and international liaisons could/should be informed of any new set of terminology entries, when these reach DIS level (similar to voting on standards (*active*);
- All experts could/should be informed about a new set of terminology entries, when these reach DIS level (*active*);
- General promotion of the existence of such a web-based cooperative work support system (*passive*);
- Cooperation with other organizations – such as UNESCO etc. – in promoting terminology standardization (*active/passive*);

(2) Other kinds of support:
- Online tutorial for terminology work (with links from various spots on the ISO portal – e.g. from the public folder of ISO/TC 37, from the ISO webpage of tools for standards developers, from UNESCO and other international liaisons, etc.);
- Regular (periodical or a-periodical) terminology standardization seminars offered by ISO;
- Distribution of information on "success stories" and experiences in various TCs as well as in collaborating external terminology groups (through the ISO Focus or in the form of or replacing the eNewsletter TSH – "Terminology Standardization and Harmonization" so far issued by Infoterm);
- ISO-internal assessment schemes (incl. for instance non-financial awards for outstanding results);

Federation

Federation is a new concept of linking portals and also data repositories, which goes far beyond the establishment of pointers or links, but reaches out to the level of semantic interoperability of data and data structures. Especially terminology and other kinds of structured content could be made to interoperate in the form of network(s) of federated databases:

- ISO NMBs (and possibly also international liaisons) could federate their databases in two ways:
  - by creating equivalents in the respective national language (under a minimum set of rules, but also under the respective body's responsibility),
  - by suggesting additional "national" or domain-specific entries as candidates for future standardization in ISO and provide feedback on ISO terminology entries (informal quality circuit);
- Depending on the rules in the network, NMBs can operate different business models for their terminologies (i.e. for ISO terminology in the national language and additional national terminology entries);
- ISO should provide a code for every entry (composed of a minimum set of information on the respective standard + a concept identifier), which should be extendable towards "national/local" versions of ISO terminology entries and can be extended towards identifying national terminology entries (thus, ISO would provide a copyright protection umbrella for its NMBs and cooperation partners in this scheme);
- Conventional (not federating) links could/should be established to external terminology holdings of high quality;
- Concerning access to the ISO/TB from within the network of federated repositories the following question may arise:
  - standards conformity and content interoperability assessment to be conducted by ISO?
    (possibly also as a service to outside organizations)
  - federation links to be reliably maintained by ISO?
  - special conditions negotiated for NMBs and committee experts?

Benefits of web-based terminology standardization and federation

Spin-off benefits to be reaped by the ISO Termbase and the information diffusion mechanisms surrounding it:
- ISO terminologies will find their way to many more users than today;
- Students and up-and-coming experts/scientists can be made familiar with standardization (raising future customers and collaborators);

- ISO offers an attractive system of non-obligatory cost-effective collaboration not only for terminology standardization, but for the promotion of standards at large;
- Improvement of the quality of standardized terminologies will lead to the improved content quality of standards' documents;
- Reference to available standards (possibly several indications even within one terminology entry) will reliably guide the user to those standards of highest interest to him/her.

The solution outlined above is conceived for the creation of rather small collections of terminological data for one narrow subject (sub)field. It does not and cannot replace the need for the planned ISO Concept Database (ISO/CBD). However, it would help to create larger numbers of reliable terminological entries, which could then be made publicly accessible through web-based terminology databases. If such a web-based work-group system is not an extension of the ISO/CBD, it must conform to the data model of the ISO/CBD in order to guarantee full semantic interoperability.

In this connection, it will have to be analysed, whether these new **workflow management methods** will have an impact on the index, text, attribute, system and other fields of the ISO/CBD data model or whether they will necessitate additional fields.

Literature

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UN/CEFACT/TBG17. Library Administration Procedures (Version 1.0) of 14 March 2006

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[1] ISO Technical Committee
[2] Committee draft
[3] ISO national member bodies

Thriving in the Content Management Age:
How Multilingual Technical Communicators and Localization Services Can Win in the Content Management Age

"The impact of content management on everyone working in information development and publication will be as dramatic as the introduction of word-processing software and the Web."

These words, written this year by Rahel Bailie, an associate fellow of the Society for Technical Communication, in an Intercom guest editorial, address the era of content management that is upon us.

The growth of unstructured information within companies is spiralling anywhere from 60 to 200 percent each year. Even at the lower end of the spectrum, the growth is dramatic. Companies need to manage all that information and are finally starting to spend the euros to do it right. Global content management systems oversee and organize all the information swirling around an international enterprise, including multilingual documentation and content.

What does the rise of content management mean for multilingual technical communicators and localization providers?

It's simple. Either jump on and become part of the solution or risk getting trampled by the herd.

Content management can no longer be considered a different, distinct industry. Content management systems are now sophisticated enough to take on multilingual content and not treat it as a separate entity. Units of content are just units of content—language simply becomes one of the many attributes of each content unit. Technical communicators, localization providers, translators and other professional services that have traditionally seen themselves as specialty

services must adapt to the content management age or risk becoming obsolete. To remain valuable and critical in the world of content management, consider the following:

Building Expertise and Broaden Services through Partnerships

Savvy businesses are increasing their value, not by maintaining specialty services, but by expanding through partnerships and the convergence of technologies. Here are two examples: First, companies that traditionally offered technical communications services alone have now begun to offer translation and localization services as well. Meanwhile, localization providers are approaching it from the other direction. They are applying their localization expertise earlier in the content life cycle by offering document design and content creation services. Rather than starting with a finished document, they are helping to author localization-friendly content. These trends will intensify in the content management age, and service providers must adapt or face extinction.

Industry associations, such as the Globalization and Localization Association (GALA) are dedicated to helping businesses connect, network and partner. In my own experience, I have attended numerous conferences to build relationships and partnerships—and, as a result, we have a stronger, more robust offering for our customers.

Elevating the Importance of Localization and Multilingual Content

The value of localized, multilingual content continues to grow as companies expand into new markets. The fact that content management systems easily manage multilingual content means that localization issues can and should be tackled early in the information lifecycle.
Service providers increase their value to their clients by addressing localization and multilingual content issues at the beginning of a product cycle or global initiative. Content that is localization-friendly from the outset will be quickly and efficiently localized when the time comes, cutting costs and, more importantly, time-to-market—a big benefit for any client.

Terminology management and structured authoring, integral parts of successful content management initiatives, manage the first language before other languages are even added to the project. The idea is to attack the first language and make it 'language friendly' using tools and processes that support unique, well-defined vocabulary and localization-friendly style rules. Terminology management and sensible style guidelines enable savvy technical writers and product developers to create the source text with localization in mind. This improves the quality of the translated text and greatly reduces the time required to localize that text.

Terminology management is especially important when core concepts, such as product names, are created for a new product or initiative.   I know of a company that had a five-word product name. Before proceeding to localization, the team analyzed the huge set of existing source-language product documentation and discovered that 56 variants had been used for the product name alone! The variations were simple—colons instead of semicolons, capitalization, words in different order, the year in different places—but the differences made consistent localization impossible. The team cleaned up the product name, enforced consistency and then completed the localization process by translating into 24 different languages. Imagine the savings!

Using terminology management in the early stages allows authors to make tiny changes that eliminate the need for major changes further along in the process. It's another way that multilinugal technical communicators and localization experts can work together and thrive in the content management age.

The new battle cry is: "Manage content as a corporate asset." And content management systems are becoming more sophisticated and all-encompassing in the ways they manage, leverage and protect this asset. As a multilingual technical communicator and/or a localization expert, you must understand that trend and evolve in order to remain relevant and successful.

Author: Leif Sonstenes has been active in localization and global business for more than twenty-five years in Europe and North America in various technical, marketing and sales roles. Leif currently works for Locatech GmbH in Dortmund, Germany in the role of marketing manager and can be reached at LeifS@locatech.com. Locatech GmbH is a GALA member company.

Global English is not enough for global business

English alone is not enough as a catalyst for business. This is one of the main conclusions of a major conference on linguistic skills and competitiveness "Languages mean business ", which took place in Brussels on 21 September 2007.

The event brought together over 250 representatives of small and large enterprises, trade organizations, chambers of commerce, policy makers and language professionals. Together, they explored the benefits that language abilities and intercultural skills bring to business enterprises. Although English will maintain its role as "lingua franca" in the business world, it is additional language skills, in combination with the relevant intercultural skills that can provide a competitive edge. The conference also launched a new **Business Forum on Multilingualism**, chaired by Viscount Davignon, which will examine how to make operational use of multilingualism to maximize business results. The first meeting will be held in Lisbon in November.

In his welcome speech, Leonard Orban, the European Commissioner for Multilingualism, explained the significance of the event: "This is a unique gathering: we have business and employee interests; language specialists and academics; policy makers; and interested individuals. It is a much-needed opportunity for all stakeholders to start a debate on languages and businesses which should trigger change in attitudes and bring real results."

The conference was convened following the results of research, published earlier this year[1], which shows that lack of language skills leads to loss of business. Companies that have a strategic approach to multilingual communication were shown to be able to boost their export sales by more than 40 % compared to their competitors without formal language strategies. The same study went on to show that even though English is in the top position as the "lingua franca" for international business, there is also increasing demand for other languages. While around one quarter of the companies surveyed felt that they still needed to improve their English, a similar proportion felt the need to expand into German or French, with Spanish and Russian also featuring prominently in the ranking. Many companies – particularly large ones - also stressed their need for non-European languages such as Chinese, Arabic and Urdu, as they seek to expand into non-European markets.

According to a recent study in the United Kingdom, the number of people worldwide who are learning English will peak at around 2 billion in the next 10-15 years. Contrary to popular belief, this is actually bad news for monolingual English speakers. A previous study, by the organization CILT (The National Centre for Languages), into the impact of language skills on the UK economy showed that UK companies export as much to Denmark, with a population of 5 million, as they do to Central and South America, with a population of 390 million.

[1] ELAN: Effects on the European Economy of Shortages of Foreign Language Skills in Enterprise

Source: IP/07/1368

French workers use language law to retain French in the office as firms favour use of English

Workers in France protesting against companies who have made English the dominant language in the workplace are successfully invoking a law that mandates the use of their native language in official documents.

The law, known as La loi Toubon after the government minister who piloted it, has led to one firm, General Electric Medical Systems, being fined Euros 580,000 (£406,000) for failing to translate company documents into French. In another case, an accountant had his complaint upheld that computer programmes were only available in English. The company, Europ Assistance, was ordered to get the programmes translated into French or face a Euros 5,000 (£3,500) fine for each day it failed to comply.

Workers are being supported in their claims by the Right to Work in French in France Collective, a lobby group that is waging a campaign against firms who seek to impose English at firms based in France. Jean-Loup Cuisiniez, a member of the group and an official with the CFTC trade union, said: "We are not against the English language, but against employers forcing it on their staff."

Source: http://www.PersonnelToday.com - Wednesday, 26 September 2007

Meetings

11th Annual Open Forum for Metadata Registries (OFMR)

Mark your calendar for the 11th Annual Open Forum for Metadata Registries. The next OFMR will be held on 19-22 May 2008 in Sydney, Australia.

More information on the programme will be available soon at: http://metadataopenforum.org/

CNCTST hosted the Second Conference on Chinese Terminology

On 8-10 August 2007, the China National Committee for Terms in Sciences and Technologies (CNCTST) and the Heilongjiang University hosted the Second Conference on Chinese Terminology in Harbin, China. About 40 experts from universities, publishing houses and CNCTST attended the conference.

During the conference, participants exchanged their views on Chinese terminology, in general, and on terminology theory, translation of terms in science and technology, and development of international terminology, in particular.

The Experts concluded that the following four tasks should be carried out in the future:

1) elaborate terminology principles for Chinese characters;

2) reinforce the Terminology Institute which has been set up by CNCTST and Heilongjiang University. It will take part in terminological activities not only at the national but also at the international level and attract more researchers in terminology;

3) establish a terminology research group with experts coming from different subjects and fields;

4) train, especially, young researchers in terminology.

For more information about this topic contact us: infoterm@infoterm.org

Innovations in Next Generation Networks – Future Network and Services

An ITU-T Kaleidoscope Event to be held at the International Telecommunication Union, Geneva, from 12 to 13 May 2008.

Innovations in Next Generation Networks (NGN) is the first in a series of academic conferences that aims at increasing the dialogue between academia and experts working on the standardization of information and communications technologies (ICT). By viewing technologies through a Kaleidoscope, these forward looking academic conferences will also seek to identify new topics for standardization.

Innovations in NGN will bring together visionary ideas on the future of NGN. It will highlight technologies, services and applications five years and beyond that will capitalize on the NGN infrastructure and lead to the ubiquitous network society in which information can be accessed anywhere and anytime by anyone and anything. The event will also cover multidisciplinary aspects related to the deployment of NGN, including analysis of regulatory and societal challenges.

Innovations in NGN is to inspire contributions towards a kaleidoscopic view of communication habits for the future. We know what NGN is in terms of the underlying technology, but we don't know what services will emerge, how NGN will affect the marketplace for ICT, and how society will be affected. To this end ITU is issuing a call for papers, a number of topics of interest are suggested in it.

For further information, see: http://www.itu.int/ITU-T/uni/kaleidoscope/

The LISA Lessius Forum 2007
on
Teaching Localization for Global Business Readiness

10-12 December 2007, Lessius University College, Antwerp, Belgium

Within the framework of the Forum, the Infoterm Member "TermNet" organizes a workshop entitled Standards and Certification in the Language Industry on 12 December.

In addition, the Executive Secretary of TermNet, Gabriele Sauberer, will speak in the afternoon of 11 December about

- The New European Standard "Translation Services – Service requirements" (EN 15038:2006) and its Relevance to Language Industry and Training, as well as about
- The "Language Industry Certification System LICS".

For the detailed LISA-Lessius Forum and Workshops Agenda, please see:
http://www.lisa.org/events/2007lessius/agenda.html

News

Winners of the Eugen Wüster Prize 2007

Alan K. Melby, Ph.D. from Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah, USA, won, together with María Teresa Cabré i Castellvi*, Ph.D. from Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona, Spain, this year's Eugen Wüster Prize.

The Eugen Wüster Prize is awarded every three years to personalities having an outstanding life record in the field of terminology. It was created by Infoterm ten years ago to honour the Austrian engineer, industrialist and often called "father of terminology science" Eugen Wüster, who's ideas were quite in line with the positivist scholars of science theory and applied linguistics of the first half of the 20th century.

Although he has not exactly introduce the word "*Terminology*", he started to study the problems of terminology systematically and published in 1931 results of his extensive research under the title "Internationale Sprachnormung in der Technik, besonders in der Elektrotechnik" [International standardization of language in engineering, especially in electrical engineering]. This book gave the impetus to worldwide terminological activities with the aim to establish rules and guidelines for harmonizing national and transnational terminology work. It lead to the development of a special interdisciplinary field called "Die Allgemeine Terminologielehre" [The general theory of terminology], which laid the scientific basis for terminology work. It deals with concepts, terms, relation concept – term, concept systems, unification of concepts and terms etc.

The second great achievement for terminology, done by Wüster, was the co-ordination of terminology work carried out throughout the world. In addition, he was heavily engaged in a great number of national and international projects related to applied linguistics (lexicography, conversion of languages, simplification of the German orthography , alphabetic filing rules), information and documentation, classification (especially the Universal Decimal Classification), standardization (especially standardization of terminology, lexicography and language symbols), library science as well as planned languages (Esperanto). He lived in Wieselburg (Lower Austria), where he had a research centre and elaborated a model for technical vocabularies, entitled "Machine Tool- an interlingual dictionary of basic concepts", which was commissioned by the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) of the United Nations (UN), and is still considered a standard work.

To read the laudation for Alan. K. Melby, see:
http://www.lisa.org/globalizationinsider/2007/08/dr_alan_melby_r.html

*The Prize will be presented to her at a later date, in Vienna, Austria.

UNESCO - A Summary of relevant Newsflashes: July 2007 – September 2007

In every issue Infoterm compiles the most interesting news clippings from the press. If you come across further sources, please let us know: infopoint@infoterm.org

CARIMAC and UNESCO to offer online media courses

29-06-2007 (Kingston) CARIMAC (Caribbean Institute of Media and Communication) offered for the first time three of its courses online through a partnership with UNESCO and the University of the West Indies Distance Education Centre (UWIDEC).
http://portal.unesco.org/ci/en/ev.php-URL_ID=24841&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html

Developing national strategies on FOSS in Central Asia

04-07-2007 (Almaty) A conference to promote free and open source software (FOSS) was held in Dushanbe, Tajikistan, from 6 to 7 July 2007.
http://portal.unesco.org/ci/en/ev.php-URL_ID=24837&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html

UNESCO Supports Caribbean Digital Libraries and Digital Repositories Workshop

12-07-2007 (Kingston) The National Library and Information System of Trinidad and Tobago (NALIS) in collaboration with The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization conducted the workshop; Caribbean Digital Libraries and Digital Repositories: Recent Initiatives and Future Development.
http://portal.unesco.org/ci/en/ev.php-URL_ID=24958&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html

Opening of the second meeting of the United Nations Group on the Information Society (UNGIS)

19-07-2007 (Paris) On Tuesday, 1
7 July 2007, the Director-General of UNESCO, Mr Koïchiro Matsuura, opened the second meeting of the United Nations Group on the Information Society (UNGIS) at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris, along with Mr Hamadoun Touré, Secretary-General of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and chairman of UNGIS.
http://portal.unesco.org/ci/en/ev.php-URL_ID=25060&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html

IAMCR's 50th Anniversary Conference opens today at UNESCO Headquarters

23-07-2007 (Paris) UNESCO and the International Association for Media and Communication Research (IAMCR) co-organized the IAMCR's 50th Anniversary Conference from 23 to 25 July 2007 at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris, France. The Conference theme was "Media, Communication, Information: Celebrating 50 Years of Theories and Practices".
http://portal.unesco.org/ci/en/ev.php-URL_ID=25068&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html

Just published: Initiating and Managing SchoolNets

27-07-2007 (Bangkok) Initiating and Managing SchoolNets is the third volume in the ICT in Education Lessons Learned series. This volume provides an overall summary of the lessons learned during the implementation of the UNESCO SchoolNet project, Strengthening the Use of ICT in Schools and SchoolNet in the ASEAN Context, which was funded by Japanese Funds-in-Trust (JFIT) and the ASEAN
http://portal.unesco.org/ci/en/ev.php-URL_ID=25092&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html

UNESCO launches ICT-in-Education online community

01-08-2007 (Bangkok) As part of a new "Knowledge Communities" project, UNESCO Office in Bangkok has launched an online ICT-in-Education community: an interactive forum which welcomes educators, teachers, administrators, policy makers and others to share their ideas and opinions on topics relating to the use of ICT in education.
http://portal.unesco.org/ci/en/ev.php-URL_ID=25108&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html

Knowledge acquisition is changing radically, UNESCO Declaration states

02-08-2007 (Bonn) Knowledge acquisition and sharing will increasingly be technology mediated, and traditional educational processes will be revolutionized, said experts at a UNESCO organized event in Kronberg, Germany, recently.
http://portal.unesco.org/ci/en/ev.php-URL_ID=25109&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html

Building National Information Policies: Experiences in Latin America

27-08-2007 (Kingston) "Building National Information Policies: Experiences in Latin America" is the title of a new book launched by the UNESCO Office in Kingston at the Association of University, Research and Institutional Libraries (ACURIL) conference held on 5-11 June in Puerto Rico.
http://portal.unesco.org/ci/en/ev.php-URL_ID=25184&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html

Call for entries: Innovative Practices Awards

31-08-2007 (Bangkok) Do you use ICT in your teaching or in your education work? Are you using it in an innovative way? If so, you might be eligible for an award from UNESCO Bangkok! Entries are now being accepted for consideration for the Innovative Practices Awards. The closing date for entries is 31 October 2007
http://portal.unesco.org/ci/en/ev.php-URL_ID=25216&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html

Open Education Search: initiative supported by UNESCO

03-09-2007 (Paris) The Hewlett Foundation, ccLearn (Creative Commons' educational division) and Google are working together to build an open education web-scale search, part of a larger effort to offer web users simple, overarching mechanisms for discovering open educational resources (OERs).
http://portal.unesco.org/ci/en/ev.php-URL_ID=25236&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html

New Director of UNESCO's Information Society Division

04-09-2007 (Paris) Miriam Nisbet, an information law expert from the USA, has just taken office as Director of UNESCO's Information Society Division. Ms Nisbet succeeds Elizabeth Longworth, of New-Zealand, who now heads the Office of UNESCO's Director-General.

http://portal.unesco.org/ci/en/ev.php-URL_ID=25242&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html

Just published: A Reader on ICT Planning for Development

06-09-2007 (Manila) The second edition of the Reader on Information and Communication Technology Planning for Development has been published by the Asian Institute of Journalism and Communication (AIJC) and the National Commission of the Philippines for UNESCO with support from Intel and Microsoft.

http://portal.unesco.org/ci/en/ev.php-URL_ID=25261&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html

IFAP launches an online database of projects

07-09-2007 (Paris) Over five hundreds projects submitted to the Information for All Programme (IFAP) for funding are now made available for consultation on IFAP website.

http://portal.unesco.org/ci/en/ev.php-URL_ID=25314&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html

2007 Jikji Prize awarded to Austria's Phonogrammarchiv

11-09-2007 (Paris) In an impressive ceremony held on 4 September 2007 in Cheongju City, in the Republic of Korea, the Phonogrammarchiv of the Austrian Academy of Sciences formally received the UNESCO/Jikji Memory of World Prize certificate and cheque.

http://portal.unesco.org/ci/en/ev.php-URL_ID=25344&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html

An updated release of WEBLIS now available

21-09-2007 (Paris) The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) financially supported a new release of WEBLIS, a free-of-charge Web based Library Integrated System based on CDS/ISIS.

http://portal.unesco.org/ci/en/ev.php-URL_ID=25403&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html