MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FIAF DOCUMENTATION COMMISSION HELD IN WIESBADEN,
12-15 NOVEMBER 1985

Present: Karen Jones, Alfred Krautz, Ron Magliozi, Michael Moulds, Aura Puran,
Rui Brito, Eberhard Spiess, Milka Staykova, Francis Thorpe, Yana Vosikovska.
Apologies: Michelle Snapes.

1. Presentation of new members
Rui Brito of the Cinemateca Portuguesa in Lisboa and Ron Magliozi of the
Museum of Modern Art in New York were welcomed as new members. Michelle
Snapes of the National Film Archive in London.

2. Adoption of the Agenda
The draft agenda for the meeting was adopted.

3. Approval of the minutes of the following meetings and guidelines
3.1 PIP Working Group, Plovdiv 27-30 March 1984 and Lisboa, 29-31 October 1984:
These were approved by the PIP Working Group prior to the full commission
meeting on 12 November.
3.2 Classification Scheme Working Group meeting, Copenhagen, 1-6 June 1984 and
Copenhagen, 28 January-1 February 1985: approved without comment.
3.3 Documentation Commission, Plovdiv 29-30 March 1984: Corrections – page 2-4
(§5) changes made at the meeting of the PIP Working Group held in Lisboa,
29-31 October 1984 were distributed and approved; page 7 (§11) "... and £700
for publicity for FIAF and the Index in 1985."
3.4 International Directory of Cinematographers, Set and Costume Designers in Film
Working Group, Stockholm, 3-8 July 1984 and Athens 2-4 October 1984: Approved
without additional comment.
3.5 Approval of working groups guidelines: "Working Group Guidelines" were approved
without comment. "Guidelines for the Work of Commissions..." approved with
clarification of budget points page 4 (§7 and 8). Do other commissions submit
formal accounts? The Secretariat does not regularly approve budgets in a
formal way. Milka submits a formal request and is told informally what the
Documentation Commission will receive.

4. Information about Executive Committee and annual Congress meetings
4.1 Milka reported on the Vienna and New York Congresses in regard to the Documenta-
tion Commission:
–Dr. Guido Cincotti expressed appreciation for the work of PIP. No new
subscribers or monies resulted.
–UNESCO support for PIP has not developed. Several proposals have failed
due to problems with UNESCO funding sources. These proposals were that
a) UNESCO purchase PIP for developing countries, and b) UNESCO buys annual
volumes for developing countries.
–A request was made in the name of several Latin American Countries for
representation on the Documentation Commission. Milka expressed support for
the idea but wondered about travel prohibitions which might be encountered
by a Latin American member. The problem is being considered by
–Members were asked to consider plans for the display of FIAF publications
at the Canberra Congress in 1986.
4.2 Michael reported on the Executive Committee meeting in London, October 1985.
He provided a tour and demonstration of the PIP facilities for a number of
Committee members, and explained various problems.
5. Report from the editor on the International Indexes to Film and Television
Periodicals
5.1 The 1983 paperback annual edition was condemned by subscribers for its printing
quality. Future volumes will be published in hardcover once again.
5.2 Microfiche service:
   a) will continue to cross-reference only with the last volume;
   b) a director's index has been added following Jana's suggestion;
   c) poor quality of some of the fiche is due to use of colored stock left over
      from the card service. When current stock runs out a light colored card will be used;
   d) since the announcement that the cumulative fiche edition 1979-1984 was for sale,
      only four orders have been sold.

5.3 Annual Volume distribution: The API and the Australian Film Institute have
   dropped out of distribution. St. James Press has taken over distribution. We do
   not know the whereabouts of approximately 50 copies of each volume which
   were held by the Australian Film Institute.

5.4 Publicity:
   a) a new order form has been printed to which eight archives have responded;
   b) selective publicity mailings will be done in 1986. St James Press has done
      7800 mailings of their catalogue which features PIP publications. Michael will
      see that St James Press gets a copy of the FIAF members mailing list for public-
      lity purposes.

5.5 Support:
   a) discussed the notion of accepting advertisements in PIP. It was acknowledged
      that while this might be an ideal solution, we should keep in mind PIP's limited
      circulation and the need for an expanded staff to handle advertising. St James
      could perhaps become involved. This issue to be reconsidered in the future;
   b) while Michael no longer sends out annual volumes he will continue to invoice
      archives for the costs of sending out copies;
   c) price changes following on the advice of St James are Film Volume $60.00 (USA)
      and $37.50, TV Volume $37.50 (USA) and $25.00. The new pricing scheme will apply
      to back volumes.
   d) PIP has sixteen supporters at present. The original support agreement runs out
      in 1986 and a request for continuation of support was sent in September 1985.
      Only seven of the original supporters have agreed to continue their support.
      We must work to increase the numbers of supporters if the project is to continue.
   e) the notion of raising funds through an appeal for financial support from
      wealthy individuals in the film industry, such as Martin Scorsese or Steven
      Spielberg was raised. We should seek out those individuals who have expressed
      an interest in the documentation aspects of film and television history. It was
      suggested to Michael that he draw up a presentation which would explain the
      history of PIP, its value, what PIP needs from these individuals, and what
      PIP would offer them in return. This idea should be explored further in the
      future;
   f) a questionnaire is to be sent to FIAF subscribers and non-subscribers con-
      cerning PIP usage. It will be accompanied by a brochure of PIP indexes and a
      core letter.

5.6 Computerization:
   Since INFODOC is leaving its Shaftesbury Ave office probably in March/April 1986,
   PIP has been exploring alternatives for future computerization. The most
   desirable alternative would be to put the index on an independent basis by
   obtaining its own computer. The Executive Committee has suggested that PIP
   borrow $6,500 from them. To be paid back in installments of $1,500 the first
   year and $1,000 in proceeding years. A grant to hire a consultant was applied
   for in the "Proposals to the Executive Committee from the PIP Working Group"
   in November 1985.

5.7 Indexing:
   a) discussed with Eberhard the prospect of dropping Filmkritik in favor of
      Film or Spectrum as periodicals indexed by Deutsches Institut fur Filmkunde.
      Eberhard agreed to approach Filmfaust for free copies;
   b) beginning in 1986 all Variety obituaries will be indexed;
   c) Rui explained that the problem of non-coverage of Portugese Cinema in
PIP was due to the fact that there were no periodicals worthy of indexing. It was suggested that reviews of films from Portuguese newspapers might be indexed, however since a newspaper is not a film periodical it should not be indexed by PIP. A further suggestion was made that if the Cinematheca Portuguese could produce a film periodical of its own which might simply reproduce reviews from Portuguese newspapers, then PIP could index such a periodical. Rui agreed to research the possibility of such an archive publication.

d) the following periodicals were considered for inclusion in PIP:
- Argentina Cine - not without an indexer,
- Critical Arts (South Africa) - what is FIAF's position on South Africa?
- Apply to Brigitte to see whether FIAF sells its publications in South Africa?,
- Cineaction (Toronto) - to be reconsidered next year if it survives,
- Filmharmonische Blätter (GW) - worthwhile, but not without an indexer,
- Formato Diecisesi (Panama) - worthwhile, but not without an indexer,
- Persistence of Vision (USA) - Ron will look into the possibility of copies for indexing,
- Sightlines (USA) - Ron will look into finding an indexer,
- TV-Radio Age (UK) - unresolved, Michael has no time to do the indexing himself.


6.1 Publication Schedule:
- the 1985 volumes should be available by February 1986. These are Volume Five, 'Scandinavian Countries' (Finland, Denmark, Sweden and Norway) and Volume Six, 'Supplement 1'.
- the 1986 volumes will be Volume Seven, 'Central European Countries' (Austria, Czechoslovakia, Hungary and Switzerland) and Volume Eight, 'Italy'.
- in 1988 the volume on Soviet cinema is expected. It will be a major volume including 200 cinematographers.

6.2 Research:
- a) Criticism of Vol. Two, 'France' (see 6.3) raised the issue of how future research for this project should be handled. Too much of the actual research done on the first volumes has been the work of the series co-ordinators Alfred and Eberhard, and without adequate, responsible help from the appropriate national archives. It was proposed that in the future we should publish volumes only when a national archive(s) supplies the filmographical information. In this way, if the information in a particular volume is found to be lacking in completeness or accuracy, at least some part of the blame would go to the archive(s) and not exclusively to the Documentation Commission. It was agreed that future volumes should ideally be submitted to the appropriate national archive for review and correction before publication.
- Alfred pointed out that we must not forget our obligation to the publisher, who is pleased with the series and is willing to publish more than two volumes a year.
- b) It was pointed out that the pressures to produce these volumes has lead to some abuse of the proper research procedures, such as the delegation of research on the Swedish filmography to the Romanian Archive.

6.3 Reviews:
- a) Reviews of the series have generally been positive. Of the twenty-three reviews collected, only one was a negative review, and this appeared in Positif. The critic raised serious questions concerning the volume's accuracy and omissions. Alfred reported that the French archives did not provide adequate assistance on this volume. Although a corrected second edition was suggested, Eberhard stated that additions and corrections were more properly published in the 'Supplement' volumes which will be published
after each fifth national volume. He also suggested that we write to the Positif critic and thank him for his corrections.

b) Alfred reported that a survey of users has established that 90% use the series to verify date and titles in addition to seeking information regarding cinematographers.

6.4 US Volume:
The volume on the USA is the most requested by the publisher, and remains the biggest problem for the series co-ordinators, who have yet to locate an archive willing to handle the research. Although the AFI in Los Angeles or the Library of Congress in Washington, DC are the best suited, it was suggested that perhaps it might be feasible to assign various US archives the task of researching filmographies by decade. Ron agreed that he would be willing to assume the duties of volume co-ordinator after he has completed work on the 'Embryo' project.

6.5 Finance:
It was agreed in principle that free copies of the volumes might perhaps be made available to those members of the project, such as Alfred and Bujor, who must spend their own time and money to work on the series. It was further agreed that Alfred should apply to the Secretariat for money to finance his trips to the publisher in Munich. Finally, it was agreed in principle that if we have money we might also help finance Bujor's work on the project, although he is not a commission member.

7. Revised Edition of the FIAF Classification Scheme for Literature on Film and Television

7.1 A draft copy of the revised edition was distributed. Karen summarized the history of the revision process: The first draft of the second revised edition was presented in early 1984. It was discussed in Copenhagen and decided that a second draft was needed. This second draft was discussed in Lisboa in 1984. Additional meetings were held in Copenhagen in May and October of 1985 to discuss the third and fourth draft of selected sections. Karen has been sending out drafts of various sections to date of Wiesbaden meeting. Sections 8 and 9 have not been revised yet. The Classification Working Group will conduct the remainder of its business through the mail and by phone. Michael has agreed to do an index, but he will need a word processor.

7.2 The main changes in the revised edition are as follows:
a) film and TV merged throughout the scheme.
b) subject headings have been moved to the Genre section, for example 'War in Films' has become part of the listing 'War Films.' This is with the exception of sociological subjects such as 'War and the Cinema' which will continue to be used.
c) adopt UDC practice. In the "0" section generalities will remain but reference is removed.
d) the published edition will have the notes facing the page in question and not placed in a special section in the back of the volume as had previously been done.

7.3 Revised drafts:
The usefulness of allowing users to comment on advance copies of revised drafts was discussed. Although it was agreed that this was a desirable practice, Karen stated that she would prefer to send letters documenting progress on the project rather than the drafts themselves.

7.4 Publication Plans:
a) two versions of the scheme will be published. The first will be for users in a loose-leaf form so that additions can be made. It will also feature more information on how to implement the scheme. The second will be a bound edition for the general public. Michael has approached ASLIB to set up a publication deal, but has had no response to date;
b) the cost of the editions has not been established due to the question of whether a computer will be available;
c) the possibility of selling the 'Users' edition to the general public was discussed. It was decided that we should advertise it in the 'General Public' edition. The general public would purchase the 'Users' edition from PIP so that FIAF could keep track of who its users were;
d) the classification scheme is not at present closely related to the 'Subject Headings for Film and TV' used for PIP indexing, but Michael does plan to once again correlate the two systems in a future edition of the 'Subject Headings for Film and TV.'

8. Third Edition of the 'International Directory of Film and Television Documentation Sources'.

8.1 Progress:
Frances reported that of the 250 questionnaires she sent out to Film and TV organizations in September 1985, she has received 60 replies. She is pursuing further replies and sending out revised inquiries. For those organizations which do not reply, she will republish the original entry.

8.2 Editing will continue between January and April 1986. A publication date of June 1986 is projected.

8.3 Due to problems cited above the project is over budget. Frances believes that St. James Press will provide some money. A joint FIAF/St. James publication is being considered. At the very least St. James will list the publication in their catalogue.

8.4 Frances will try to get free copies for FIAF members, although this was not possible with the second edition.

9. Revision of the Documentation Department Chapter in the 'Handbook for Film Archives'.

9.1 Karen reported that the deadlines set by Eileen Bowser for the revised edition would not be met. While the Cataloguing Commission has submitted their contribution, the Preservation and the Documentation Commissions have not.

9.2 Whether television should be mentioned in the handbook or not was discussed. It was agreed that television should be mentioned, although it was not decided how extensively it should be incorporated into the new edition. Should it be included in the bibliography? This question and others related to television will be pursued with Eileen by Frances.

10. International Bibliography of Theses and Dissertations.

10.1 Milka explained that the 'International Bibliography' was first published in the Fall of 1982. FIAF supplies the information to Dr. Raymond Fielding at the University of Houston, and it is published in the Journal of Film and Video (formerly: The Journal of the University Film and Video Association). The second edition is to be published in the Winter 1985 or the Spring 1986 issue of the periodical.

10.2 Archives participating include those in Brazil, Bulgari, Canada (Ottawa and Montreal), Denmark, England, EDR, Finland, Hungary, Mexico (UNAM), the Netherlands, and the U.S.S.R. Contributions are not received from Norway, Poland or Sweden.

10.3 Eberhard asked if Dr. Fielding had a copy of Volker Spiess' volume on German film dissertations from the beginning through the 1960's. Milka agreed to check with Dr. Fielding.

11. List of National and International Abstracting and Indexing Sources.

11.1 Jana circulated two lists of 31 printed and 16 online database sources for locating film and television material published in non-film periodicals. This task was undertaken in response to a request made at the Stockholm Congress in 1983 (see: Plovdiv 27-30 March minutes #12) that PIP index film and television material published in non-film periodicals.
11.2 Yana detailed her research. The original plan had been to distribute the results of her work to FIAF members and then include in the 'Handbook for Film Archives'. It was decided instead to, first, distribute to archives so they might check and add information; second, include in the FIAF bibliography; and finally, when it has been updated, it will be published in the annual FIAF volume as an appendix.

11.3 Yana and Frances are to work on devising a new title for the project.

12.1 Aura explained that this is being prepared for the FIAF 50th Anniversary in Paris 1988. The original plan was for it to be included in the proposed FIAF Anniversary booklet. (According to Eileen, January 1986, this booklet will not be produced.)

12.2 Aura circulated a draft outline and members commented as follows:

"1) Why a Documentation Commission?" - date should be 1969 or 1970 not 1972;

"2) Organization." - appendix should include lists of all Documentation Commission members past and present including vice-presidents and presidents, a list of all D.C. publications including 'Guidelines for the Work of Commissions' and 'FIAF D.C. Working Group Guidelines'; list of all full meetings, list of all working group meetings and workshops.

"Budget" will only provide information concerning general sources of funding i.e. NEA, Bulgarian Ministry of Culture, but not specific figures;

"3) Main Goals." - the first should be "to coordinate the efforts of people working in the Documentation departments" and the second should be "to help the archives, especially the young ones."

"4) Activities" and "5) Extension to the Exterior" should be combined into one section:

- discussion of PIP should cite BFI award, discuss its history, mention microfiche accumulated volumes, cite indexers who actually do the work, mention financial difficulties in general terms only. Karen and Michael should supply Aura with information and check this section;

- use the forward to the published 'Classification Scheme for Film and TV Literature' as the source for information on the scheme;

- the 'Bibliography of FIAF Publications' should not be included in the history of the D.C.;

- summer schools on documentation should be listed in an appendix;

- "the feasibility study for UNESCO" should be mentioned in "6) Facing New Needs";

- a statement should be written at this point in the history to explain that the work of the D.C. is aimed at a larger audience than FIAF alone. All FIAF projects are designed for an 'outside' user as well;

"6) Facing New Needs." - we might consider combining this with parts 4 and 5 of the history;

"7) The Future" and "8) Conclusion" should be combined and handled briefly.

12.3 Plans for this project should proceed as follows:

a) Aura will prepare a rough draft in French during January/February 1986,
b) Eileen Bowser and Brenda Davis will be asked to review this draft and offer advice,
c) Michelle will translate into English and Frances will review the translation,
d) copies of the draft will be sent to the D.C. members and within one month of receiving the draft members should send their comments to Aura.

13.1 The following changes and amendments to the minutes of the joint meeting are:

"1)" no comment

"2)" the final draft of the glossary should be translated into as many other languages as possible by FIAF archives, and the results published by FIAF
"3" Frances has not yet circulated an outline of the guidelines, but agrees to do so soon. Frances also agreed to draft a letter to the Cataloguing Commission on the 'serious' subject of country abbreviations. It will be attached to these minutes when they are sent to Harriet.

On the subject of country codes, it was noted that PIP is already using a different set of codes than those adopted by the Cataloguing Commission. We cannot determine where the Cataloguing Commission got these codes. The D.C. wishes to express its regret that the Cataloguing Commission adopted a different set of codes than those being used by the D.C., especially after the joint meeting in Plovdiv. Because of the various drawbacks of just using country letters for archives, we suggest that the Cataloguing Commission reconsider its use of this new system of codes.

"4" no comment.

"5" Karen will write to Eileen to be certain that the Cataloguing Commission has sent material related to 'rules in use' for inclusion in the new edition of the handbook. If they have not done so, we suggest that they draw up such a bibliography.

"6" no comment.

"7" no comment.

"8.1" Michael did not receive a copy of the questionnaire on computers. He will contact Roger Smithers.

"8.2" no comment.

"8.3" D.C. members should examine the 'Bibliography' and send Marta any additions they have. If Harriet is circulating requests for more information to archives, she should address requests to the Documentation Departments as well as the Cataloguing Departments.


14.1 This refers to "12a" in Plovdiv minutes. It is dealt with in #11 above;

14.2 This refers to "12b Setting up a bibliographical file of articles on film archives' activities appearing in cultural magazines" in Plovdiv minutes. We are not certain that Brigitte has in fact begun collecting such material. Michael has a small file himself. Nothing further planned at this time.

14.3 Aura suggested a bibliography of all books or chapters in books (not to include FIAF publications), important articles and large news items (except those dealing with an archive's season of film screenings) related to archival activities. This is to be completed for FIAF anniversary in 1988. Aura volunteered to coordinate this project. She will use Michael's list based on PIP and Yans's bibliography as a basis. She will develop for the Documentation Commission's consideration a draft bibliography by country which will include all FIAF members and observers and only FIAF member and observer archives. This will be accompanied by a draft circular letter. The D.C. will decide at this point if the project should continue. Milka will introduce the project to the Executive Committee in her report, as we will eventually be asking the E.C. to help us publish.

14.4 This refers to "12c" of the Plovdiv meeting and was rejected for the time being.

14.5 This refers to "12d" of the Plovdiv meeting and was deemed to be an "impossible" project.

14.6 Frances suggested that a revision of the 'Guidelines for Describing Unpublished Script Materials' be considered. Ron has agreed to draft a questionnaire to be sent to archives to evaluate the need for revisions. It was agreed that if revised the guidelines should include television materials.

14.7 It was suggested that a union list of film and TV periodicals held by FIAF archives be compiled. The D.C. agreed that a letter should be sent to archives to ascertain whether they have already compiled such a list of their periodical
holdings and if not whether they are willing to draw one up for this project. The task of composing this letter was not assigned.

14.8 Rui suggested that a second series of filmographies be undertaken as an addition to the first series on Cinematographers, Set- and Costume Designers. This second series would cover screenwriters, composers and editors. A subcommittee composed on Rui, Alfred and Aura was formed. They will explore the possibility of a Lisbon/FIAF co-publication. Alfred will discuss the proposal with the publisher Saur in Munich. The subcommittee will report on progress at our next meeting.

14.9 Eberhard suggested a book on adaptations. He has agreed to think further on the possibility of such a project.

14.10 Ron suggested that 'Guidelines for Describing Poster Materials' should be developed. He will compose a questionnaire designed to evaluate the need for such guidelines. It will be sent to FIAF archives with the questionnaire referred to in 14.6.

15. Reports by Commission Members.

15.1 Alfred reported on his duties as Head of Documentation, and how recent reorganization will require that another person become involved in FIAF duties.

15.2 Eberhard reported on the move of Deutsche Institut fur Filmmunde to Frankfurt, and on cataloguing of books, stills, films and scripts. He will provide D.C. members with copies of an article which appeared in Medium on periodical holdings in West German film libraries.

15.3 Karen reported on librarian and clerical positions at Det Danske Filmuseum, and on finances related to book acquisition, the use of computers and videodisc storage systems.

15.4 Ron reported on the relation of the Film Study Center to the Department of Film and other departments in the Museum of Modern Art. He also gave a progress report on the 'Embryo Project.'

15.5 Rui reported on budgetary and space problems, including government reorganization and how it might affect the Cinemateca Portuguesa.

15.6 Yana reported on the Canadian government's request for a 20% cut in staff. The library could lose two people. She also reported on the use of computers for cataloguing since July 1985. She promised copies of the 'Film Canadiana Index 1980-1982' to FIAF members upon publication.

15.7 Frances reported on microfiching project, recently acquired special collections of Marie Seton and Ivor Montagu papers, and on the new paper storage building to be completed in January 1987. Also reported on the use of word processors and plans for computerization.

15.8 Aura reported on the effects of serious budget cuts on staff, on PIP indexing duties and on the cataloguing of existing holdings. She made a plea for duplicate books and periodicals.

15.9 Milka reported on problems related to the acquisition of equipment and on the activities of the scholar Kostadin Kostov who has been doing complete bibliographies and filmographies of film in Bulgaria. He is working under contract with the archive.

16. Relations with other International Organizations.

16.1 Workshop on Documentation, Sao Paulo, October 22-25, 1984: Yana distributed notes which she reviewed. Her conclusions were

a) that although FIAF cannot play an active role in the activities of the Latin American archives at this time, it should help circulate information gathered by these archives as well as basic FIAF literature;

b) that FIAF should be willing to make field specialists available to these archives in the future, and;

c) that the language barriers between FIAF and the Latin American archives are an impediment that must be considered in all exchanges of resources, especially published material.
16.2 FIAT Congress: Frances reported on the computer demonstrations conducted by the film and video libraries in Spain, Spanish TV and the BBC. She announced that non-TV organizations may now join FIAT. Write to Fernando Labrada for details.

17.1 Michael estimated the cost for the publication of the new edition of 'Subject' and 'Classification' schemes for film and TV as £800 for 200 copies of each volume.
17.2 We will ask FIAT to finance and publish the 'History of the Documentation Commission.' No estimate of costs is available at this time.
17.3 (see also "Future Meetings" below.)

18. Future Meetings.
18.1 Cinematographer, Set- and Costume Designers Working Group meeting planned for Pordenone or Rome to involve Alfred, Eberhard and Bujor. 18,400 Belgium francs estimated travel expenses for Alfred and Bujor.
18.2 Classification Working Group is tentatively set for London in January 1986 to involve Karen and Michael. Karen hopes to get expenses paid by FIAT and Det Danske Filmmuseum. Estimated cost for Karen to London is 12,000 Belgium francs.
18.3 The next Documentation Commission meeting: Eberhard will explore the possibility of an invitation to Pordenone in early October 1986 for three days/four nights stay. Money will need to be budgeted for Alfred, Aura and Milka (a total of twelve nights). Estimated cost is 27,600 Belgium francs.
18.4 FIAT Congress in Canberra, April 11-15: The cost for Milka to attend should be figured on an eight night stay to qualify for a discount airfare. Estimated cost is 30,500 Belgium francs.
18.5 Estimated cost for Alfred to travel to Munich and meet with the publisher, Saur, is 9,200 Belgium francs.
18.6 Total of above figures is 99,700 Belgium francs.

19. Other Business.
19.1 Alfred questioned PIP abbreviations for Estonia and Romania. He also asked for general revisions of the PIP country codes.
19.2 While the Documentation Commission is at its limit of eleven members, we acknowledge that both the Latin American and Czechoslovakian archives have asked for representation on the commission.
19.3 D.C. members are asked to bring their photographs of past commission meetings to our meeting in 1986.

Minutes prepared by R. Magliozi