

REPORT OF THE DOCUMENTATION COMMISSION TO THE ANNUAL CONGRESS

Paris, May 1 - 5, 1988

Membership

The new commission has been approved by the Executive Committee and is composed at present of five members, Michelle Snapes, National Film Archive, London (President); Ron Magliozzi, Film Department, Museum of Modern Art, New York (Vice-President), René Beauclair, Cinémathèque Québécoise, Noëlle Giret, Cinémathèque Française, Karen Jones, Danish Film Museum, and one observer Michael Moulds [P.I.P., FIAF]. We are proposing to nominate in the near future, two additional members.

Members of the old commission were heartily thanked for the past contributions and the President will be writing a personal letter to each of them.

The members of the old commission were invited to review and summarize for the benefit of the new members, how they perceive the role and effectiveness of the Documentation Commission. This resulted in varied and inspiring contributions.

Projects and tasks

At our first meeting in Paris, we have discussed the following projects and tasks of the old commission which we feel should be continued :

- Revised edition of the FIAF Classification Scheme for Literature on Film and Television
(Karen Jones and Michael Moulds)

The printed version of the second revised edition will now be published in 1989 by ASLIB. Compilation of the subject index to the classification is now being undertaken in Copenhagen and further editing of the classification will take place in the autumn.

- International Directory of Film and Television Documentation Sources

The third edition edited by Frances Thorpe, BFI, has just been published by St James Press and has been mailed to all FIAF members. Work on the next edition will be carried on by René Beauclair.

- Guidelines for the description, handling and storage of poster materials and Guidelines for describing unpublished script materials
(Noëlle Giret and Ron Magliozzi)

After discussion, it was agreed that we will not undertake to update the previous guidelines but instead survey and study the international rules and standards as published in the AACR II and the various adaptations in use among member archives. Our aim will be to provide a summary of these rules to facilitate the application.

- International Indexes to Film and Television Periodicals (PIP)
All were agreed that the PIP was the most important project achieved by the past Commission. The new Commission pledged to function as a support group in the continuation of its work. As a new Commission we see our first priority as being that of helping to improve the training of personnel amongst archives by organizing workshops, ect. We also wish to improve personal contact and exchanges around the world and work in close collaboration with the Cataloguing Commission.

Michelle Snapes
President