

FIAF DOCUMENTATION COMMISSION

PIP Subcommittee

Minutes of the meeting held April 26-29 1981 Copenhagen

Participants:

Members: Eileen Bowser
Karen Jones
John Luijckx
Milka Staykova

Observers: Maria Dolores Devesa, Madrid
Michael Moulds, PIP
Frances Thorpe, BFI

1. the Minutes of the last meeting of the PIP Subcommittee held May 8-9, 1980, Bruges were read and approved

2. Documents tabled:

- a) Proposal from the BFI for the future of the PIP
- b) Proposal from the BFI for the Unesco centre
- c) Proposal from Film Literature Index/SUNYA for the management of the FIAF card services
- d) Letter from Eileen concerning possibilities for the future of the PIP sent to Documentation Commission members
- e) Letter from Eileen to FIAF subscribers to the PIP asking for support for a cooperative to guarantee future PIP deficits
- f) Draft syllabus for the Madrid workshop prepared by Karen
- g) Summary of the questionnaires for the Madrid workshop prepared by Lars
- h) Spanish translation of the Moulds/FIAF Classification scheme prepared by the Madrid archive

3. Future of the PIP

Eileen summarised the possibilities outlined in documents a) - e)
A long discussion followed centering mainly around the four main options:

- a) formation of a cooperative of subscribers who would be asked to guarantee any deficit up to about BF 308,000 pa from 1982 until 1986
- b) the BFI proposal offering to continue the Indexes as before and meet annual deficits up to £4000
- c) the Canadian National Film, TV & Sound Archives offer of housing the Indexes free in Ottawa
- d) proposal 2(c)

Major problems discussed included the signing of a new lease for the original (West) office and the 5-year commitment which this entailed; how changes might be reacted to by indexers; the disruption which would be caused by 2(c) and 3(c); the fears of losing control of the Indexes if 2(a) was accepted; possibility of using David Francis' spare rooms instead of renewing the lease;

Michael expressed his dissatisfaction with the work load which prevented the more professional aspects of the editor's job from being properly carried out. The extra work of the TV Index which raises some £4,500 strains the Film Index. He also proposed that a summer school for indexers would be very valuable.

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Frances outlined the BFI proposal and was asked to guarantee that no editorial changes could be made unless agreed by the Steering Committee which would have a casting vote facility for the FIAF Index. After consultation with Gillian Hartnoll these items were agreed.

It was finally agreed that the subcommission wished to propose the following order to the E.C.:

- a) formation of a cooperative of (FIAF) subscribers (ref.2(e))
- b) transfer of the Indexes to Ottawa (ref.3(c))
- c) BFI proposal (ref.2(a))

Eileen undertook to present the subcommission's list to the E.C. at Rapallo. She and Michael would lobby members for support for the cooperative proposal.

4. Non-paying archives

Three letters had been received from Poland, the USSR and the GDR. It was agreed to continue to send the 8 free services for 1981. As a letter had been sent to these 8 archives concerning the possibility of their paying a token £100 pa it was felt that Michael should write to them explaining the situation for 1981.

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5. Infodoc Services Ltd

Frances presented a letter stating Infodoc's status as a sub-tenant of the new (East) office. At present they are paying 30% of costs associated with this office (except electricity where they pay 80%). They are willing to pay 50% from the next set of bills.

Infodoc would like to continue this arrangement if the lease is renewed next year, and would appreciate early warning if FIAF was not renewing the lease so that they could consider taking over the whole East office.

6. Film Literature Index

Vincent Aceto attended the afternoon meeting on April 28 to discuss their proposal. He verified that the Indexes would have to be prepared at Albany and that items 2a & d would be subcontracted by the University. It would not be possible for FIAF to produce other publications from the card records which would be incorporated in FLI annuals. Indexing for journals in FLI but not in FIAF service could be added to the FIAF service.

It was decided that the proposal was unacceptable because the card service needs income generated from annual volume sales to continue, there would also be problems with bringing together the two indexing systems so quickly and setting up with a new staff would further complicate the problems.

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7. Madrid Workshop

It was decided that the dates for the Commission meeting and Workshop would be as follows:

Commission members arrive	11 October	<i>Sunday</i>
Meeting	12-14 Oct	
Commission members leave	15 Oct	
Workshop delegates arrive	14 Oct	
Workshop	15-19 Oct	
Workshop delegates leave	20 Oct	

Accommodation prices about 2000 ptas. for a single room + breakfast
Lunches about 700 ptas.

Conference fees would need to cover:

Karen's staying costs from Oct 14-20	15,800 ptas
Michael's " " " "	15,800
Karen & Michael's dinners ie 10 meals	5,000
Misc. costs	20,000
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	56,600 ptas.

On the basis of \$1 = 82 ptas and 13 participants the Workshop fee should be about \$350 each.

Eileen was asked to ask the EC for 20,000 BF to cover costs for Alfred, Aura and Milka at the Commission meeting, and to cover lunches for the Commission (Oct 12-14).

Maria Dolores explained that the bus taking delegates to and from the Hotel would be paid for by the Ministry of Culture. They would also pay the cost of a journey to El Escorial and free entrance to the Prado on 17 Oct. A reception would be organised for Oct 15.

The programme and tutors were discussed, Karen and Maria Dolores would prepare the final programme together with Michael.

8. Future of the Commission

Eileen announced that she had decided to resign as President after the Madrid meeting. She hoped to continue for another year or two on the Commission to maintain continuity and then finally retire. Milka had been asked to become President and had agreed - this would be put to the EC in Rapallo. Michael's position as a member of the Commission as Editor, and Frances' position would also be put to the EC.

The guidelines concerning subcommissions as discussed in Bruges (p.5) were discussed and it was agreed to try and follow these in the future.

An agenda for the Madrid meeting was prepared including the proposal to invite Mrs A Hanford from FIAT to discuss the possibility of contact with documentation/information workers in TV institutions.

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9. Any other business

a) Unesco centre

There was brief discussion of the proposal (ref. 2(b) but as the general terms from Unesco were still vague it was decided to ask Eileen to find out at Rapallo more exact terms of reference from the Unesco representative.

b) Frances suggested that Unesco be asked to fund a translation of the Moulds/FIAF classification scheme into French

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c) Promotion of the Indexes

The possibility of Frances taking on this work when Michael resumed full financial responsibility after the renewal of his contract was discussed. The importance of promoting the annual volumes was agreed. Frances said that she would be interested but it would be time-consuming if it was to be undertaken seriously and she would need to make some cover charge.

d) International Index to TV Periodicals 1979-80 volume

There had been a good response to a questionnaire asking for replies from those who might buy such a volume.

Working on the basis of about 2000 entries printed in a similar format to the Film book a possible budget of about £3,500 was discussed.

Frances suggested that Infodoc might be asked to prepare the material for printing, instead of pasting-up as this would mean we could prepare cumulative volumes in the future. The Infodoc minicomputer can produce a master for printing the cards in the same way as at present. If the 1981 TV cards could be prepared by Infodoc they could then be cumulated with the first two years. Michael was asked to investigate this.

If a backer could be found to offer to pay publication costs and recuperate those costs from sales income the 1979-80 volume should be produced as soon as possible.

Frances Thorpe
May 1981