FIAF CATALOGUING COMMISSION

LONG-TERM GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The Cataloguing Commission has two major long-term goals:

(1) the development and maintenance (updating) of standards (i.e., common terminologies) in support of improved communication and cooperation amongst film archives the world over. To this end, projects undertaken and/or projected include:

cataloguing rules (published; requires mechanisms for update)
guidelines for technical description (published; requires mechanisms for update)
common terminologies for credit functions (published), genres (in progress), film forms
computer communications format for film archives (in progress)
identification of logos and standardization of names for early production companies (in progress)
intellectual access to collections through the catalog (i.e., subject analysis) (preliminary studies only)
rules for creating filmographies (preliminary planning stages; jointly with the Documentation Commission)
guidelines for selection criteria (preliminary planning stages; jointly with the Programming Commission)

(2) dissemination of "state of the art" information in the areas of information technology and cataloging and the promotion and support of cooperative projects. Examples of activities in support of this goal include:

the preparation of cataloging tools such as the Bibliography of National Filmographies
conducting surveys and studies/recommendations for the use of adp in FIAF archives.
the union catalog/database at the Secretariat in Brussels
the review of cataloging activities in FIAF archives as reported in the published annual reports
the establishment of a system of corresponding membership for the Commission
the issuing of a series of "Cataloguing Commission Occasional papers" either separately or as part of the FIAF Bulletin
contributions to symposia/conduct of workshops at annual congresses
the establishment of special interest and/or regional working groups, e.g., software information exchange, European, North and South American catalogers groups, etc.
LIST OF CURRENTLY APPROVED CATALOGUING COMMISSION PROJECTS

1. Study of computer formats with the aim of creating a communications format for film archives.

2. Interpretations and elaboration of FIAF Cataloguing Rules.

3. Preparation of rules for creating filmographies (to be undertaken jointly with the FIAF Documentation Commission)

4. Preparation of guidelines for selection criteria in moving image archives (to be undertaken jointly with the Commission for Programming and Access to Collections)

5. The creation and maintenance of an international list of film genres.

6. The preparation of national histories of early film production companies and their logos.

7. Updating the Bibliography of National Filmographies.

8. Contributing to the FIAF Union Catalog of Feature Films from the Sound-Nitrate Era.