Beyond the Page—New Platforms, New Realities

ISC/SCI CONFERENCE 2019 PROGRAM

Ottawa, Ontario

Friday, May 24, 2019

8:00 am  Registration begins (breakfast provided)

8:45 am  Welcome

9:00–10:00  Edit Your Index Without Pain

Anne Fifer doesn’t subscribe to the philosophy of “no pain, no gain” in anything she does. For the indexing process that pain can be that “final” edit just before you send the index off to the editor or publisher. The first step in efficient yet painless editing starts as soon as the first entry is made. Anne shows you how to continue from there, using strong structure and consistent and continual editing, while making the best possible use of the features of our indexing software.

10:00–10:15  Break

10:15–11:15  Accessing Parliamentary Information: From Traditional Indexes to a Database Integrated Management System

Since the House of Commons launched its integrated system to record, publish, and manage parliamentary information, traditional subject indexes have been replaced by a continuously evolving information retrieval platform. In this case study, we will discuss the impacts and changes in the design of indexes through time; those that have come from the integration of a controlled vocabulary and from combining in-text and metadata search capabilities. We will illustrate how, driven by technological changes, the analysis and business processes adapted to this transforming informational environment, how indexing became (known as) information management, and what challenges we face going forward.

11:15–11:30  Break

11:30–12:30 Brilliantly Structured Indexes Redux: New Realities in Index Structure

For years, indexers have been told to “mirror the structure of the text” in the index. But the reality is we’re never told what that means or how exactly we’re supposed to do that. This session explores the characteristics and benefits of well structured indexes, along with one specific process for creating them. That process is grounded in the use of structural index entries based on the table of contents and chapter-level structures. Along the way we will discuss user-friendly metatopic entries, pan-granularity, and units of structure.
Friday, May 24 continued

12:30–1:30 Lunch

1:30–2:30 Beyond the Subject Index: The Index Locorum

It translates as “Index of Places,” but you won’t find Ottawa or New York or Paris in an index locorum—the places are specific citations to a text or texts relevant to the work you are indexing. Tables of biblical citations, lists of law code sections, and indexes of classical works are the most common forms. Demand for indexes locorum is on the increase, and publishers are finding it hard to locate indexers able and willing to construct these finicky documents. Want to find out how to translate “Cic. de or. 1.3.45” or “Vienna bib. nat. MS 2056, fol. 6r-10v” into a cogent and useful index entry? This session will introduce you to a whole new profitable world of indexing.

2:30–2:45 Break

2:45–3:45 Above and Beyond: The Experts Help You Get the Most from Your Indexing Software

Representatives for the major indexing software programs Maria Sullivan (CINDEX) and Gale Rhoades (Macrex) will be available to answer your questions, in a small-groups session. SKY Index users may also meet at this time to exchange tips.

3:45–4:00 Break

4:00–5:30 Annual General Meeting

6:15 Banquet and Awards at Signatures Restaurant, 453 Laurier Avenue East
Saturday, May 25

8:00 am  Registration begins (breakfast provided)

8:45–10:00 A Behind-the-Screen Look at the Indigenous Knowledge Materials Classification Scheme (IMCS) Implementation during the Creation of National Film Board’s Indigenous Cinema

The TRC Calls to Action ignited the conversation on decolonizing our mainstream cultural memory institutions by addressing embedded structural systems of oppression that perpetuate power inequities and reinforce problematic descriptions of Indigenous peoples, place names, societal roles, and historical events which reinforce racial stereotypes. How can we develop relationships with Indigenous communities to ensure that Indigenous voices, knowledge, and histories are portrayed accurately, and naming protocols honoured? A case study of how the National Film Board of Canada (NFB) utilizes the Indigenous Materials Classification Schema (IMCS) to create respectful and accurate access points for Indigenous Cinema will be described and examined for possible widespread use and adaptation.

10:00–10:15  Break

10:15–11:15 Scholarly Indexing of Books: Go Deep

Enid L. Zafran will give a presentation created especially for this conference on indexing scholarly books. The field of scholarly indexing encompasses many diverse disciplines and is one of the most “brain-challenging” types of work for indexers. Authors can wander, repeat, and be obscure as they write for others in their subject specialty. How does the indexer approach this work? The importance of author relations and the future of this niche will be discussed as well.

11:15–11:30  Break

11:30–12:30 BreathwoRx for Deskworkers

“Breathwork for desk workers” is a breath-focused practice, combining breathing techniques, movements, and stretches as a means to relieve stress, re-energize, and become more mindful in your working day. All the exercises we’ll be doing can be done at your desk and incorporated into your daily lives. No special clothing/equipment required.

12:30–1:30  Lunch
1:30–2:30 Indexing Lives

In this presentation we will take a look at the various types of biographical material that an indexer may encounter, discuss the different challenges presented by this material, and explore options for effectively indexing the information contained in life stories.

2:30–2:45 Break

2:45–3:45 Beyond Sole Proprietorship: Growing an Indexing Business

Are you considering incorporating your company? Are there advantages to doing so and what are the costs and obligations involved? Pierre 28 Consulting Inc. has been incorporated since 2010. Pierre Joyal will inform the participants on the incorporation process in Canada, the obligations attached to a federally incorporated company, document retention, subcontracting for other companies, and liability insurance. Pierre Joyal is applying nearly 30 years of work experience in records and information management, indexing, and taxonomy to build a profitable business venture.

3:45–4:00 Break

4:00–5:00 Ethical Choices: Thinking Beyond the Page

In this interactive session, a panel of practitioners will explore ethical issues faced by today’s indexers using both questions submitted and questions gleaned from online indexing forums. The differing perspectives of the panel members—an indexer, an editor and a publisher—will illuminate the variety of facets indexers need to consider as they seek to resolve ethical dilemmas in their work.

Sunday, May 26
9:00–4:00 Workshop with Enid Zafran: Names, the Challenge of Indexing
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<th>Unicode Support</th>
<th>Enter Unicode characters directly into your index. No need for translations.</th>
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<tr>
<td>Editable Index Pane</td>
<td>The new Index Pane is no longer for just viewing your index, it is fully editable with in-place editing. You can also search for index entries too. Just start typing to begin a search.</td>
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<td>Unparalleled editing</td>
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<td>New Message Pane</td>
<td>The new color coded message pane helps both new and seasoned users by providing instructions on how to use the program and letting the user know when something has been fixed for them and why it was fixed or letting them know they’ve made a mistake.</td>
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<td>All New Configuration Panes</td>
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<td>Attention to detail</td>
<td>A user interface that’s not only pleasing to the eye, but is also user-friendly, and intelligently integrated.</td>
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<td>Flexibility</td>
<td>SKY Index supports a wide range of output formats and is highly user configurable enabling you to create just the right style for your index.</td>
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