From: Standards Committee Z39  
c/o Linda Schneider  
University of North Carolina Library  
Chapel Hill, N. C. 27514  

QUARTERLY REPORTS  
(April - June 1972)  

The quarterly reports of the Z39 subcommittees follow:  

SC/1 - Program - Chairman, Harold Oatfield.  

No activity was reported for the quarter.  


Subcommittee 2 met on three occasions during this quarter to work toward preparing a standard to define the means of communicating bibliographic records in the Z39.2-1971 format via data communications equipment. The purpose of the proposed standard was for general information interchange at the interface between data processing terminal equipment (such as data processors, data media input/output devices, office machines, etc.) and data communications equipment (such as data sets, modems, etc.)  

After deliberations, the members of SC 2 have agreed that this standard cannot be written at this time. This decision was made based on the fact that we are not addressing the problem of designing a format (that standard already exists, namely Z39.2-1971) but rather the problem is one of network protocol. Therefore, the transmission of the bibliographic record itself, taken in this context, is only a small part of the total picture.  

Subcommittee 2 has concluded, however, that in the light of future developments in network protocol, bibliographic data should be transmitted in the Z39.2-1971 interchange format standard. In order to further this recommendation, the present Z39.2-1971, the American National Standard for Bibliographic Information Interchange on Magnetic Tape, will be revised by SC 2 to reflect a broader scope, i.e., information interchange in digital form, with appropriate sections in the document describing the existing standards for different media (the first of these would be magnetic tape since this standard already exists). This should have the effect of using the standard format in future systems via telecommunications as well as via magnetic tape. The additional sections discussing various media will aid the user of the format regardless of the media involved.
SC/3 - Periodical Title Abbreviations - Chairman, James L. Wood, Chemical Abstracts Service.

Subcommittee 3 reports no activity for this quarter.

As of 30 June 1972, 273 organizations and/or individuals have entered 376 subscriptions to the 1972 semi-annual supplement to the 1971 NCPTWA Word-Abbreviation List. The first semi-annual supplement for 1972 has been printed and is being mailed to subscribers.

During this quarter, copies of the new International Standard ISO 4-1972, International Code for the Abbreviation of Titles of Periodicals, were received. This new ISO Standard is based upon Z39.5-1969, the American National Standard for the Abbreviation of Titles of Periodicals, and its companion, British Standard 4148: 1969, Specification for the Abbreviation of Titles of Periodicals. The NCPTWA Word-Abbreviation List is recommended by ISO as a source of periodical title word abbreviation for use with this new International Standard.

SC/4 - Bibliographical References - Chairman, Ellis Mount, Columbia University Engineering Library.

The first meeting of the committee under its new chairman, after the resignation of Mr. Weil due to press of business, was held in April. At that time the committee reaffirmed its intention to consider all types of materials, including audio visual items, for inclusion in the standard. Various members have been assigned types of materials for which to ascertain current styles of citations being used as well as applicable standards in existence governing their use. Members are to exchange material they gather so that the next meeting, in September, will find us informed of what each other has learned in this regard.

SC/5 - Transliteration - Chairman, Jerrold Orne, University of North Carolina Library.


The American National Standards for the Romanization of Arabic and the Romanization of Japanese are in press at ANSI. The Library of Congress has been assisting ANSI in the preparation of the tables for publication.

Hebrew and Yiddish - Chairman, Herbert C. Zafren, Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion.

Work continues on the drafts for Hebrew and Yiddish. These items have been included on the agenda for the forthcoming TC 46 Subcommittee 2, Conversion of Written Languages, meeting at The Hague.
SC/6 - Abstracts - Chairman, Ben H. Weil, Esso Research and Engineering Company.

The Chairman of Subcommittee 6 has been working with the ANSI office on the instructions for writing abstracts for American National Standards which it will include in ANSI's revised style manual. ANSI is implementing the ISO/TC 46 Lisbon resolution that ISO and its member bodies include abstracts in their standards.

A draft of specific rules for writing abstracts for Z39 standards has been submitted to the Z39 office. The rules take into account the textual nature of most Z39 standards.

ISO/TC 46 is currently circulating a letter ballot, due July 30, 1972, on the ISO Draft Proposal on Abstracts. It is based largely on ANSI Z39.14-1971 and was drafted in Lisbon in 1971 with the Chairman of SC 6 as secretary of the ad hoc Working Group.

ERIC/CLIS has requested permission to include the JASIS paper based on Z39.14-1971 in its announcements and accessions.

SC/8 - Proof Corrections - Chairman, Bruce C. Young, University of Chicago Press.

Final corrections to the typeset version of the ANS Proof Corrections are now being made, and the proposed standard will be sent out for ballot during the third quarter.


The Subcommittee met once during this period and reviewed all comments submitted by Z39 members on the Second Draft of the Specialized Vocabulary of Information. A third and final draft was prepared at this meeting for submission to ISO TC 46 Working Group 3. As a result of the suggestions and comments received on the draft circulated to Z39 members, it was apparent that many of the respondents felt that our Vocabulary was intended to be an American Standard Vocabulary. This is not the case; the Vocabulary is one section of a six-part proposed international vocabulary of documentation. Consequently, SC 9 decided, with the approval of the Chairman of Z39, to submit the final draft directly to ISO without further review by Z39 membership. A classified arrangement of the alphabetical listing of terms submitted to ISO is underway and is scheduled for completion and discussion at their next plenary session of TC 46 in September.

The Subcommittee also reviewed Draft ISO Proposal 1073, Vocabulary of Information and Documentation (Draft for paragraph 1.1: Basic Concepts of Related Fields) and decided to vote against it because of its inappropriate use of information and data, which was limited entirely to the computer aspects of this term and not to the unique library aspects.
Many interesting and constructive comments on the draft revision of Z39.1-1967 have been received from Z39 members. At the request of several members, the deadline for receipt of comments was extended to early July, after which the Subcommittee will review the suggestions and present a final draft. This will probably be ready in the fall.

The American National Standard for Directories of Libraries and Information Centers, Z39.10-1971, is available from ANSI at $3.00 per copy.

The proposed American National Standard for International Standard Book Numbering will be submitted to the Z39 membership with a letter ballot in July.

During this quarter ANSI prepared and distributed the brief errata sheet needed to correct a few minor errors which were observed in the final published version of Z39.13-1971, the American National Standard for the Advertising of Books. Copies of the errata sheet may be obtained from the Z39 Office, University of North Carolina Library, Chapel Hill, NC 27514.


In June 1970, ISO/TC 46/WG 1 accepted the system outlined in Z39.9-1971 as the basis for the international standard numbering system. Since that time work has continued on the form of the international standard and at a meeting of TC 46 in Vienna in April 1972, a final draft of the ISSN was completed. Reactions to this from the participants and the national centers will be taken into consideration before the final ISSN standard is presented to the Plenary Session of TC 46 in October 1972 at The Hague.

While ISO has been the agency responsible for the development of the ISSN as an international standard, the International Center (IC) of the International Serials Data System (ISDS) is responsible for the administration of the ISSN as a central authority. The IC-ISDS was established with headquarters in the Bibliothèque Nationale with financial support being shared by the French Government and UNESCO.
The National Serials Data Program (NSDP) has been selected to serve as the United States National Center and as such is the sole agency responsible for the control and assignment of ISSN in the United States. The NSDP is a cooperative effort to establish a national system of bibliographic controls over serial publications and is supported by the three national libraries, the Library of Congress, the National Agricultural Library and the National Library of Medicine. The national center is authorized the use of ISSN solely for those publications emanating from the respective nation. An exception was made by the IC in providing limited authorization for the R. R. Bowker Company to provide coverage of all titles in the Bowker Serial Bibliography represented by Vols. I and II entitled Ulrich's International Periodicals Directory and Vol. III entitled Irregular Serials and Annuals: An International Directory.


The Subcommittee met on May 18 at the Library of Congress to discuss some 16 comments from outside the Subcommittee. Draft No. 4 had been circulated to the membership for comment in January. The comments were detailed and many were excellently formulated.

As a result of the meeting Draft No. 5 was prepared, typed and circulated to Subcommittee 22 members in late May for final editing. After the subcommittee members' comments are received, the revised Draft No. 5 will be recirculated to Z39 representatives and subcommittee chairmen.

The proposed ANS for Scientific and Technical Reports was approved during the recent voting period and will be forward to CNLA and ANSI in the near future. Final editing of the proposal is being done to prevent possible conflicts with the work of Subcommittee 32 on Technical Report Numbering.

The Z39 ballot on the proposed Guidelines for Thesaurus Structure, Construction and Use has been completed. The voting tally is as follows: 38 yes, 2 no, 3 abstentions and 3 did not reply. Assuming satisfactory disposition of the two negative votes, a recommendation to ANSI for approval of the proposal as an American National Standard may be expected in about three months.
SC/26 - Preparation of Scientific Papers - Chairman, F. Peter Woodford.

The proposed ANS for the Preparation of Scientific Papers for Written or Oral Presentation was forwarded with the approval of CNLA to ANSI on May 16, 1972.


SC 27 circulated the first country code draft to its members for comment early in April. The comments were reviewed at a meeting April 27th and an editorial committee was chosen to re-draft the document incorporating the comments to the first draft. The second draft will be circulated to SC 27 members for approval in June.

SC/29 - Publicity and Promotion - Chairman, Harold Oatfield.

The portable Z39 exhibit was shown at the 9th Annual Colloquium on Information Retrieval on May 4th in Philadelphia, at the Special Libraries Association meeting in Boston from June 4-8 and at the American Library Association meeting in Chicago from June 25 to July 1. The photographs of the Z39 representatives and subcommittee chairmen taken at the May 19th Z39 meeting in Washington were included in the display. The subcommittee welcomes suggestions of other appropriate meetings for further exposure, in particular some outside the library milieu.

ANSI recently published a one page flyer describing in general the work of Standards Committee Z39 and announcing the Z39 standards published to date. A copy is enclosed with this newsletter and additional copies for publicity purposes may be obtained from the Z39 office.

SC/30 - Identification Code for Libraries and Bookdealers

This subcommittee is currently being reorganized to continue standards work in this important area.


Two areas of activity have been pursued, prior to submitting a draft of a standard:

1 - Field test of the MIC system in a controlled environment: Conducted under the auspices of Billboard Publications, Inc., MIC has been used as the warehouse identification and catalog order number for FIND Service International, a Billboard subsidiary engaged in furnishing a mail order service for hard to get recordings. Field test has revealed minor concept errors in the design of MIC that require correction.
2 - Presentation by the Chairman to representatives of the recording industry in Europe, with a view to testing the concept against international requirements. These presentations, conducted in April of this year, were directed toward establishing what further problems, if any, might stand in the way of a fully standardized numbering system for recording industry products, i.e., records and tapes of historical interest in library stocks.

A draft standard will now be prepared and submitted.

SC/32 - Technical Report Numbering - Chairman, Donald P. Hammer, University of Massachusetts Library.

Subcommittee 32 met twice during the quarter and has now reached the point where the draft standard for technical report numbering is ready for Z39 comment. The draft will be submitted to the membership in July.


The decision was made that SC 33's work done concerning microfiche headers would be included as an Appendix to the revision of ANSI PH 5.9-1970, American National Standard Specifications for Microfiches, which will soon be circulated for review. SC 33's draft was sent to Mr. Peter Scott of M.I.T. during the latter part of June for incorporation into the above mentioned standard. No work has been done yet concerning headers for roll microfilm containers.

SC/34 - Journal Article Citations - Chairman, Harold Oatfield.

The Subcommittee met in Washington, D.C. on May 18th. The membership of the subcommittee has been expanded by the addition of Robert Tannehill, Chemical Abstracts Service, and Elizabeth Sawyer, National Library of Medicine. The next meeting is planned for July 7th.

CHAIRMAN HONORED

Jerrold Orne, Chairman of Standards Committee Z39, was awarded the Melvil Dewey Award for 1972 at the recent American Library Association Conference "for distinguished contributions to the profession of librarianship." Dr. Orne was cited for his efforts in guiding the work of Z39, for his leadership at many international meetings of the International Organization for Standardization (ISO), for his interest and skill in writing for and editing various library journals, and for his teaching in library schools.
MEMBERSHIP NOTES

Four organizations have been admitted recently to membership on Standards Committee Z39, bringing the number of member organizations to fifty. The organizations and their representatives are as follows:

- Acoustical Society of America, Dr. R. Bruce Lindsay, Brown University, and Dr. Lois Elliott, US Office of Education (Alternate)
- American Nuclear Society, Norman A. Jacobson, American Nuclear Society Headquarters
- National Agricultural Library, John Sherrod, Director, NAL, and Mrs. Carol A. Johnson, NAL (Alternate)
- National Library of Medicine, Dr. Joseph Leiter, Associate Director, NLM

The following have been named recently as representatives to Z39:

- Alice N. Sheftel, American Library Association
- Catherine M. Pilley, Catholic Library Association
- Mary Herner, Information Industry Association

Marie Hogsett has been named as the ANSI liaison officer for Z39, succeeding Stephanie Fennell Johannes and Israel Resnick.