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## **Extended Report on Activity of ISKO Polish Chapter (2006-2008)**

### **1. The new concept of ISKO PL organization**

In May 2006 a new Polish coordinator was elected – professor Wiesław Babik from the Institute of Information and Library Science of the Jagiellonian University in Cracow. In the same year hitherto Polish ISKO members were verified and some actions to attract new members were undertaken. At the end of that year the number of ISKO members in Poland increased significantly to 23 (including 9 old members) on 31 December 2006. Officially, the National Chapter ISKO in Poland started from the beginning of 2007. Three local chapters were also established: in Warsaw (10 members), in Cracow (8 members) and in Katowice (5 members). Those local chapters are connected with three Library and Information Science Institutes, which are the best academic institutions in Poland offering studies for librarians and information professionals. At the end of 2007 the number of ISKO members was 27. At the end of 2008 the number of ISKO members in Poland will probably grow to about 30.

Present activities of National ISKO Chapter in Poland have been based on the Department of Information Management managed by professor Babik and existing within the Institute of Information and Library Science of the Jagiellonian University in Cracow.

### **2. The contemporary activity**

The programme of Polish ISKO (2006-2010) indicates the following directions of ISKO activities in Poland:

- promoting ISKO in Poland and increasing the number of its members;
- developing the net of websites „ISKO in Poland” offering, among other things, links to local institutions and centres where the members of ISKO Poland work, emphasizing reciprocal benefits for ISKO members and the scientific institutions they work for;
- promoting and contributing to the periodical "Knowledge Organization" (KO);
- preparing information on the activities of ISKO Poland for *ISKO News* in „KO”;
- participating in preparing the *Knowledge Organization Literature* in „KO”;
- developing current bibliography (in form of a database) of publications on knowledge organization published in Poland;
- setting up a documentary centre of ISKO PL (information and knowledge organization and management) collecting and preserving deposited ISKO publications within the Department of Information Management (Institute of Information and Library Science, JU);
- participating of the members of ISKO PL in national, regional and international ISKO conferences;
- stimulating and promoting research in the theory and practice of information and knowledge organization and management.

25-28 September 2007 National ISKO Chapter PL organized (within 9th Forum of Polish Society for Scientific Information in Zakopane) a session entitled „*The role of knowledge organization in information exchange and development of professional information services for education, science and culture for the knowledge society*”<sup>1</sup>.

Activities of ISKO PL are concentrated in its local chapters. It means that we think globally but act locally in accordance with previously defined yearly plans, for example ISKO

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<sup>1</sup> Papers from that session will be published within 9th Forum’s general proceedings.

PL local chapter in Katowice organized a panel entitled: „What is knowledge organization” (June 2007). Similar panel was organized by the local chapter in Cracow.

Information on ISKO PL activities has been published in two renowned Polish scientific journals: *Zagadnienia Informacji Naukowej* (Problems in Information Science) and *Praktyka i Teoria Informacji Naukowej i Technicznej* (Theory and Practice in Scientific Information). What is more, the ISKO PL websites have been designed and created. We are working on preparing separate websites for each Polish local chapter which will form a kind of ISKO PL web ring.

At present, the Internet is the most important communication forum for Polish ISKO members. This form a kind of virtual community, which is joined together by irregular, issued twice a year (spring – winter), electronic bulletin *ISKO in Poland News* informing on the activities undertaken by the Polish national coordinator, his cooperation with ISKO Executive Board and the present situation of ISKO in Poland.

### 3. Perspectives for the future

ISKO PL aims at:

- developing cooperation with Polish Librarians Association, Polish Society for Scientific Information and The International Specialized Terminology Organization as well as other professional organizations operating within the field of knowledge organization;
- initiating cooperation with national ISKO chapters from neighbouring countries (Russia, Slovakia, Czech Republic and Germany);
- inspiring new research topics within the field of information and knowledge organization and management (first of all for collective research of ISKO members);
- organizing or at least participating in a conference or another scholarly meeting in 2009 in Poland;
- organizing ISKO International Conference in Cracow in 2014.

Plans for the nearest future include completing and updating information on ISKO PL on the official ISKO website, completing ISKO collective boards with Polish representatives, creating new local chapters, participating in national and international ISKO conferences, organizing (in cooperation with Polish Society for Scientific Information - PSSI) the regional/national ISKO PL research seminar in 2009 *Information and knowledge organization for the needs of information society in Poland* (within 10<sup>th</sup> Forum of PSSI in Zakopane - International Research Seminar of PSSI/ISKO Meeting) and international ISKO conference in Cracow in 2014.

Furthermore, there are plans to promote systematically the idea of ISKO in Polish scholarly journals for information science, library science and librarianship and to set up an appropriate mailing list.

The development status (ISKO Membership) for Poland should be continued till the introducing in this country Euro currency.

### 4. Bibliography

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- [3]. Babik W.: ISKO Activities in Poland. ISKO News. Ed. By H. Albrechtsen. “Knowledge Organization” 2006 no 2 p. 122-123.