

NEWS SECTION

The news section of IFLA Journal contains information about IFLA and its activities, and other "international" news. National information is only disseminated if it has international relevance.

Attention is drawn to the fact that members are free to translate and/or duplicate any part of this news section, without copyright implications. IFLA, indeed, urges members to disseminate the IFLA news in their country and region. A statement of the source of information would be appreciated.

From the Secretariat

Summary Report of Meetings of the Professional and Executive Boards, 29 November-3 December 1999

Those present at the Professional Board on 29-30 November were Ralph Manning (Canada), Chair; Winston Tabb (USA), representing the Division of General Research Libraries; Hans-Christoph Hobohm (Germany), representing the Division of Special Libraries; Glenys Willars (UK), Division of Libraries Serving the General Public; Ia McIlwaine (UK), Division of Bibliographic Control; Chris Wright (USA), Division of Collections and Services; Wanda Dole (USA), Division on Management and Technology; Lis Byberg (Norway), Division of Education and Research; Adolfo Rodriguez (Mexico), Division on Regional Activities, members; Derek Law, observer from the Executive Board; Ross Shimmon, Secretary General; Sjoerd Koopman, Secretary to the PB; and Josche Neven, rapporteur. Liaison activities and portfolios were assigned to PB members. Winston Tabb was elected Vice-Chair and Financial Officer of the PB; Hans-Christoph Hobohm is the PB representative on the Publications Committee; Ia McIlwaine is the liaison to CLM (Copyright and other Legal Matters), Lis Byberg is the liaison to FAIFE (Free Access to Information and Freedom of Expression).

The PB formally approved the establishment of two new Discussion Groups: Repository and Storage Libraries, convened by Pentti Vattulainen (e-mail: pentti.vattulainen@nrl.fi); and Marketing of Library Services to Academic Communities, convened by Barbara Ford (bford@chiupublib.org) and Tom Wilding (wilding@uta.edu). It also approved a name change of the Round Table of Editors of Library Journals to the Round Table on Library and Information Science Journals.

The Professional Board also planned to establish an award for the best IFLA Newsletter of the year. Every newsletter received in the period between two annual conferences will be entered in the competition. The winner will be announced at the conference in Jerusalem.

The PB agreed to take a firmer stance on those professional units which had not submitted financial statements. If a financial statement had not been received, the unit would not be allocated its administrative funds.

The Professional Board agreed to cancel the official pre-session seminars, normally held in odd years before the IFLA Conference, and in their place from time to time sponsor a satellite meeting (pre-conference) on a topic to be proposed by the organizing committee in cooperation with the Professional Board. This would follow the Khon Kaen model (i.e., sponsorship would be obtained for a limited number of developing country participants who would then attend the IFLA Conference) and be open for other participants, thus ensuring that these meetings benefited more than 25-30 persons.

On 1 December at the joint meeting of the Executive and Professional Boards, the evaluation conducted by Paul Nordahl Andersen of the Royal School of Library and Information Science, Copenhagen, was reviewed. This report, plus the report from the paper-handling centre in Bangkok, indicated that 40% of (virtual) booklets were actually needed by delegates. The greater majority of the delegates were satisfied with downloading papers from IFLANET before the conference, or with their availability on the CD-ROM, sponsored by SilverPlatter for the fifth consecutive year and distributed to all conference participants in their conference bags.

The joint meeting also discussed revisions to IFLA's Statutes and Rules of Procedure, based on a questionnaire pre-

pared by Ross Shimmon. The answers were to be taken into consideration by the Working Group on the Revision of IFLA's Statutes and Rules of Procedure, which would meet in The Hague on 8-10 January 2000. Members of the Working Group are Marjorie Bloss, Carol Henry, Warren Horton, Derek Law, Sally McCallum, Sissel Nilsen, and Ross Shimmon. A consultative document would be sent by the Secretariat to all IFLA members for comment early in February. After responses had been considered, ballot papers would be sent to the membership in mid-April. The results of the ballot would be announced in Jerusalem.

The Executive Board held its meeting on 2-3 December. Present were: Christine Deschamps, President; Nancy John, Derek Law, Claudia Lux, Ralph Manning, Jeronimo Martinez, Ingrid Parent, and Kay Raseroka, members; Ross Shimmon, Secretary General; Sjoerd Koopman, Coordinator of Professional Activities, and Carol Henry, rapporteur. Jan Ristarp, Director of the FAIFE Office, attended part of the meeting. Apologies were sent by Børge Sørensen. Elections for EB officers were conducted by Ms Deschamps. For First Vice-President, nominations had been received only for Nancy John. She was duly elected First Vice-President. For Treasurer, nominations had been received only for Derek Law, who was also duly elected. There were two nominations for Second Vice-President, Kay Raseroka and Børge Sørensen. Voting was by secret ballot. Børge Sørensen was elected as Second Vice-President.

The EB also assigned portfolios and liaison responsibilities. Ingrid Parent, Jeronimo Martinez and Ralph Manning are on the Conference Planning Committee, to be chaired by Ingrid Parent. The Membership Development Committee will be chaired by Kay Raseroka. Other members assigned to the MDC are Claudia Lux and Børge Sørensen. Claudia Lux will chair the Publications Committee. Other members are Kay Raseroka

and Ross Shimmon, ex officio. Jeronimo Martinez is official liaison to FID; Ralph Manning is official liaison to ICA; Claudia Lux is the CLM liaison; Borge Sørensen is the FAIFE liaison, and Ingrid Parent was appointed to the Publishers Liaison Committee.

The EB agreed to extend the membership of the FAIFE and CLM Committees to 27, to allow for appointments from South America and the Arab World. New Committee members for FAIFE approved by the EB were: Clara Budnik (Chile), Ana Cecelia Torres (Costa Rica), and Winnie Vitansky (Denmark, replacing Soren Muller).

The FAIFE Office was approaching authors for a special July 2000 issue of *IFLA Journal* on Freedom of Information. FAIFE will also migrate its Web site to IFLANET by 1 June 2000, thus ensuring greater knowledge of the membership on FAIFE activities. Jan Ristarp, Director of the FAIFE Office and Carsten Fredericksen are planning a site visit to Kosovo in February 2000.

The EB also agreed with a recommendation from the Secretary General that some IFLA funds be committed to support the work of Nehat Krasniqi, who is Head of the Department of Rare Books and Manuscripts at the National and University Library in Prishtina. The aim of the project is to collect old manuscripts still in the possession of families in small towns and in rural areas. The project was proposed to IFLA by the International Committee of the Blue Shield.

The Conference Planning Committee had reviewed very closely five statements of interest for hosting the IFLA Conference in 2005. The EB agreed with its recommendation to invite Oslo, Helsinki and Vienna to submit bidbooks for review by the EB at its March 2000 meeting.

Invitation to IFLA's 66th General Conference, Jerusalem, Israel, 13-18 August 2000

"The people of the book invite the keepers of the book."

On behalf of the Israeli National Organizing Committee and the Israeli library community, we warmly invite all IFLA members to Jerusalem for the 66th Conference of IFLA, which is to take place in Jerusalem, 13-18 August 2000.

The IFLA Conference is the most important professional international

event within the library and information community. It brings together delegates, experts and suppliers from all over the world to meet, exchange ideas, share experiences, introduce new technologies and to influence the development of library and information centres, both nationally and globally.

Theme

The theme of the conference, "Information for Cooperation: Creating the Global Library of the Future", offers an enormous potential for international cooperation in the exchange and utilization of information which today's technology offers, and tomorrow's technology promises and presents a unique opportunity to library and information professionals. The growing demand for bibliographic exchange, multicultural Internet resources, research unhampered by geographic or linguistic limitations, and cross-cultural networking, both in the sense of online technology and offline partnerships, is a challenge to libraries which should be welcomed and which must be addressed. The Global Information Infrastructure which is developing and which will surely be in place early in the 21st century, will require information professionals with a sense of obligation, both to their national needs and to the larger goals of the international community, to digitize, navigate, distribute and preserve all the world's knowledge for all the world's people.

Sub-Themes

- Exchange of electronic bibliographic data
- Cross-cultural networking partnerships
- The multicultural Internet
- Management of information: "librarianship" for the 21st century
- The on-site library in the era of the virtual library
- Educating the professional for the Global Information Infrastructure
- Research in a global environment
- The study of reading in the digital society
- Preservation of the past for the future.

Conference Venue

The 66th IFLA General Conference will be held at the International Convention Centre, Binyanei Ha-Ooma in Jerusalem. Situated on the principal artery leading from the main entrance to Jerusalem, the ICC is within walking distance of the central bus station and a number of

hotels in various price ranges. Facilities for the disabled are provided.

Accommodation

Prices range from USD 78 (single room) USD 90 (double room) to USD 162 (single room) USD 190 (double room), per room, per night and include a special Israeli buffet breakfast and all service charges.

Registration Fees

The deadline for advance registration is 15 May 2000 for a fee of USD 375 per delegate and USD 200 for accompanying persons. After 15 May participants will be charged USD 425 and accompanying persons USD 250. No registrations will be accepted by mail after 1 July 2000.

Conference Papers

More than 150 papers will be presented at the open programme sessions and workshops. The papers will be available on a CD-ROM, sponsored by SilverPlatter for the fifth consecutive year, distributed to all conference participants. Papers are also posted to IFLANET <www.ifla.org> as soon as they are received at IFLA Headquarters. Therefore delegates will be able to download papers before they arrive in Jerusalem and decide which sessions they would like to attend.

Exhibition

An international trade exhibition will be held in conjunction with the conference. For further information and to reserve exhibition space please contact: Rose International, POB 93260, 2509 AG The Hague, Netherlands (fax: +(31-70) 3818936; e-mail: roseint@euronet.nl).

Library Visits

Participants will be offered the opportunity to visit the libraries of Israel. Visits will be organized by category and both full-day and half-day visits will be provided. Wherever possible, sight-seeing will also be included. Categories are: 1) national and government libraries; 2) Judaica libraries; 3) libraries of religious institutions (Christian, Moslem, Mormon, Armenian); 4) academic libraries; 5) public libraries; and 6) school libraries.

Contact Address

For a copy of the Final Announcement, registration and hotel reservation forms,

please contact IFLA 2000 Secretariat, Peltours-Te'um Congress Organizers, POB 52047, Jerusalem 91520, Israel (fax: + (972) 26481305; e-mail: teumcong@netmedia.net.il). Keep checking the IFLA Web site at <www.ifla.org> for more details on the programme, satellite meetings, workshops and speakers. The IFLA Web site also has the list of liaison persons in Israel to help IFLA organizers arrange their programmes.

Conference Week Schedule and Some Programme Information for the 66th IFLA General Conference, Jerusalem, Israel, 2000

Friday, 11 August

Morning

Professional Board

Afternoon

Executive Board
Coordinating Boards of Divisions

Saturday, 12 August

All day

Standing Committees and Executive Committees

Evening

Reception for IFLA Officers (invitation only)

Sunday, 13 August

Morning

Welcome to IFLA for Newcomers
Discussion Groups
Workshops
Open Forums

Late Afternoon

IFLA Council

Evening

Exhibition opening

Monday, 14 August

Morning

Programme sessions
Discussion Groups
Workshops

Afternoon

Opening Session
Plenary Session

Evening

Reception and Folklore Performance

Tuesday, 15 August

All day

Programme sessions

Mid-day

Poster sessions

Guest Lecture

Wednesday, 16 August

All day

Programme sessions

Mid-day

Poster sessions

Guest Lecture

Evening

Cultural Evening at the Israel Museum

Thursday, 17 August

All Day

Workshops
Library Visits and Tours

Friday, 18 August

Morning

Coordinating Boards
Standing Committees

Afternoon

Council
Closing Session

Saturday, 19 August

Optional Post-Conference Tours

Programme Information

The information below will give a preliminary view of the open sessions organized by IFLA's Sections and Round Tables.

- *Acquisition and Collection Development*. Theme: "Models for Acquiring Electronic Resources".
- *Art Libraries*. Cataloguing Ephemera in the Art Library: Towards Integrated Access". The speakers will focus on such factors as cataloguing artists' files, rules and standards for cataloguing ephemera, and integrated access.
- *Asia and Oceania*. Theme: "Networking Partnerships in Asia and Oceania".
- *Audiovisual and Multimedia joint with User Education*. Theme: "User Education and Multimedia".
- *Bibliography*. Papers will be presented on 1) Cooperation between national bibliographic services in Italy; 2) Czechoslovakia's use of international standards in rebuilding its national bibliography; 3) Israel's national bibliographic coverage; and 4) Canadiana celebrates its 50th anniversary.
- *Biological and Medical Sciences Libraries*. Theme: "Global Coopera-

tion". Speakers will discuss cooperative interlibrary arrangements from different areas of the world, which have enhanced the delivery of medical information to health professionals. Papers will be presented on the unique requirements of health professionals to rapidly receive information, donation projects, and sister library arrangements. These topics will also be covered in the Section's half-day workshop.

- *Cataloguing*. Theme: "Metadata".
- *Collections and Services*. Theme: "Documenting a Culture: The Case of Israel". Papers will be given on 1) Documenting Israel: shared efforts; 2) Public archives in Israel: preservation and accessibility; and 3) Archiving cultural heritage: the National Library of Israel.
- *Continuing Professional Education*. Theme: "Delivering Lifelong Professional Education across Space and Time".
- *Document Delivery and Interlending*. Theme: "Lending and Document Supply in the Middle East: A Regional Perspective".
- *Government Libraries*. Theme: "Government Services to Special Populations".
- *Libraries for Children and Young Adults*. Speakers will address: 1) Children's libraries and literature in Israel; 2) Publishing for children - the Israeli experience; and 3) Jewish heritage in different countries.
- *Libraries for the Blind joint with Public Libraries*. Theme: "Building Smart Communities: Knowledge as the Key to Growth and Development for Print Disabled People in a Competitive World". Papers will be presented on 1) Telephone access to library services; 2) Building virtual collections; 3) Reference services of public libraries for print handicapped people; and 4) Libraries in smart communities and benefits for blind people.
- *Library Buildings and Equipment*. Theme: "Libraries for the 21st Century: How to Transform Planning Visions and Building Programmes into Successful Libraries, Useful for both Users and Staff". Speakers from Denmark, Sweden, Portugal and South Africa will deliver papers relating to the theme.
- *Libraries Serving Disadvantaged Persons*. Theme: "Hospitals and Health Care".

- *Library and Research Services for Parliaments*. Theme: "Library and Research Services for Parliaments on the Threshold of a New Millennium". Papers will be offered on: 1) The experience of coordinating a move in Singapore's Legislative Library; 2) Rebuilding a parliamentary library service; and 3) The relationship between legislative libraries in the European Community as seen from the perspective of Poland.
- *Management and Marketing joint with Information Technology and Social Sciences Libraries*. Theme: "Building Change Management and Marketing Skills for the Information Age". Papers will be presented on: 1) Information ecologies and the library's changing role in an information society; 2) Migrating from the library of today to the library of tomorrow; 3) Managing the change from the traditional library to the electronic library; 4) Switching weaknesses into strengths: ICT challenges for libraries in Latin America; 5) Libraries and librarians on the threshold of the 3rd millennium: challenges and risks; 6) Internet librarianship: traditional roles in a new environment; 7) Technological discontinuities in the library: digital projects that illustrate new opportunities for the librarian and library; 8) Library management with new technologies; 9) Management support systems for libraries; and 10) Geographic information systems for library market analysis: personal digital data collectors for collecting in-library use.
- *Management of Library Associations*. Theme: "Library Associations and Development".
- *National Libraries*. Theme: "The Role of National Libraries in IFLA Core Programmes".
- *Preservation and Conservation*. The theme of the session is "Preserving the Web" with speakers from Sweden, Australia, the UK and the USA.
- *Public Libraries*. Theme: "Copyright".
- *Reading*. Theme: "Literacy: Libraries, Programme Evaluation and Research".
- *School Libraries and Resource Centres*. Theme: "The School Library and the Global Network". Papers will cover accessing and sharing information for the professional librarian and/or the student within a global network of information sources - human, electronic, professional and educational.

- *Statistics*. Theme: "Library Statistics: The Search for International Standards for the 21st Century". Papers will cover: 1) The revision of ISO 2789, the standard for library statistics; and 2) Consortial attempts to develop standards for measuring consortial use of Web-based, indexed, abstracted and full text resources. The Section will also hold a browsing session and this year will focus on statistics of academic librarians. Space will be provided for conference attendees to bring national published statistics from their own countries so that colleagues can "browse" them informally. Persons displaying statistics will speak for 3-5 minutes to introduce the statistics they brought.
- *University Libraries and other General Research Libraries*. Theme: "Library Education: Assessing Outcomes for the Professionals in University and Research Libraries. What Do We Want from Library Education?". The Section is co-sponsoring one Discussion Group on Performance Measurements in Academic Libraries with the Section on Statistics. The theme is "Benchmarking and Best Practices". The second Discussion Group on Marketing of Academic Libraries is co-sponsored with the Section on Management and Marketing and its theme is "Raising the Profile of Academic Libraries and Librarians".
- *Women's Issues*. Theme: "Information for Cooperation: Women Library Leaders Serving the Majority".

Workshops Planned for the 2000 Conference in Jerusalem

During the 66th IFLA General Conference, 13-18 August 2000, workshops in principle are scheduled for Thursday, 17 August. In most cases participation will be limited to 50 persons on a first-come, first-served basis. Pre-registration for workshops is not required, but some workshops may be "on invitation only". Workshop papers will be available at the paper-handling centre at the Jerusalem International Convention Centre in exchange for coupons or cash. Unless otherwise indicated, all workshops will be held at JICC. The following workshops are planned.

Full-day Workshops

- *Art Libraries*. Theme: "Art Reference in the Digital Age". Sub-topics include electronic reference, user training,

library staff education, and providing access through online cataloguing. The format of the workshop will be interactive. The papers will not be read, but the main points will be presented by the speakers, followed by four specific statements. Four discussion groups will comment on these statements, followed by a plenary discussion. This workshop will be held off-site at the Israel Museum. For information: <gkoot@rijksmuseum.nl>

- *Classification and Indexing*. Theme: "Subject Retrieval in a Multiscript, Multilingual Environment".
- *Information Technology joint with National Libraries and the UDT Core Programme*. Theme: "Uniform Resource Identifiers and the Library Community". The workshop will provide an update on the various identifier initiatives, their interrelationships, and the emerging role of the library community in providing URI services. Topics to be covered: 1) Overview of identifier technologies and issues for libraries; 2) IETF URN development; 3) PURLs; 4) Handle system: an overview; 5) DOI, a publisher's perspective; 6) Identifiers and digital library development; 7) A role for national libraries in URI services; and 8) URI and developing European information services.
- *Library and Research Services for Parliaments*. This workshop is on invitation only and will be held off-site at the Knesseth. Topics to be covered include: Library and documentation services of the Knesseth; electronic collections; twinning library and research services; budget planning; and production and performance indicators. On Thursday, 17 August the Section will hold another workshop at Ramallah, also on invitation only.
- *Library History*. Theme: "Historical Threads of Judaica and Hebraica Librarianship". The programme is divided into four sections: 1) "Like brands plucked from the fire: Vilnius Hebraica, a cooperative project; 2) Accessing collections: description classification, indexing; 3) Special interest collections; and 4) Bibliographic milestones.
- *Mobile Libraries*. Theme: "Telling Mobile Libraries' Story: Collecting the Past to Build a Future". The workshop will emphasize historical stories about experiences of use of mobile libraries on how particular library services were planned. Contributions will

- include cooperative or collaborative projects with community-based groups to provide mobile services; unique mobile services; special initiatives undertaken to identify and plan services for unserved or underserved populations; approaches to user education through mobile libraries; and teaching technology on mobile units.
- *Reading*. Theme: "Library-Based Programmes to Promote Literacy". The goal of the workshop is to bring together librarians and other experts from several countries and regions to explore library-based programmes for the promotion of literacy. Programmes for both children and adults will be included. Papers will focus on the factors which make for successful programmes; the sustainability of programmes; training for personnel involved in the programmes; the provision of materials for newly literate people; and obtaining funding for programmes. The objective is to work toward providing guidelines for planning successful projects.
 - *School Libraries and Resource Centres*. Theme: "Guidelines for School Libraries".
- Half-day Workshops*
- *Acquisition and Collection Development*. Theme: "Collection Development in the Digital Age: Organizational Challenges".
 - *Audiovisual and Multimedia*. Theme: "Cooperation within the Library and between Libraries".
 - *Bibliography joint with Education and Training*. Theme: "The Role of Bibliography in the Curricular Library and Information Schools".
 - *Biological and Medical Sciences Libraries*. Theme: "Global Cooperation". Speakers will discuss cooperative interlibrary arrangements from different areas of the world which have enhanced the delivery of medical information to health professionals. This workshop will be a follow-up of the Section's open session.
 - *Cataloguing*. Theme: "Metadata".
 - *Document Delivery and Interlending*. Theme: "Licensing Information: An End to Sharing?".
 - *Government Information and Official Publications*. Theme: "Government Information on the Web". This workshop will be held off site, but the location is not yet determined. For information: <jmansf1@email.usps.gov>.
 - *Libraries for Children and Young Adults*. Theme: "Guidelines for Children's Services".
 - *Library Theory and Research*. Theme: "Collaboration between Theory and Evidence-Based Practice".
 - *Management and Marketing joint with Statistics*. Theme: "Evaluation and Statistics as a Marketing Tool". The workshop will explore the topic of library statistics and how they can be used to market library services effectively. Speakers are from the USA, France and China.
 - *Management of Library Associations joint with Library and Information Science Journals*. Theme: "Library Journals for Whom?".
 - *Management of Library Associations*. Theme: "Library Associations for the 21st Century: New Wine in Old Bottles".
 - *National Libraries*. Theme: "Legislation for National Libraries".
 - *Preservation and Conservation joint with Rare Books and Manuscripts*. Theme: "Conservation of Non-Paper Materials". The workshop will be held off-site at the National and University Library in Jerusalem. For information: <j.mcilwaine@ucl.ac.uk>.
 - *Social Sciences Libraries*. Theme: "The Evaluation of WWW Subject Gateways".
 - *University Libraries and other General Research Libraries joint with Copyright and other Legal Matters*. Theme: "Copyright: A Question of Balance". This workshop is part of the Section's project to publish guidelines and/or a manual with concrete examples of contracts used by universities and research institutes to secure the right to fair use of copyrighted research and teaching materials produced by their staff. The goal of the manual is to demonstrate how to develop systems and procedures to facilitate access to copyright materials to support research.
 - *User Education*. Theme: "Training the Information User for the Global Library of the Future".

From the FAIFE Committee

From The Friends of Cuban Libraries

The following report was submitted to IFLA's listserv on 12 October 1999 by Robert Kent, co-founder of the Friends of Cuban Libraries.

After a three-month investigation of reports regarding the persecution of independent librarians, the intellectual freedom committee of IFLA has published a five-page report condemning the Cuban government's "campaign of threats, intimidation, harassment, evic-

tion, short-term arrests, and the confiscation of [the independent librarians'] incoming book donations or book collections." In a detailed case-by-case study, the committee, known by the acronym FAIFE (Free Access to Information and Freedom of Expression) has "confirmed the situation including the series of incidents reported by FCL [the Friends of Cuban Libraries]...." Among the individual librarians whose persecution is detailed, the report verified the cases of Berta Mexidor, Ramon Colas, Manuel Jerez, Mirna Riveron, Rolando Bestart, and Alfredo Dennis Camps. Further, the

committee deplores the general absence of intellectual freedom in Cuba, as documented by Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, the World Press Freedom Review, and Reporters Sans Frontieres and "urge[s] other concerned parties to send appeals on this matter to the President of Cuba...."

On behalf of IFLA, the committee's Chair, Alex Byrne, has written an Open Letter to President Fidel Castro in which he states: "As you are aware, Cuban citizens have formed 18 libraries... throughout Cuba to 'grant access to books, magazines, documents and other publica-

tions to which there is no access in state institutions....' Sadly, a series of incidents indicates a pattern of State supported and instigated harassment of these independent libraries in Cuba, including threats, intimidation, eviction, short-term arrests, and the confiscation of their incoming book donations or existing book collections. We seriously urge you to stop this harassment and meet the challenge of the independent libraries by upholding the intellectual freedom of all.... We also urge the Cuban government, the Cuban libraries and librarians to adhere to the principles of freedom of access to information and freedom of expression...."

The full text of the committee's report, the Open Letter to President Castro, and supporting documentation may be found on the FAIFE Web site <www.faife.dk> in the "news and events" section.

The Friends of Cuban Libraries welcome the committee's authoritative report (with reservations regarding a few details) and hope librarians everywhere will take action in conformance with IFLA's 1983 resolution declaring: "In the name of human rights, librarians must, as a profession, express their solidarity with those of their colleagues who are persecuted for their opinions, wherever they may be".

Because Cuba, so far as we know, is the only country in the world where librarians are being systematically persecuted, the Friends of Cuban Libraries hope librarians and human rights activists everywhere will express solidarity by: 1) writing letters of protest to Cuban officials; 2) requesting protests from their own national government; 3) asking their nation's diplomats in Havana to visit the independent libraries; 4) giving donations of books, writing paper, ballpoint pens and other supplies to people traveling to Cuba so they can be personally delivered to the independent librarians (Do not send letters or packages in the mail as they are confiscated before arrival!); and 5) translating this message, if appropriate, and sending it to newspapers, magazines, listserves and bulletin boards, whether electronic or in paper form.

For further details, please contact the Friends of Cuban Libraries via Robert Kent, 474 48th Avenue, Apt. 3-C, Long Island City, New York, USA (e-mail: rkent20551@cs.com or kentr50@yahoo.com).

Background: The Friends of Cuban Libraries, founded in June 1999, is an

independent, non-partisan, non-profit support group for Cuba's independent libraries. We oppose censorship and all other violations of intellectual freedom in Cuba, as defined by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, regardless of whatever leader or political party is in office. We are funded entirely by donations from our members and do not seek or accept funding from outside sources.

Comments on The Friends of Cuban Libraries

Ann Sparanese, who read the announcement on the listserv, submitted the following comments. Ms Sparanese is Head of the Adult and Young Adult Services at the Englewood Public Library, New Jersey, USA. She has been active in the American Library Association for 10 years and has traveled to Cuba many times, including attending the IFLA Conference in 1994. She has been involved in the movement to end the blockade against Cuba for 25 years. Ms Sparanese may be contacted at 146 St. Nicholas Ave. Englewood, NJ 07631, USA (e-mail: acs20@aol.com).

I have followed and participated in the worldwide "virtual" debate on the issue of the so-called "Cuban Independent Libraries." Given the information widely available about the founders of the so-called "Friends of Cuban Libraries," the funders of Mr Robert Kent's trips to Cuba, the identities of the "independent librarians," and the clear ideological nature of their activities, I was surprised and disappointed to read the FAIFE statement published in this issue. This statement, based on insufficient investigation and understanding of the issues involved, reveals that IFLA-FAIFE has easily become an instrument in the unmitigated campaign of war and provocation being waged against Cuba by the United States for 40 years.

Librarians worldwide have a commitment to freedom of expression and intellectual freedom. These basic principles are being violated in every country on the face of the earth, Cuba included. FAIFE could easily write resolutions condemning the violations - some involving long imprisonment, torture, murder and the death penalty - perpetrated against free expression around the world. And yet the two resolutions that have so far been passed by FAIFE include the one on Cuba - where at worst, individuals have been "intimidated" for seeking outlets for political expression - and Iran, in

which the individuals involved were actually murdered for free expression.

As a citizen of the United States, I am acutely aware of the state of siege which has been imposed on Cuba and codified into our own legal system through the Torricelli and Helms Burton Acts. These laws actually make it incumbent upon the United States government to fund such activities as those in which Mr Kent and Jorge Sanguinety, his non-librarian co-chair, engage. Mr Kent's trips to Cuba are financed by the Freedom House, an organization presented with a large check by President Clinton several years ago with the express purpose of funding such activities in Cuba. Mr Sanguinety, an ex-patriot economist dedicated to the return of free markets to Cuba, is also an employee of Radio Marti. The "librarians" they champion are not librarians at all, but political dissidents who turn their houses or storefronts into what they call "libraries" but may in fact be as limited in their range of materials as they claim Cuban public libraries are. For FAIFE to champion their dubious and hypocritical cause trivializes the potential power of a FAIFE resolution. It makes FAIFE look oblivious to reality, and to the orchestrated machinations of ideological warfare. Mr Kent and Mr Sanguinety have used the best instincts of librarians against us. It was smart, I admit, but unfortunate.

I am a librarian who attended the IFLA Conference in Havana, met real librarians and visited real libraries. I don't think Mr Kent was there. Mr Kent was not on the plane which was turned back to Miami because of bomb threats. This plane was carrying the former president of ALA who became frightened and canceled her attendance at the conference. Would FAIFE call this intimidation? Ordinary US citizens, librarians and otherwise, are threatened by the US government with hefty fines and jail terms for visiting Cuba without a "license." Mr. Kent is evidently exempt from these because he makes his trips on *behalf* of the right-wing Cuban network and US government policy. Will FAIFE make a statement about this? Will FAIFE call on the US government to immediately end the travel ban that intimidates, harasses and threatens to punish US citizens for wanting to travel freely? How about ending the blockade which has created the state of siege which in itself - as in all times of warfare in all countries - inhibits the exercise of full freedom of expression?

At the very least, let's have some scale and balance here. It is truly pathetic that

one of FAIFE's first actions is to condemn a country which exceeds many worldwide in the area of literacy and educational rights for all. And all on the

say-so of scurrilous characters with an agenda that has nothing to do with "free expression" for Cubans, except perhaps for those living in Miami.

[Note: Mr Kent has been invited to respond to Ms Sparanese in the next issue of *IFLA Journal*.]

From the CLM Committee

The IFLA Position on WTO Treaty Negotiations

Introduction

The future of libraries of all kinds could be jeopardized by a series of international trade treaties that are currently being negotiated. The next important meeting discussing these trade agreements is the World Trade Organization (WTO) Ministerial Conference in Seattle beginning November 30, 1999. IFLA will be represented in Seattle, along with other library associations, in order to defend the interests of libraries and promote the value of the public sector. As an active international alliance of library associations, libraries and concerned individuals, IFLA is strategically positioned to advocate at the WTO on behalf of libraries.

Libraries are unique social organizations dedicated to providing the broadest range of information and ideas to the public, regardless of age, religion, social status, race, gender or language. The long library traditions of intellectual freedom and equitable access to information and cultural expression form the basis for assuring that library goals are achieved.

Libraries of all types form an interrelated network which serves the citizenry, from the great national, state and research institutions to public and school libraries. The well being of libraries is essential in ensuring access to the full range of human expression and providing individuals with the skills necessary to access and use this content.

Background

The WTO Ministerial Conference in Seattle begins the Millennium Round of negotiations. The Ministerial Conference will set the agenda for negotiations which are expected to last three years. The previous Uruguay Round ended in 1994 after seven years of negotiations. The General Agreement on Trade in Ser-

vices (GATS) implemented at that time exempted services supplied in the exercise of governmental authority but ambiguously excluded from the definition of governmental authority any service supplied on a commercial basis, not in competition with one or more service suppliers. As part of the current Millennium Round, there are proposals to expand the GATS from a bottom-up agreement which requires all services covered to be listed in the Agreement to a top-down agreement where all services are included unless specifically exempted. Libraries are not included in the current GATS Agreement and will most certainly be included in the new Agreement unless specifically exempted. Libraries, museums, and archives, as well as health services and education, are potentially affected by the World Trade Organization Millennium Round, specifically relating to the General Agreement on Trade in Services.

The following areas are of concern:

- Proposed changes to GATS will open up all aspects of the economy to foreign competition, including libraries.
- Privatization of libraries may result from the proposals for expansion of the GATS Agreement.
- Possible guarantee of the right of foreign, for-profit library services and suppliers to set-up in any member state and compete against publicly-funded libraries. The country would then have to offer them national treatment, i.e., foreign corporations would have to be treated as well or better than any national supplier. Since the Agreement will cover subsidies, these corporations might be able to argue they should receive equal funding from the government.
- Sub-Central governments, state/provincial, municipal, regional governments and their various management boards would be included in any agreements agreed to by the member state.
- (Part I, Scope and Definition, Article 1, Clause 3a of the existing agreement).

- The Market Access (Part II, Specific Commitments, Article XVI) has two clauses that ban (e) measures which restrict or require specific types of legal entity or joint venture through which a service supplier may supply a service; and limitations on the participation of foreign capital in terms of the maximum percentage limit on foreign shareholding or the total value of individual or aggregate foreign investment. These two clauses could prevent local communities from keeping their library services in the public or non-profit sector.
- Professional standards could come under challenge as a trade barrier. Article VI of the GATS deals with how domestic regulation could have to be changed to accommodate the overarching goal of trade liberalization in services. The Council for Trade in Service is empowered to set up review panels to assess whether qualification requirements and procedures, technical standards and licensing requirements constitute unnecessary barriers to trade in services.

IFLA Policy Objectives

- 1 To strengthen opposition to those WTO policies which will adversely affect the public sector internationally including, but not limited to, libraries, archives, museums and education. The WTO meetings in Seattle afford an opportunity to build links with other organizations at both the national and international level who support libraries and a strong public sector.
- 2 To force a delay of the Millennium Round until there has been a sufficient evaluation of the myriad implications of the Uruguay Round.
- 3 To promote the importance of libraries as the central public institutions for the collection and distribution of the historical, cultural and intellectual record of civilization in the service of the public and their educational institutions. Libraries enrich and inspire

through providing access to the broadest possible range of information and ideas while encouraging democratic discussion and social participation.

- 4 To promote the coordinated development of library and library association policy on trade issues and education and lobbying efforts.
- 5 To make links with other organizations, particularly, but not restricted to, the cultural sector in recognition of our common interests in the promotion of libraries and cultural institutions as central to the enrichment and democratic foundations of society.

IFLA Policy Positions

1 IFLA supports and joins with other public sector organizations such as museums, archives and public education institutions in declaring the importance of our services to the health, richness and level of equity so far established in our society. The WTO is one dimension of a multitude of efforts to enrich corporations by forcing public services into the private sector through privatization, budget reductions or international trade agreements. This trend should be resisted.

While discussing the process in terms of allowing "competition" appears

benign, the eventual outcome of permitting the private sector to compete with libraries and educational institutions will be to undermine their tax-supported status. The liberalized trade treaties force equal, or national, treatment, which requires that all "competitors" be treated equally. Tax subsidies for services for which there is private sector competition are likely to be found to be in violation of this requirement. Without tax support, the library's role as a democratic institution, making available the widest range of material reflecting the diversity of society, will be compromised.

IFLA's fundamental position is opposition to the WTO/GATS as presently outlined in the WTO documents.

2 Publicly funded libraries are part of the cultural sector. They are involved in encouraging the development and promotion of cultural products, particularly literature, and the preservation and dissemination of those products. Libraries should be part of protections proposed for culture and should support and be part of any possible separate treaty which allows special consideration for cultural goods and services in international trade.

IFLA should work with national and international cultural groups to create alliances for achieving recognition and protection for the development of

regional and domestic cultural products. The objective of such an alliance is the creation of cultural diversity and the encouragement of multiple voices rather than homogenized and globalized cultural products which dominate by virtue of financial or corporate strength.

While supporting the right of WTO member states to promote and nurture national culture, IFLA opposes any obstacles to the free flow across international borders of legally produced information and cultural content normally collected or distributed by libraries. IFLA opposes tariffs or other duties or taxes on the importation of print on paper or digital content. Such measures have the potential to stifle intellectual freedom.

3 IFLA is opposed to the expansion of the GATS agreement but should it go forward, it will concentrate on a separate agreement/exemption for libraries and cultural organizations while continuing to push for protection of the broadly defined public sector.

[Paul Whitney (Chief Librarian of Burnaby Public Library, Burnaby, British Columbia, Canada) was IFLA's accredited representative at the WTO Ministerial conference in Seattle. The American and Canadian Library Associations also had accredited representatives.]

From the ALP Core Programme

Danida Travel Grant Report 1999

In October 1998 the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Danida, allocated a generous grant of DKK 900,000 per year for the purpose of setting up a Conference Travel Fund. The intention was for librarians from developing countries to attend the IFLA General Conferences. The grant runs for a three-year period to start with and the IFLA Bangkok Conference 1999 was the first conference to which the Danida Travel Grant (DTG) could be applied. The sponsorship covered registration, travel from the nearest international airport to Bangkok, accommodation and a daily allowance of USD 10. The grantee was responsible for the costs of personal arrangements for visas,

health and travel insurance and expenses en route. The responsibility for the administration of the grant lies within the ALP Office in Uppsala, Sweden.

At the end of October the grant was announced through IFLA's listserv IFLA-L and other lists in the regions. Calls for applications were also made in the IFLA Regional Newsletters and *IFLA Journal*.

Criteria for the allocation of the Danida Travel Grant for participating in IFLA's General Conference were as follows:

- Priority to younger professionals
- Priority to applicants who are not regular IFLA conference attendees
- Wide geographical distribution
- General quality of application, dynamism and commitment

- Professional background and experience
- Commitment shown in letter of application and well-presented curriculum vitae.

A Danida Grant Selection Committee was established for an orderly selection process, and reporting. The committee consists of the following members: Børge Sørensen (Copenhagen City Library), Member of IFLA's Executive Board; Beatrice Christensen Sköld (Swedish Library of Talking Books and Braille), Chair of IFLA's Section of Libraries for the Blind; Birgitta Sandell, IFLA/ALP Office, Uppsala; Gunilla Natvig, IFLA/ALP Office, Uppsala; Sjoerd Koopman, IFLA HQ, The Hague. The Committee is operating in close cooperation with

IFLA's Regional Offices and the Standing Committees of the Regional Sections.

The deadline for applications was 1 February 1999 but in fact all otherwise valid applications received by 12 February were taken into account. Valid applications received by that date were sent to the respective IFLA Regional Offices (Bangkok, Dakar, São Paulo). The Managers of those offices were requested to make recommendations regarding selection and prioritization of the applicants.

The Selection Committee met 5-8 March 1999 for the final selection. The Committee refined the selection criteria as follows.

Only candidates mastering one or more of IFLA's working languages would be considered.

The candidates should not have received earlier Danida or similar support for the IFLA conferences of 1997 (Copenhagen) and/or 1998 (Amsterdam). Applicants who might have other possibilities of participating were not considered, i.e., Chairs and Secretaries of IFLA Standing Committees who by accepting their posts were supposed to be able to attend the related activities. The expected "trickle down" effects were also considered.

In selecting candidates for a grant, priority was given to applicants from Asia and Oceania, because of the 1999 IFLA Conference taking place in that region (Bangkok, Thailand).

There were 305 valid applications received by the deadline. Of these applications 39 candidates were selected for support; 11 from Africa, 21 from Asia and Oceania and seven from Latin America and the Caribbean. Eleven were placed on a waiting list. In addition, the conference fee for some Thai professionals was paid for. The selected candidates came from 35 different countries. The

number of grants were in accordance with calculations built on estimated prices of accommodation, flight tickets, conference fees and also a per diem. The amount for each of the three regions is about the same.

All applications were registered and basic personal data extracted from the applications. Immediately after the process of selection, letters of regret were e-mailed, faxed and mailed to the applicants who were not selected for a grant, and successful grantees were informed in a letter of approval, likewise e-mailed or faxed and in all cases also sent by airmail. Most of the candidates had e-mail connections which facilitated communications between us. The list of selected candidates was sent to the Thai Organizing Committee and they sent out official letters of invitation on request. We had asked the candidates to reply to the invitation as soon as possible, but not later than 15 April. By this date only one candidate had not been reached even after repeated efforts, and at last another person was chosen.

The ticketing, accommodation and the programme were handled in Bangkok by the Thailand Grant Committee, headed by Pensri Guaysuwan. Dr Pensri contacted several travel agencies and Thai Airlines to get cost estimations and to negotiate the prices. Much time and energy was also spent on finding reasonable travel routes for each grantee. The ALP office had also contacted agencies in Sweden and Thai Air and the best option was to use two Bangkok agencies, Travel Design and Oriole. The tickets were sent by DHL, EMS and some were issued locally based on PTA. Two persons arranged their own tickets and were reimbursed. The reason why the tickets were handled in many different ways is that the situation is so different in the countries concerned. There was intensive communication between the TOC office

in Bangkok, the ALP office in Uppsala and the participants, concerning flight tickets; date of arrival and departure, route of travel, number of stopovers, availability of tickets, visas, etc. Because of Dr Pensri's good negotiation skills the costs of flights became cheaper than expected and one more grantee could be chosen. In the end 39 persons from the regions attended the conference.

In Bangkok the grantees were met at the airport by volunteers and taken to their hotel by a shuttle bus or taxi. At the hotel they received a welcome package with information about the on-site registration, conference programme, special programme, exhibition, hotel and conference venue, transportation, per diem, ticket re-confirmation, shopping, security and a "Who Is Who in Our Group". A special room at the King Park Avenue Hotel was assigned as the contact point for the group and a few committee and volunteer members stayed in this room to assist with all kinds of requests and queries from the grantees.

During the conference and after, many acknowledgments and expressions of gratitude were received. For many grantees it was the first time they were outside their country and they were very keen on learning and making new contacts. The grantees had been asked to write a short narrative evaluation of the conference and in those the grantees found the conference very informative and beneficial for their profession. All stressed "the good organization of travel arrangements, both before, during and after the conference, beautiful accommodations at spacious hotels with both good and caring management and staff", and also the warm Thai hospitality. It was a worthwhile venture for the grantees.

The smooth cooperation with Dr Pensri, the TCGC and the TOC was essential for the success of the project.

From the Divisions, Sections and Round Tables

IFLA Section and Round Table Projects for the Year 2000

During its recent meeting the Professional Board agreed to support the projects listed below. More information on the projects can be obtained from IFLA Headquarters or by e-mail from the rele-

vant PB member or the person carrying out the project.

University Libraries and other General Research Libraries. Information Materials in Spanish.

This is a two-year project whose aim is to locate relevant resources in Spanish around the world and to add them to an

already established IFLA/URL Web site for information literacy materials. The project will include negotiation for public availability of translations. The project results will include a model for information literacy programmes. The focus will be on the needs of University and Research Libraries. For more informa-

tion on this project contact Winston Tabb (e-mail: wtab@loc.gov).

Public Libraries. Information Technology in Public Libraries. The Section will carry out a feasibility study to prepare recommendations on the use of information technology in public libraries including the development of computer literacy among library users. For information on this project contact Barbara Clubb (e-mail: clubbb@opl.ottawa.on.ca).

Public Libraries. Public Libraries and Lifelong Learning. The project involves information gathering and analysis of best practice examples to develop and prepare the public libraries' role in the lifelong learning process. Among the aspects to be studied are: examples and models concerning public libraries' cooperation and communication with the local society; the relations existing between the interior design and inner structure of public libraries and an environment conducive to learning and education; experiences in the public library on the creation of electronic networks and cooperation between public libraries, research libraries, school libraries and special libraries; the development of contacts and cooperation with educational institutions and organizations; the role played by public libraries in the promotion of free access to information and freedom of expression; continuing professional education of librarians; and methods and strategies developed and adapted to adult education and groups with special needs. The project will make a collection of best practices examples, including other already existing IFLA projects on lifelong learning. This will be followed by seminars devoted to analysis of the material to identify strengths and weaknesses in the relationship between public libraries and systems for lifelong learning. The seminar discussions will be documented in working papers and reports. For more information on this project contact Britt Marie Häggström (e-mail: bmha.dik@akademikerhuset.se).

Libraries Serving Disadvantaged Persons. Translations of the Guidelines for Library Services to Deaf People. A revised version of the *Guidelines for Library Services to Deaf People* will soon be finished. The revised version will be translated into all IFLA working languages. For more information on this project contact John M. Day (e-mail: john.day@gallaudet.edu).

Libraries Serving Disadvantaged Persons. Guidelines for Library Services to Dyslexic Persons. Within the last 10

years there has been an increasing interest about dyslexia. At one time people with reading and writing difficulties hesitated to reveal their handicap, but many now openly tell about their problems in a world of letters. This openness has created a deeper understanding for dyslexia and the problems related to this invisible handicap which affects about 8% of the population. During the 1997 IFLA Conference in Copenhagen, dyslexia was put on the agenda. The great interest shown and the many questions about dyslexia during the conference clearly demonstrated the increasing interest among librarians from all over the world to learn more about dyslexia and what libraries can do to welcome this large group of handicapped people. The Section will follow up the initiative taken in 1997 with the project of Guidelines for Library Services to Dyslexic Persons. The contents will include: 1) what is dyslexia; 2) the democratic aspect; 3) the need for knowledge about dyslexia in libraries; 4) making persons with reading difficulties feel welcome in the library; 5) materials and computer programmes for persons with dyslexia; 6) how to reach dyslexics with information about library service; 7) guidelines; and 8) bibliography. Information on this project is available from John M. Day (e-mail: john.day@gallaudet.edu) or Gyda Skat Nielsen (e-mail: gsn@sollerod.dk).

School Libraries and Resource Centres. The School Library-Principal Relationship: Guidelines for Research and Practice. This publication will be a technical report of the Section's project, "Principals and School Libraries Working within an Information-Literate School Community", and will be of particular interest to school librarians, principals and researchers. Please contact Glenys Willars (e-mail: gwillars@leics.gov.uk) or Dianne Oberg (e-mail: doberg@ualberta.ca) for more information about this project.

Libraries for the Blind. Revision of the *Interlibrary Loan of Alternative Format Materials: A Balanced Sourcebook*. Changes in the recent past, particularly the increase in digital transmission of documents require a revision of the book by Winnie Vitzansky and Bruce Massis, which was published originally in 1992. The Guide will contain: 1) a guide to interlending and the use of sources such as repository libraries and other accessible databases; 2) definitions; 3) the major member libraries and other sources of alternative format materials which can be obtained through interlending; and 4) major document and article databases

available through the Internet. For more information on this project contact R.N. Tucker (e-mail: dtucker@f-force.nl).

Library Services to Multicultural Populations. Multicultural Service to Children and Young Adults. The Section will organize a seminar adapted to the multicultural situation in Israel, the diversity of the community, literacy, publishing and especially for sensitizing librarians on multicultural services. Information on this seminar is available from Souad Hubert (e-mail: hubert@bpi.fr).

Mobile Libraries. Telling Mobile Libraries' Stories. The Round Table will hold a workshop during the Jerusalem Conference 2000 to begin collecting data to support the writing of a history of mobile libraries. For more information contact Thelma H. Tate (e-mail: ttate@rci.rutgers.edu).

Bibliography. Effective Bibliographic Services. Using the criteria recommended by the International Conference on National Bibliographic Services (ICNBS) on features and qualities which should be represented in and characteristic of national bibliographies, this project will identify those national bibliographies which meet these standards in order to commend them and to promote them as examples for others. A determination of those national bibliographies which do not meet those criteria would enable the Section to offer suggestions and assistance for improvement to agencies responsible for them. The results of the study would enable the Section to assist with the ICNBS recommendations and therefore would represent a major contribution to IFLA's goals in the area of universal bibliographic control. For more information on this project contact Werner Stephan (e-mail: werner.stephan@ub.uni-stuttgart.de) or Barbara Bell (e-mail: bbell@acs.wooster.edu).

Information Technology. IT Training Needs Assessment in Developing Countries. Especially in those countries where Internet connections are just built up or are only available at high-level educational institutions, IT training for librarians has not yet been developed to the extent needed. The Section will compile information on two aspects of this problem. First, through the contacts of the Regional Offices, members of the Section, and other IFLA contacts, the Section will carry out a compilation of the needed training and education in this area in those countries. This will take on the character of a needs assessment for these skills. Second, the Section will set up an online database in which institutions all

over the world can enter information in a structured manner on relevant IT training courses which would be available on a worldwide basis and accessible to the target countries on the African continent, in Asia and the eastern part of the former Soviet Union, and the continent of South America. This will provide an instrument for individuals and institutions to enhance their skills in IT competencies without having to leave their country. This may also help redefine distance learning goals in the area of IT proficiency and training offerings. Therefore the Section will carry out a needs assessment and establish a database for IT training available in these areas or via distance learning. For more information on this project contact Diann Rusch-Feja (e-mail: ruschfeja@mpib-berlin.mpg.de).

Information Technology. GUI Icon Standards. The Section will carry out Phase IV of the project through publication and promotion of the developed Standard Set of Icons and negotiation with standards bodies about implementation. For more information on this project contact Yuri Hohlov (e-mail: hohlov@iis.ru) or Larry Woods (e-mail: larry-woods@uiowa.edu).

Audiovisual and Multimedia. The Status of Copyright and Legal Deposit regarding AVM in Spanish-speaking Countries. The Section will carry out a study for this one-year project to identify the status of copyright and legal deposit regarding audiovisual and multimedia in Spanish-speaking countries. For more information on this project contact Bibbi Anderson (e-mail: bibbi.andersson@tpb.se) or Graciela Dacosta (e-mail: gracia13@yahoo.com).

Management and Marketing. Developing Librarians as Managers. The aim of the project is to gather information concerning the teaching of management and of statistics in first qualification courses in librarianship (in collaboration with the Section on Education and Training and the Section on Statistics). Three groups will be approached: 1) a sample of LIS schools with the objective of gathering data and specific information concerning the school's philosophy on the teaching of management and of statistics; its strategies for the development of managers; who teaches these subjects; what is taught; learning methods; assessment methods; whether the amount of time devoted to management and statistics is increasing or decreasing; and the school's views on the teaching of the two subjects; 2) the accrediting bodies with the objective of gathering their views on:

the place of management and statistics in the curricula of qualifying courses; the quality of the teaching of these two subjects; and whether they would like to see any changes in the current situation; and 3) the views of professional groups representing senior managers and educators within the profession (LAMA, ALISE, etc.) on their satisfaction with the situation in their country and sector; and whether they would like to see changes made. The survey instrument will be distributed by mail. For more information on this project contact Réjean Savard (e-mail: savardr@ere.umontreal.ca).

Management and Marketing. Education and Research for Marketing and Quality Management in Libraries. In 2001 the Section will hold a satellite meeting of educators, researchers and practitioners (especially from developing countries) to discuss how to promote the education of librarians in marketing and quality management. Information on the meeting is available from Réjean Savard (e-mail: savardr@ere.umontreal.ca).

Reading. Library Programmes for Promotion of Literacy. The Section will hold a workshop during the Jerusalem Conference 2000 with a follow-up at Boston 2001 to prepare Guidelines for Literacy Projects in Libraries. Information is available from Adèle Fasick (e-mail: amfasick@crl.com).

Library and Information Science Journals. Study of LIS Journals. The Round Table will carry out a study to identify the features and characteristics associated with good or successful LIS journals in order to provide some guidance to editors and publishers of other journals. The study will begin with the Asia-Pacific region. For more information on this project contact Ludmila Kozlova (e-mail: irgb@glas.apc.org) or Gary Gorman (e-mail: gary.gorman@vuw.ac.nz).

Asia and Oceania. Baseline Data for the Development of Libraries, Librarianship and Information Services in the Asia/Oceania Region. The Asia and Oceania region covers the countries in Southeast Asia, Central and East Asia, Oceania and the Arabic-speaking countries in the Middle East, thus covering almost half the world. Presently there is no central bank of data on libraries, librarianship and information services in each of the countries of the region. Data will be collected on library associations, libraries, language spoken in the country, geographic area, number of libraries, Internet access, library schools, national bibliographies, library legislation, legal deposit legislation, literacy level and per

capita income. The result will be the development of a database on vital statistics related to libraries, librarianship and information services in the Asia and Oceania region. For information on this project contact Rashidah Begum (e-mail: rashidah@usm.my).

Discussion Group on Electronic Licensing

Ann Okerson, Convenor of the Discussion Group, has submitted the following report.

During the IFLA Conference in Bangkok, 20-27 August 1999, about 40 delegates gathered to launch the Electronic Licensing Discussion Group. Ann Okerson convened the group by observing that licensing is now a way of life for librarians and libraries. She posed the questions. What are the "hot topics" that we want to discuss here? What can we all do to help licensing "scale up", i.e., to reduce the amount of time libraries and publishers must spend negotiating hundreds of deals, often for similar content with similar institutions? Are there tools that can help (principles, checklists, etc.)? How does the group feel about the several model licenses which have been introduced over the past year? These include the UK Higher Education Funding Council's work with the Publishers Association to develop a model license for British institutions; a similar effort, again in the UK, on the NESLI (National Electronic Site Licensing) project; the recent work of John Cox, consultant, in developing model licenses on behalf of five international subscription agencies; and other individual efforts.

The Discussion Group tackled all these questions with enthusiasm and energy and was much enriched by the presence of several non-librarians including representatives from Academic Press and Elsevier Science. There was agreement on several points:

- Licensing is indeed taking an increasing amount of time.
- The price for electronic information resources is perhaps the greatest single dividing issue, now that there appears to be increasing convergence on issues that have divided libraries and information providers (for example, fair use and interlibrary loan are more and more frequently being accommodated into licensing agreements).

- Non-cancellation (of paper) clauses - inability of a library's subscription cancellations ever to reduce electronic price - is another problematic and dividing issue, a subset of the pricing problem. That is, some publishers will provide library customers a quote for electronic journal subscriptions that is based on the number of print subscriptions that library took as of a certain year, and that quote establishes the permanent base price on top of which annual increases are calculated. Under such an agreement, there is no way that the library can reduce that price in future years, even if the need for certain journals or subjects disappears. In the print environment, cancellations can be used to reduce the price paid by the library to a publisher.

- Libraries need to develop a posture and acceptable language which meets their own institutional needs and to present this clearly to information providers with whom they wish to contract.

- No single pricing model (nor even a few models) can meet the needs of information providers and libraries, given the variety of institutions, needs, and types of electronic information that are becoming available. There was a great deal of objection to FTE or "body count" models when applied to scholarly information.

- The only way to reliably and significantly reduce prices for electronic information (i.e., to negotiate with information providers) is through library consortia.

Lively disagreement ensued about the following:

- It is possible to develop model licenses that meet even most publishers' and institutions' needs. One librarian said, "One size does not fit all in this environment". Another publisher noted, "We don't want a single license. It cannot be made to work". Moreover, the differences between countries and states render uniformity impossible.

- It is possible or desirable to give certain licenses or certain publishers a "seal of approval". Things are changing too quickly and what is good today may not meet tomorrow's needs.

- The license regime will be short-lived and will become obsolete 3-5 years from now. It will need to evolve into something that is far more workable and efficient.

- Libraries will (or will not) be dropping print subscriptions any time soon.

The group touched on the topic of academic authors and their interests, hopes, and fears in the electronic environment. Authors are concerned that: 1) journals may not be archivable in electronic format and so print is safer; 2) the reasonably well understood academic rewards system will not transfer into the electronic world. These concerns can make e-journals (or e-versions of print journals) a hard sell on academic campuses. At the same time, so-called preprint or e-print initiatives are on the rise. In these, authors post their papers to disciplinary Web sites in advance of those papers having been formally published. The controversial development in the e-print arena this year has been the US National Institute of Health's "ebiomed".

Marta Seljak, Director of the Slovenian Institute of Information Science, spoke poignantly on English language licenses (it is hard to understand all the legal implications of licenses that are not in one's own language), how to educate users, and how to support the infra and superstructures needed for the success of electronic information delivery. These are not easy problems for anyone, especially libraries in less privileged or wealthy countries.

The group was asked whether licensing was now exhausted as a discussion topic for IFLA or whether the Discussion Group should meet again in Jerusalem. There was unanimous agreement not only that the group should continue, but also that there needs to be more visible advertising for the Jerusalem meeting. Since the IFLA Conference in Bangkok, several participants have sent in suggestions for discussion topics in 2000. All suggestions are welcome. Please send them to Ann Okerson, Convenor, at <ann.okerson@yale.edu>.

School Library Manifesto Ratified by UNESCO

The IFLA School Library Manifesto was ratified by the 30th UNESCO General Conference. This Manifesto argues that school library services are so vital that they should be provided equally to all members of the school community, regardless of age, race, gender, religion, nationality, language, profession, or social status. Specific services and materials must be provided for those who are unable to use mainstream library services and materials.

"I am delighted by UNESCO's ratification of the Manifesto; this is a major step to ensure that the role of the school library in the new information environment is understood and agreed upon worldwide", said Glenys Willars, Chair of IFLA's Section for School Libraries and Resource Centres, and member of IFLA's Professional Board.

The IFLA/UNESCO School Library Manifesto urges governments, through their ministries responsible for education, to develop strategies, policies and plans that implement the principles of this Manifesto. Plans should include the dissemination of the Manifesto to initial and continuing training programmes for librarians and teachers.

IFLA is grateful for the support that colleagues throughout the world have given to the development of the School Library Manifesto. Many professionals were involved in this, but special reference should be made to the library community of Canada for the role it played in this process.

Effort will now be put in the promotion of the IFLA/UNESCO School Library Manifesto, including the translation and publication into as many languages as possible. Additional information is available from Glenys Willars, IFLA Section for School Libraries and Resource Centres, Leicestershire Libraries and Information Service, Rothley Crossroads, Rothley, Leicester LE7 7NH, UK (fax: +(44-116) 2678039; e-mail: gwillars@leics.gov.uk) or from S. Koopman, IFLA Headquarters, POB 95312, 2509 CH The Hague, Netherlands (fax: +(31-70) 3834827; e-mail: sjoerd.koopman@ifla.org).

Round Table on Library and Information Science Journals

During its meeting on 20-30 November 1999 the Professional Board approved the name change of the Round Table of Editors of Library Journals (RTELJ) to the Round Table on Library and Information Science Journals. In making its request to the PB, the Round Table wrote: "The RTELJ has served hitherto as a means of bringing together editors of library and information science journals to discuss matters of common interest. However, many of these matters are of interest to others than editors - for example, publishers, authors, readers and LIS departments. This broad interest has been demonstrated by the attendance at the open sessions of the RT at the last two

IFLA Conferences; it was not only excellent in terms of numbers present, but included a wide range of people. The breadth of interest in LIS journals is reinforced by the major changes that journal publishing is undergoing at the present time. A further point is that

'library journals', while it may be a convenient shorthand term for LIS journals, is no longer accurate, and could be misleading. The RTELJ's name therefore no longer represents its true functions and interests. The Chair and Secretary are united in believing that it should be

changed to the Round Table on Library and Information Science Journals, and it is proposed, subject to comments from members, that the necessary steps should be taken to achieve the change."

Reports of Meetings

IATUL Meeting in Crete, 17-21 May 1999

The following report was submitted by Julia Gelfand, University of California, Irvine, USA.

The 1999 meeting of the International Association of Technological University Libraries (IATUL) took place in Chania, Crete, 17-21 May, hosted by the Technical University of Crete (TUC), under the leadership of Anthi Katsirikou, Director of Libraries and her staff. This beautiful Greek island was a wonderful place to attend a conference. TUC is a new technical university opened less than 15 years, with an expanding library on the new campus. The history, natural beauty, and options for distractions made for a very special trip. Crete is very near the Balkans and the immediacy and concerns for the war being fought so nearby was very evident.

Registration included 120 librarians and information professionals from throughout Eastern and Western Europe, Australia, South Africa and a few from North America. The theme of this year's conference was "The Future of Libraries in Human Communication", and many sessions reflected ideas related to issues in library service and management. Several keynote papers were delivered on topics ranging from: "The changing role of the library: missions and ethics", which described changes in the new British Library by the Director-General, David Russon; Ann Wolpert, University Librarian at MIT, addressed "Commercial brand management"; Alan Bundy from the University of South Australia delivered a most enlightening paper on "Challenging technolust: the educational responsibility of librarians". More than 30 papers were delivered. Specific papers of interest included: "Sharing metadata: enabling online information provision", which was about preparing bibliographic

records for OPACs; the new concept of the "International library, information and analysis centre (ILIAC)", a new project at the Russian National Public Library for Science and Technology, which was described as a worldwide venture to gain investment in resources for that library and to share and encourage cooperation between Russia, the CIS, USA and other countries; and several others on different new services, partnerships and activities introduced by creative librarians and information providers from around the globe. For a listing of all the papers and full-text coverage, the electronic proceedings are available at <http://proceedcontents/cvol19.html>. Proceedings of earlier conferences are found on the IATUL homepage at <http://educate.lib.chalmers.se/IATUL/index.html> where one can learn about the organization, membership categories, other publications, future conference announcements and find links to other science library organizations and associations, including IFLANET.

Field trips during the conference in Crete included visits to the archaeological sites at Knossos where visits were made to the famous Minoan Palace and also a brief stop to the Heraklion Museum to see the relics from the restoration at that site; academic libraries at the University of Crete; monasteries of Preveli and Gonia and for some attendees, a trip to the Samaria Gorge. The hospitality and setting on the beautiful Venetian waterfront of Chania was a perfect backdrop for the conference and contributed to wonderful memories.

At the business meeting, the IATUL Board shared and explored ways to expand IATUL:

- to achieve more visibility through some of its projects, such as EDUCATE, DEDICATE and other research and service programmes in which librarians at many IATUL member institutions participate;

- to increase institutional membership;
- to encourage more participation from North America;
- to promote sponsorship from different sources; and
- to better distribute conference plans.

Michael Breaks will assume the four-year term of President of IATUL following the close of the 2000 conference and Nancy Fjallbrant will become Past-President; The North American representative from the USA will be Lee Jones from the Linda Hall Library, Kansas City.

All attendees shared their continued enthusiasm for the relevancy of content in the programmes to their primary responsibilities; the sense of "community" and the "all-inclusiveness" of the conference package; the ability to leisurely share information and network; how to develop new friends and colleagues, usually more difficult to achieve at larger conferences; the appreciation to local organizing committees; how much they look forward to renew acquaintances and see friends that they only see at IATUL Conferences. IATUL 2000 will next meet 3-7 July 2000 in Brisbane, Queensland, Australia, when Queensland University of Technology and the University of Queensland will host a conference with the theme, "Virtual Libraries, Virtual Communities" hoping to draw papers on sub-themes of: The Information Economy, Virtual Campus, Networked Learning Environments, Innovative Client Services (including information literacy and personalized learning). Several prominent keynoters have already been invited from Australia and the United States to participate in this first IATUL Conference of the millennium. One can consult <http://educate.lib.chalmers.se/IATUL/conf.html> for ongoing announcements and details about that conference, deadlines for submissions and registrations and a reference to the host institutions at: <http://www.qut.edu.au>.

Libraries for the Blind Conference in Malaysia, 19-20 August 1999

Dick Tucker, Secretary of the Section of Libraries for the Blind submitted the following report.

Under the auspices of the Section of Libraries for the Blind and the National Council for the Blind of Malaysia a two day pre-conference was held on Penang Island prior to the Bangkok Conference, 19-20 August 1999.

As the title suggests the underlying theme was the effect of the information age, and particularly digitization, on the provision of library and literacy services. Approximately 100 delegates from 27 countries participated in sessions covering developments in the region, mobile libraries, latest trends in library services for the blind, digital talking books, computerized braille production, the digital library concept and tactile materials.

One of the main objectives of the Section is to assist in the development of library services to the print-disabled in countries that do not yet have such services. It was therefore to be expected that the majority of delegates came from Malaysia and neighboring countries of Southeast Asia. Starting with reports of what is happening in the region it soon became apparent that although the countries of Southeast Asia might consider that their libraries for the blind are few and poor in comparison with those of the developed world, it was interesting to learn how they are leap-frogging many of the development stages and moving directly into digital production of texts. Because of the high cost of producing alternative formats, anything which will help lower the costs for libraries is desirable. The region is keen to increase the amount of scanning text to braille and the creation of information networks to reduce duplicate production of the same titles.

While the libraries and production centres are beginning to tool up with computers and scanners, it will be a long time before the end-users will have computers. Efforts are being made to train many more people to produce braille texts. Networking of all the small producers and the larger libraries was seen as the priority.

Where libraries serve a disabled and dispersed population, mobile library services are essential. The conference learned of such services in both Thailand and Sabah. Rather than create separate

services for the visually impaired, delivery of alternative format materials is directed through existing library services.

In Europe and North America the link between public and academic libraries and services for the print-disabled are increasing. The conference learned of a Swedish project in which print-handicapped people were trained as library intermediaries in public libraries thereby lowering the threshold over which the handicapped have to step. Austria provided a model of services for visually impaired students through the university libraries.

With the rapid development of digital technologies there was continuing interest in the digital talking book. DAISY (Digital Audiobased Information System) Consortium members reported on the production of audio books and the move towards the hybrid file with the text and spoken versions on the same disk and coded together. There were also presentations on production and distribution. The world of libraries for the blind is both busy with the development and yet anxiously awaiting the move from analogue to digital that must come but has considerable consequences. The rest of the library world can also gain from the development of such a flexible technology as the use of spoken books increases and there is greater recognition of their value to dyslexics and people with other print handicaps.

Digital technology is also revolutionizing braille production, making it faster and cheaper through the use of scanners and computers. In this the developing countries are active in training library and production staff in the use of OCR software and braille conversion programmes. Because the production of braille entails the making of a digital file, the possibility of sharing files between libraries becomes a real possibility. The concept of the digital library was explored in the workshop. Not only is it desirable in order to cut down duplication of effort but it is now a practical reality using e-mail and the Web. The virtual library within a language area becomes a real possibility, providing the opening for less developed countries to make use of the resources of developed countries. In the case of text the exchanges would be of braille files which should not give rise to any copyright problems.

Tactile images are not only an essential part of many braille books, but are also essential for mobility (maps) and

interaction with many of today's electronic interfaces. Though tactile drawings have been produced for many years, there is still a great deal of research to be done into how visually impaired people can decode lines under their fingers into understandable information.

Running through all the sessions was the notion that the more the libraries for the blind become digital, and the more that blind people can access digital information, the greater the need to integrate services with the rest of the library and information world. For too long the blind (and their library services) have been confined to some nether region "over there" and not here in the mainstream.

The final session of the workshop broke into discussion groups which derived the following pointers for future work. The Section of Libraries for the Blind must work with other IFLA Sections to improve their understanding of the "Libraries for All" concept.

The Section should publish "best practice" standards, not only to help all special libraries for the print handicapped achieve the highest standards possible in their own context, but also to point out to the rest of the library world how effective cooperation may be achieved.

The Section should also work on ways of developing a worldwide (virtual) catalogue of alternative format materials, which itself would be part of a networking between all libraries and production centres.

The Section should provide training and networking opportunities to share good practice and knowledge about new technologies.

At the level of the libraries, if not at the level of the individual user, it is clear that the developed and the developing countries are faced with the very same problems. It is obvious that together we should be developing the same solutions. The conference papers are available at <www.ifla.org>.

INTAMEL Conference, Zurich, Switzerland, 19-24 September 1999

The following report was submitted by Stuart Brewer, Information Coordinator for the INTAMEL Round Table. He may be contacted for further information at: Pat Wressell Associates, 36 Highbury, Newcastle upon Tyne NE2 3EA, UK (fax:

+ (44-191) 2120146; e-mail: pwa@wressell.demon.co.uk).

Fifty delegates from 17 countries and 34 cities gathered in Zurich for the 1999 INTAMEL (International Association of Metropolitan City Libraries) Conference. They represented cities as far flung as Los Angeles, Wuppertal, Amman, Singapore and Perth, Western Australia. There was also, for the second year running, an encouraging number of colleagues from Central and Eastern Europe, some again supported by the Soros Foundation and, in one case, by INTAMEL itself.

Core contributions to the conference came directly from the delegates, with a total of 18 papers or presentations, 17 of which are summarized in the December 1999 issue of the INTAMEL newsletter, *Metro*. Some of these papers were in response to the conference theme of "Services for Multilingual Populations and for Young Adults". Others dealt with training for librarianship, major building redevelopment, radical organization and culture change, IT for learners, service development in the face of social, political and economic shifts, promotion and fund-raising, national and regional agencies, and collaboration and partnership, with most papers in fact dealing with a "cat's cradle" of several interlaced themes.

The ensuing discussions led to the sharing of many leading-edge ideas and experiences. Among these were how Queens works with the police department to encourage youngsters into libraries, volunteer "Library Grandparents" to support work with children (Houston, Ljubljana, and Los Angeles), library staff dealing with driving licenses in Hanover, sponsorship of the business information service in Minsk, and a map and guide to 120 libraries open to the public in Paris.

Other valuable sessions introduced delegates to the Bertelsmann Foundation and its International Network of Public Libraries (currently 20 practitioners from 11 countries working on model solutions on such topics as new technologies, management issues, and sponsorship), and to BerninaSpider, a new retrieval system for digitized library card catalogues ("a highly specialized system for scanned library card catalogues that was initially developed in the [University] Zentralbibliothek Zurich in 1996 . . . now available as a standard software package for integrating card catalogues into a modern computerized library infrastructure").

Conference visits included fine modern libraries which featured services for bilingual populations, for young people, and in mountainous areas.

Conference host Christian Relly (Pestalozzi-Bibliothek Zurich), explained how it is that multilingual Switzerland's 7 million people have 3,000 independent municipalities - and independent public libraries to match! He also outlined a pilot project in the method of financing the PBZ library system: the new three-year contract with the City specifies how the subsidy to be provided is dependent on output and performance in terms of membership, visitors, circulation and income. "I like it", Christian says, "it makes our work, strategy and management more effective. It also lets us see a financial result for the quantity and even for the quality of our work".

Members specializing in work with young people were invited to give guest lectures or to hold seminars in Moscow. Funding will be through grants and sponsorships. The aim is to enable Russian libraries to make and maintain contacts with Western colleagues and to benefit from their experience and knowledge. The contact person is Tatiana Kouznetsova (fax: +(7-095) 9700284; e-mail: nekrasov@mtu-net.ru).

A further highlight was the visit to the INTAMEL business meeting of IFLA Secretary General Ross Shimmom, who had been invited to speak following discussion at last year's Budapest Conference on INTAMEL's relationship with IFLA and the obligations and benefits of Round Table status. He outlined IFLA's current structure, including the Round Tables, and threw the ball into INTAMEL's court: it was for INTAMEL members to decide whether they wished to be more closely involved with IFLA, or whether they wished to become free of the IFLA connection.

Round Tables usually had an organized presence at IFLA Conferences, for which some funding was available. IFLANET, the IFLA Web site, managed by the National Library of Canada, contained pages for Round Tables and the option was available for INTAMEL to make use of the facility and to set up a listserv. In addition, IFLA was reviewing its structure and, as a Round Table, INTAMEL had the opportunity to contribute to the process.

Following discussion, it was agreed that Barbara Gubbin (Houston) and Susan Kent (Los Angeles), together with Gary Strong (Queens), co-Chair of the

2001 Boston Conference Organizing Committee, would work towards an INTAMEL presence at Boston, and INTAMEL's Information Coordinator, Stuart Brewer and Metro Editor, Pat Wressell would investigate developing INTAMEL Web pages on the IFLA Web site.

Next year's conference is to be held in St. Louis, Missouri, USA. Jointly hosted by the St. Louis Public Library and the St. Louis County Library, the Conference will take as its theme "Public Libraries in a Global Society". The dates are 17-22 September 2000, with an optional extra few days for a visit to New Orleans if sufficient delegates opt in. The conference organizers plan to involve the Missouri State Library, the Urban Libraries Council, Washington University Library and the MBG Library (rare books collection), as well as the two host libraries and their staff. The 2001 Conference will be in Paris.

INTAMEL, a Round Table of IFLA, is a platform primarily for the public libraries of cities serving populations of 400,000 or more. Libraries serving smaller populations, e.g., in capital cities, and library systems which serve wider metropolitan, suburban, county, region or state areas, are equally very welcome. The members - directors of such library services - exchange ideas, opinions, expertise and information on current professional and managerial issues, both strategic and operational. The two main activities are the collation of annual statistics from the member libraries, and the annual conference, always a great opportunity for networking and for probing how other colleagues manage their libraries, complemented by the twice-yearly newsletter, *Metro*. Recent new members include ACT Canberra, Barcelona, Brasov (Romania), Ljubljana-Beograd (Slovenia), Moscow and Riga (Latvia).

Universal Bibliographic Control and UNIMARC, Tbilisi, Georgia, 3-5 October 1999

Following several worldwide UBCIM seminars and workshops, it was decided to organize a regional meeting for the Transcaucasian republics after colleagues had reported problems in the field of systematization and standardization. The lack of experience and knowledge in the creation and management of national bibliographic systems had also been a

source of concern in the region. According to local participants, the workshop was the first international high level professional meeting of this kind held in the region since the split of the USSR and the independence of the three republics of Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia. It was preceded by a local preliminary workshop on 10 -11 September 1999. The meeting was organized jointly by the Library Automation Association of Georgia (LAAG) and the IFLA UBCIM Programme and its Permanent UNIMARC Committee (PUC). The venue was the Central Scientific Library of the Georgian Academy of Sciences in Tbilisi. The main organizers were Irakli Garibashvili, Executive Director of LAAG (assisted by Irina Chanturishvili from the US Embassy, Tbilisi; and Aleksander Loria from SS Orbeliani Pedagogical University); and Marie-France Plassard, IFLA UBCIM.

The main sponsor, whose support enabled participation from international speakers and regional delegates, was the Open Society Foundation (Soros). Additional sponsors were the US National Commission for Library and Information Science (NCLIS), the Georgian Academy of Sciences and IFLA UBCIM.

The aims of the workshop were:

- to become familiar with the trends in Universal Bibliographic Control, in the area of cooperation and the use of information and communication technologies
- to gain further experience in the UNIMARC format
- to examine the situation of bibliographic control in the region and to identify problems and barriers to bibliographic control and possible solutions

- to formulate proposals for strengthening bibliographic control and to promote cooperation in the region.

About 60 participants came from various institutions and organizations in Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan. Librarians, publishers and a few students were in the audience. The generous hospitality of the hosts and sponsors was very much appreciated by all participants who also enjoyed the cultural programme and visits to the National Parliamentary Library of Georgia and the former capital, Mchkheta.

After greetings from LAAG (Teimuraz Chkhenkeli, President) and IFLA, the professional programme started by a comprehensive presentation of the "Role of the National Bibliographic Agency" by Barbara Bell (College of Wooster, Ohio, USA and member of the Standing Committee of the IFLA Section on Bibliography). This was followed by a report on Universal Bibliographic Control and IFLA standards by Ms Plassard. Mirna Willer (National and University Library, Zagreb, Croatia and Chair of the PUC) then explained the structure, use and future development of the UNIMARC Format for Authorities.

The second day was devoted to some reports from the region: the Georgian experience in cataloguing non-roman materials (by Irakli Garibashvili) as well as Armenian scripts in bibliographic databases and Armenian libraries at the turn of the 21st century (by Tigran Zargaryan, Yerevan State University Library). Of great interest to the participants was the Baltic experience presented by Regina Varnien, Deputy Director of the National Library of Lithuania and member of the PUC, especially since it

came from a new independent former Soviet republic. The other presentations were on Metadata and UNIMARC (Brian Holt, British Library and Vice Chair of the PUC) and Minisis as a tool for implementing UNIMARC (Alan Hopkinson, Middlesex University, UK). The latter answered some of the problems related to the creation of bibliographic databases.

The last day started with a training session (in Russian) in UNIMARC Authorities by Liuba Buckienė (National Library of Lithuania). This was also responding to needs and requests from participants. It was followed by a round table which concentrated on issues of concern to the region and gave a representative from Azerbaijan the opportunity to report on the situation in this country.

Since the split of the USSR, some republics have stopped using the Soviet standards and are trying to adopt international rules and/or create their own national standards. One serious obstacle is the lack of language specialists and the absence of local bodies for library standards; yet most of the international standards are in English (e.g., the IFLA norms donated by UBCIM). Representatives from the region were encouraged to translate standards into their own languages. Besides the ISBDs, for example, the LCSH should be translated.

Another matter of concern is the choice of integrated systems. They are expensive and not always adapted to the needs of institutions concerned. It was recommended to try using CDS/ISIS. This is a package which is free of charge. Although it is not an integrated system, it can be adapted by programmers. Because there was no shortage of skilled programmers, the countries could cooperate in developing their own integrated systems and other software products.

Colleagues reported a lack of experienced professionals and the need for legal, organizational, technical and linguistic support. Financial support was also a critical issue. Standardization lacked coordination. Transliteration should be dealt with. Flexible systems for converting data were needed.

Representatives from the region were urged to consider as their first priority the creation of their national bibliography which is the base for Universal Bibliographic Control. A national agency should be fully responsible for this task. Decisions, structure and legislation need



to define specific roles of the National Bibliographic Agency.

The discussion concluded on the need for greater cooperation within the region as the three countries involved are not only close geographically but seem to have similar interests. There are good specialists but they need more information and work should be better coordinated. Training could be organized on a shared basis.

During the closing session UBCIM publications (including the ISBDs and UNIMARC documentation) were donated to each of the three republics.

6th Interlending and Document Supply Conference, Pretoria, 25-29 October 1999

The following report was submitted by Graham P. Cornish, Director of the IFLA UAP Programme.

"Empowering Society through the Global Flow of Information" was the theme of the 6th Interlending and Document Supply International Conference held in Pretoria in October 1999. Some 180 delegates from 25 countries spent three intensive days discussing the role of document supply in its widest sense in the empowerment of society in an international context.

Infrastructure

It became clear that, since the first conference in 1988, although many things have changed many others remain much the same. Participants soon learned that there are some things which cannot be changed and others that can and they need to acquire the wisdom to know the difference! Many speakers and delegates raised the issues of infrastructure and finance as basic elements in the struggle to improve document supply both nationally and internationally. Despite huge strides in the telecommunications industry this is still very uneven. In so-called "developed" countries there was frustration that the volume of traffic is now causing log-jams in information flow. In developing countries the problems of unreliable connections and high costs are little different from 11 years ago. One example was a South African researcher who wanted two pieces of legislation, one from Zimbabwe and one from Zambia. He telephoned Zambia but the line was so bad he could not make his needs understood; in Zimbabwe he was understood but was told the cost of

faxing the document was too high. Postage was out of the question as the postal services are still so unreliable. So the old method of using the post to send things has not improved much either.

Finance

The other major issue, finance, remains a problem in all types of country. Budgets are shrinking in most places and the costs of document supply (staff, equipment, communications) continues to rise. Most libraries rely on public funding for the bulk of their budget and this is capricious to say the least. These are areas over which libraries have little or no control, although the Ghana project funded by the Danish Aid Agency Danida did manage to improve telecommunications by building this in as part of the project.

Probably though, finance in its widest sense was seen as the biggest single factor in limiting the ability of the library community to play its part in empowerment of society. Libraries rely on national economic trends and so provision continues to be variable. Costs of international transactions are particularly expensive in terms of communications but also in transferring money from one country to another, made worse by the many restrictions placed on the transfer of national currencies, especially in those countries whose currencies have limited negotiating value. Here the usefulness of the IFLA voucher scheme was mentioned frequently as one way to overcome some of these problems, although it does not solve the basic problem of lack of cash! Many speakers emphasized the system of providing subsidies from one country to another for services or provision of information databases. This is of limited value as this funding runs out eventually and the receiving institution is left with users who have high expectations but even less chance of meeting them.

Legal Framework

An area where librarians do have a chance to influence change is the legal framework. Many participants spoke of the problems caused by copyright law but experience shows that governments can be persuaded to amend or "soften" legislation if they are properly informed of the consequences of failing to do so. Copyright owners were exhorted to consider the way they price licensing schemes. Many countries cannot afford high royalties which may lead to illicit copying of various kinds. It was seen as better for users, intermediaries, and owners if lower prices, which they could

afford, were fixed for some countries, and they would therefore be more inclined to uphold copyright owners' rights in return.

Empowering Society

By emphasizing the issue of empowering society the conference turned the spotlight on the user or client of library services. Relatively little is known about the real needs, expectations or preferences of users. What is certain is that their needs are many and various and cannot be categorized in a simple matrix. Speed, cost, reliability and user-friendliness are all key elements but they may not all be key to the same people. As methods of seeking and requesting documents change, so may the importance of these elements. For example, as user-initiated document supply becomes more common, the importance of user-friendliness will increase but that of speed may not because the system itself has removed several stages which often slowed down the whole process. Cost will be perceived differently depending on who has to pay. Increasingly libraries are unable to bear the total cost of document supply services and allowing users to use unmediated interlibrary loan mechanisms may increase these costs even more. These changes will also have a major impact on the library profession as an intermediary in the information chain. Users will be less interested in asking librarians for documents than expecting them to be able to produce ready-made packages of information, sorted, evaluated, structured and analyzed. These will, of course, be multimedia packages incorporating a wide range of materials from many different sources.

User Education and Resource Sharing

This shift raises the whole question of user education. Generally they need guidance on how to use the system, how to search and how to manage large quantities of information, much of which will be irrelevant or of poor quality. In addition, users need guidance on relative costs and benefits of different ways of obtaining information. However, probably the most important single theme to emerge from the conference was the question of resource sharing. For so long many countries and libraries have relied not on resource sharing but resource dependence. "Sharing" means essentially all parties concerned put something into the common pool and are also able to take something from it. Until this real understanding of resource sharing is taken seriously it may be difficult to break

traditional attitudes. In fact, one of the great barriers to sharing is that of attitude. Different cultures understand this term in very different ways: those who have plenty of resources see this is a reasonable activity but those who have little see sharing as something which takes away from them altogether. Yet the reality is that all libraries and all countries have something valuable to contribute. Unfortunately contributions are often measured in terms of the number of loans supplied or photocopies made. But to the user seeking a rare or obscure publication the value of that one item found may be infinitely greater than a whole host of journal articles supplied from well-known publishers to an information-hungry scientist. The small specialized library, the country with very limited collections, and the nation whose publications are in a language not spoken outside its borders. All have something to contribute to the total information resource. That they are not used often is less important than that they are there if needed. Once this cultural attitude is adopted then those with limited resources may be able to promote what they do have to those who may need it and so generate something for themselves. This is the original philosophy behind the voucher scheme. Libraries would begin to offer services from their collections for which they could earn vouchers to be used to obtain services from those countries on which dependence has for too long been an almost subconscious reaction.

Of course dependency can be reduced in other ways, too. For example encouraging the publishing industry to pay more attention to the needs of a country or region rather than simply importing existing material from elsewhere is a vital element in improving self-sufficiency in many parts of the world. If libraries can improve their purchasing of indigenous material then this will also stimulate its production. For many publishers the library community ought to be the biggest single customer.

Libraries are there to empower people but to do this people must realize they can play this role. There is little use in librarians sitting in their offices lamenting the lack of funds, status and the ability to change the situation. It is essential that those who hold the power - and that usually means the money - understand the role that good library and information provision can play in achieving the goals of good government. Education, health, social welfare, economic growth, defense structures, personal growth and

democracy are all underpinned by good and efficient access to a wide range of information. At the most basic and important level, the role of the library in promoting and encouraging literacy through providing reading materials cannot be over-emphasized. Those involved in major planning exercises of all kinds should be educated to think "information supply" in the same way as they would think supply of any other basic commodity - water, electricity, transport, finance, human resources. As the product with which librarians work is international in nature, this naturally means that the interdependence of information providers will become clear and the need to put proper structures in place to meet this challenge will be seen as essential.

These provocative and challenging discussions took place within the context of the jacarander-festooned city of Pretoria which also provided outstanding hospitality in a variety of social events, all of which were designed to improve networking possibilities and which amply achieved that goal. This was the sixth in what has become a permanent fixture in the library and information calendar. The next will be in 2001 - but where? Volunteers to be considered as the host are welcome!

**Net-ELIS Workshop,
Colombo, Sri Lanka,
17-23 October 1999**

The following report was submitted by Russell Bowden, Honorary Fellow of IFLA. Mr Bowden may be contacted at 115/1 Parakum Mawatha, Bangalawatte, Kottawa, Sri Lanka (fax: +(94) 74795090; e-mail: russell@slt.lk).

IFLA's RSCAO (Regional Standing Committee for Asia and Oceania) has just seen the completion of one of its most significant projects from its current Medium-Term Programme. Three years in the planning, it was a workshop on networking, named Net-ELIS for "Networking for Effect Library and Information Services". The workshop was held in Colombo, Sri Lanka from 17 to 23 October 1999. IFLA's ALP (Advancement of Librarianship) Core Programme provided the major part of the finances, and the organization was placed in the hands of the Sri Lanka Library Association.

Networking was selected as the topic because the RSCAO believes that in Asia and Oceania libraries and information services are at various stages of development, from the relatively well-advanced exploiting to the full the benefits of the information technology revolution (such as in parts of India, Hong Kong, Singapore, Australia and Japan); to those in library and information science terms as "ready to take off" (for instance in China, Malaysia and Thailand); to those still struggling to provide services at an adequate basic level using more traditional library and information sciences practices. As a consequence it believed that Asia and Oceania provided a model for South/South interactivity and that a successful workshop on networking would make an important contribution to narrowing the increasingly widening gap between the information rich and the information poor. The region also provided an excellent model within which to examine networks linking libraries within a nation, from the nation into a region, and from the region into the international scene, particularly using IFLA's services such as IFLA's UDT (Universal Dataflow and Telecommunications) Core Programme and the resources of ALP.



Harrison Perera, Chair in Foreground.

[Photo: Russell Bowden]

Networking was considered using two definitions: "A system of physically separate computers with telecommunication links through which they can exchange information and share resources. It was also used in the abstract sense to mean modes of interaction between people". The workshop's aim was to encourage the newer networking, made possible by the union of computers with telecoms, but also not to lose sight of the traditional networking practices which existed in libraries, such as interlibrary lending, document delivery, union catalogues, management for resource sharing, etc., before the IT revolution.

The RSCAO restricted participants to the countries of South Asia, arguing that to consider networking across the entire IFLA region, extending as it does from the eastern Mediterranean to the island states of the Pacific, and from Siberia and the Arctic Circle to New Zealand and Antarctica, was impractical. Instead it intends that the lessons learned should be reapplied elsewhere in a "Part Two" Net-ELIS conference at some later dates. One is currently being planned along these lines for the Arab-speaking world in Beirut for March 2000. Participants, therefore, were invited from Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka. Resource persons came from Australia, Canada, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, the UK and the USA. IFLA was represented by Derek Law, Executive Board member; and Terry Kuny, Advisor to the UDT Core Programme.

The programme was carefully crafted to ensure that the two networking aims were met. The first Plenary was planned to provide background information and to set the scene for the coming days' deliberations, with papers on the latest IT developments; their consequences internationally and for the region; a consideration of whether IT and information were converging or diverging; libraries' perspectives of these issues; and a look back as a reminder of how networking was practiced before the advent of IT. Country state-of-the-art reports presented a perspective of current national developments using a common model to facilitate comparisons. In Working Groups that followed each of the Plenary sessions, participants examined the issues raised earlier. Thereafter followed papers intended to examine the lessons for, and relevances from, outside South Asia, especially those services available internationally such as from Australia, the USA and Canada, especially from IFLA's UDT Core Programme, as well as other

services available from ALP and the RSCAO. Lessons including hand-on experience with some of the networks available from countries within the region followed.

After a summing up of lessons learned, difficulties noted and future actions to be addressed, the Working Groups began to draw out lessons and plans for the future and to provide the basis for the framing of the workshop's resolutions. This was facilitated by the fact that each Working Group had been given a subject on which to concentrate, and these are reflected in the structure of the resolutions. They are grouped under five headings: 1) networks; 2) policy, planning and management; 3) technology; 4) funding and marketing; and 5) human resources development. These were speedily agreed and adopted by consensus by the 70 participants. They are not aimed at specific groups, but are general and intended for all organizations (e.g., international and regional agencies; national governments; local authorities; parent organizations; professional bodies; and also companies in the private sector with a responsibility for libraries and information services and which have interests in creating an effective information society. The underlying aim of those drafting the resolutions was to provide empowerment to professional librarians and information scientists themselves to carry out the proposals and not to shift the burden for doing so onto others. The resolutions represent a detailed plan of action for work in the future in the region.

Was the workshop a success? Certainly the evaluation forms completed at the end by 54 of the 70 participants indicated so most positively. The Sri Lanka Library Association Organizing Committee, chaired by Harrison Perera, Information Director of the British Council in Sri Lanka, shared this opinion. Considering that this was the first time the SLLA had ever organized an international professional gathering of this size reflects major credit to this active and well-managed library association.

However, it is over a period of time that one will be able to make the eventual judgment of the workshop's success. As participants were informed when they were selected, one of the primary criteria was their ability to take back into their own countries and their library associations the lessons learned and the resolutions, and to work to ensure that they are put into practice. Then it will be possible to judge success or failure. For this rea-

son the participants will be questioned in February to see what progress is being made to report to the RSCAO's mid-conference meeting and again monitored in July to measure progress for a fuller report to the RSCAO and ALP during the Jerusalem Conference.

Resolutions

The following resolutions [edited] were agreed and adopted by consensus by the 70 participants in the IFLA/Sri Lanka Library Association Workshop "Networking for Effective Libraries and Information Services" held in Colombo, 17-23 October 1999. The Resolutions are directed to all organizations with responsibilities for libraries and information services that have interests in creating an effective Information Society. An important Preamble serves as a reminder that librarians and information professionals and their services already exist and are helping to build the Information Society within the countries of South Asia. Continuous development of these skilled resources in librarians and their library services therefore will further benefit national development. It suggests that governments would be foolhardy not to recognize the contribution that the profession can and is already making to building the information societies for the development of nations. Consequently the most cost-effective investment that governments can make is through the fullest involvement of librarians and information professionals and the modernization of their services to become effective change agents for the creation of the Asian Information Society. For its part librarianship must emphasize its leadership in information literacy via the provision of IT facilities to local communities through mobile outreach services, the provision of community information services particularly to medium and small industries, and income generation programmes and activities.

The resolutions that follow are grouped under five headings.

- *Networks* suggests that Information Societies are built on a foundation of collaboration and communication enabled by human as well as electronic networks; that library and information networks should become the backbone of learning societies; and that librarians must develop strong and sustainable working relationships with other specialists to develop collaboration for promoting and modernizing library services.

- The six resolutions under *Policy and Planning and Management* propose that each Asian country should develop its own national policy for libraries and information services giving due emphasis to networking; that each should establish a national centre to monitor and coordinate network developments; that library associations should promote the development of professional library communities through networking, such as the creation and local moderation of electronic discussion lists. IFLA's own Regional Standing Committee for Asia and Oceania (RSCAO) should convene meetings of interested parties to consider the creation of regional consortia to act as catalysts to develop leadership champions to create cultures of sharing, develop policies and guidelines, encourage collaboration with industry, develop regional consortia for licensing and procurement.
- The three resolutions under *Technology* are concerned to encourage the development of international standards that facilitate the exchange of information; the modernization of international bibliographic standards, in particular MARC; to exploit the opportunities arising from access to, and the use of, Internet in libraries serving all types of communities but especially remote and rural peoples.
- *Funding and Marketing* (five resolutions) urge IFLA's RSCAO to create a database of funding sources; to organize workshops to provide guidance about access to funds; and urge librarians to establish databases of commercial value and improve the marketing of their services to the private sector for sponsorship and support.
- There are seven resolutions on *Human Resources Development* primarily concentrating on the need for librarians and their employers to recognize the significant benefits of involvement with continuing professional development programmes and the urgency of library associations to either provide them themselves or ensure that other organizations do. For Departments of Library and Information Studies resolutions urge the equipping of IT workshops or laboratories and the need for them to work with other disciplines to ensure that their curricula are broad-based.

Finally participants were asked to take responsibility to take immediate actions and to approach appropriate bodies to implement these Resolutions. Interim

reports on progress will be requested for consideration at the RSCAO's mid-Conference meeting (Beirut 29 February-1 March 2000) and full reports for the Jerusalem Conference meeting.

[The full texts of the resolutions, as agreed by the participants, can be found on IFLA's Web site at <www.ifla.org>.]

WIPO Standing Committee Meeting Geneva, 16-20 November 1999

The following report was submitted by Harald v. Hielmcrone, IFLA's representative at the meeting.

Summary and Comments

The main issues to be considered by the Standing Committee were Protection of Audiovisual Performances, and Protection of the Rights of Broadcasting Organizations. These issues are of marginal interest to libraries, and therefore only reported here in a summary fashion.

Protection of Databases was a minor issue at the meeting. Only European countries support the idea fully. The USA is somewhat undecided as to what form a protection should have, and Third World countries are against it. Many Third World countries link the question of protection of databases to the question of protection of expressions of folklore. It is extremely difficult to define the concepts of folklore and how folklore might be protected, not to mention whether it is desirable. I talked with some delegates informally on this subject, and they regarded it as a purely political move, whose main function is to block (or delay) a database treaty, and eventually be the necessary *quid pro quo* if industrialized countries are sufficiently eager to have it. The required study on the economic impact of the protection of databases on developing countries serves the same purpose.

Protection of Audiovisual Performances

The USA presented a new proposal on the central issue, Transfer of Rights. The US proposal was that once a performer has consented to the fixation of his or her performance in an audiovisual work, the performers' exclusive rights of authorization would be exhausted. Moral rights and remuneration rights, however, should remain. This was unacceptable to the EU and many other countries. On other details there had also been no change in views. On the whole the dele-

gations just repeated what they had said at the meeting in May. The Chairman proposed that a Special Session of the Standing Committee should be held in the week of 27 March with Protection of Audiovisual Performances as the only item on the agenda. The purpose of this special session should be to decide whether there should be a Diplomatic Conference. When I had to leave the meeting in the evening of 17 November, the national delegations had not yet had the opportunity to indicate whether they accepted this proposal.

Protection of the Rights of Broadcasting Organizations

Everyone agreed to the need for such protection, but there were different opinions as to the form of protection, whether it should be in the form of a protocol to one of the existing treaties or a separate treaty, and the definition of "broadcast".

Protection of Databases

There were two reports from regional meetings of the African and Asian and Pacific groups.

The African Group. The country representatives expressed their concern about the possible impact of a new legal protection of the investment in databases on access to information in the fields of education, science and research in African countries. The country representatives await the report of the economic study commissioned by WIPO with great interest. Representatives felt that exceptions and limitations should be drafted to take account of educational, scientific and research interests in developing countries. Such exceptions and limitations may include provision for compulsory licenses. Representatives noted that the possible new protection of the investment in databases may be a step towards the protection of information about traditional knowledge and expressions of folklore. They also noted, however, that such protection would not extend to their traditional knowledge or expressions of folklore as such. The country representatives therefore, as a matter of urgency, requested the international community to study and consider completing the protection of traditional knowledge and expressions of folklore.

The Asian & Pacific Group. With regard to the protection of databases, it was the consensus that the need for additional protection whether at the national, regional or international level had not been established at this point. A variety of concerns were raised including those

relating to scientific and educational fields and as to whether protection should extend to data in the public domain. It was therefore felt that more information was needed with respect to the conferment of protection to databases. In this connection, participating countries look forward to the study to be commissioned by WIPO on the economic impact of the protection of databases on developing countries with special emphasis on the impact on least developed countries.

Russian Federation. Protection of databases is important. There is no legislation in Russia. Representatives plan to ask the Secretariat to make an overview of national legislation on the protection of databases.

East European Countries. The East European countries recommend a solution along the EU Directive.

USA. The USA recognizes that some protection is needed, but too strict protection may impede research, the free flow of information, and new developments. There are two proposals now before the House of Representatives. This does not have the form of copyright protection. The framework is the rules of misappropriation, i.e., databases are protected against misappropriation of substantial parts by a third party. This must also be accepted by Senate. An International Treaty is desirable. The USA is undecided whether it should be along the lines of copyright protection, sui generis protection, or misappropriation.

Secretariat. The Secretariat reported on the progress of the report of the economic consequences for developing countries of an international treaty on protection of databases. The work had not yet been commissioned. (The problem is to estimate the value of something not existing. Obviously not many consultancy firms are interested in committing themselves to such a task.)

IFLA Intervention

After that the NGOs were given the floor. On behalf of IFLA I made the following intervention:

IFLA is the international body representing library institutions and associations from all over the globe. As such, we represent all types of libraries. It is IFLA's view that the need for new property rights in data collections has not been demonstrated, and there is clearly much work to be done before the need for a new international treaty on protection on non-original databases can be established.

We want to point out that public sector data ought to be freely available, and there ought to be exceptions based on fair use principles.

A serious problem for the provision of information to research, education and the general public may arise if database producers may acquire exclusive rights to collect and distribute certain data.

To prevent abuse of a dominant position a treaty ought to include an article

specifying that if database producers or distributors unduly exploit a monopoly situation, compulsory licensing will be enforced. There should also be an article supporting exceptions based on the principles of fair use or fair dealing. Otherwise the balance between producers' interests and the public interest is endangered.

IPA. The International Publishers Association (IPA) followed up with a very short statement, to the effect that they supported that databases be protected.

Conclusion

The conclusion was:

- The subject matter of the protection of databases will be carried forward to the agenda of the fourth session of the Standing Committee.
- The International Bureau should update, to the extent appropriate, existing documentation on legal protection of databases.
- The Standing Committee would welcome it if the International Bureau would soon commission the study on the economic impact of the protection of databases on developing countries, mentioned in document SCCR/1/9.

The issue will be carried forward to the agenda of the fourth session of the Standing Committee, and members of the Standing Committee will be asked to submit proposals, preferably in treaty language.

From other Organizations

CLIR Project in Brazil

The Council on Library and Information Resources has published *Building Preservation Knowledge in Brazil*, by Ingrid Beck, Director of Preservation at the National Archives of Brazil. The report describes a highly successful project to mobilize preservation awareness and action throughout Brazil. The project, which has trained more than 3,600 staff members from libraries, archives and museums throughout the country, began in 1996 and will end phase two of its activity in the year 2000. The report shows how a core group of committed individuals organized a grassroots effort in preservation so broad and effective

that it reached parts of Amazonia accessible only by boat. In 1998 the Brazilian government recognized the project by awarding it the prestigious Rodrigo Melo Franco de Andrade, the country's highest award for achievement in cultural heritage.

In his foreword to the report, Hans Rütimann, CLIR's Director of International Developments, notes that the project had a modest beginning. It started as a request to the Commission on Preservation and Access (later incorporated by CLIR) to help support the translation of important preservation literature into Portuguese. It then grew to include workshops and the creation of a national preservation database and a preservation

map of Brazil, thanks to significant support from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. The preservation map may be viewed at <http://cecor.eba.ufmg.br/cpba>.

Mr Rütimann notes that while it is unwise to assume that a single blueprint can be applied to all countries, the project had certain characteristics that are fundamental to the success of large-scale preservation efforts. They include "complete dedication and hard work by a group of individuals, the careful selection of regional coordinators who continue and enlarge the work locally and regionally, and steady support and contact to assure these regional coordinators that

their efforts contribute to a national, and even international, effort".

The report includes a section entitled "Lessons Learned and Recommendations", as well as appendixes that provide a list of translated titles, the database questionnaire used to survey more than 1600 institutions, and a listing of the collaborative institutions and work group members.

Building Preservation Knowledge in Brazil is available from the Council on Library Resources for USD 15.00, including postage and handling. Checks should be made payable to CLIR and mailed to CLIR Publication Orders, 1755 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Suite 500, Washington DC 20036-2124, USA. A complete list of publications appears on CLIR's Web site <www.clir.org>.

The Council on Library Resources works in partnership with libraries, archives, and other information providers to advocate collaborative approaches to preserving the nation's intellectual heritage and strengthening the many components of its information system. It works to support institutions as they integrate audiovisual and digital resources and services into their well-established print-based environments.

US-InterPARES Project

A newly funded research project will tackle one of the most critical global issues of the digital age - the long-term preservation of vital organizational records and critical research data created or maintained in electronic systems.

Because of the fragility of the medium and the changes in hardware and software, the task of preservation of electronic records is formidable. Records will need to be moved to different platforms and/or software packages in order to be maintained permanently, but throughout these processes, there will need to be an assurance that the records are as authentic as they were when they were first created.

Philip Eppard, Dean of the School of Information Science and Policy at the University at Albany, State University of New York, will be the principal investigator and director on a grant for the United States component of an international research project on the preservation of electronic records. Anne Gilliland-Swetland from the Department of Information Studies at UCLA will serve as co-director on the project.

The grant of USD 424,796 from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission, the grant-funding agency of the National Archives and Records Administration, is for 18 months and represents the single largest award ever made by the Commission.

The project, known as the InterPARES Project (International Research on Permanent Authentic Records in Electronic Systems), will investigate and develop theories, methodologies, and prototype systems required for the permanent preservation of authentic electronic records. It will also develop model policies, strategies, and standards to ensure preservation of the authenticity of those records.

InterPARES is a three-year collaborative project based at the University of British Columbia. It brings together national teams of researchers from Canada, the United States, Italy, the UK, Australia, Ireland, Netherlands, Sweden, Japan, China, and Hong Kong. In the USA researchers at the University at Albany, UCLA, the University of Missouri, Georgia Tech, and Penn State are all involved in the project in collaboration with electronic record specialists at the National Archives in Washington DC.

In addition, there is an industry group, including the Collaborative Electronic Notebook Systems Association (CENSA), which represents a worldwide industry group including pharmaceutical, chemical, biotechnology, high-tech, and other businesses that are interested in developing electronic lab notebooks.

"This project is distinctive in that it brings together archivists, records managers, preservation experts, computer scientists from around the world to deal with what is a worldwide problem. If our project is successful, people who need to access information from records created electronically in the 1990s will have a guarantee that those important electronic records have survived and are authentic." Eppard said.

Further information is available on the US-InterPARES website at <<http://www.is.gseis.ucla.edu/us-interpares>>.

23 April - World Book and Copyright Day

The idea of a World Book Day was launched by the International Publishers Association (IPA) and was submitted to UNESCO by the government of Spain. It was expanded by the Russian Federation

to include the concept of copyright. Thus, the General Conference, at its 28th session, 25 October-16 November 1995, could



unanimously approve Resolution 28 C/3.18 proclaiming 23 April of each year as "World Book and Copyright Day".

This celebration originated in Catalonia, Spain where, on 23 April (St. George's Day), a rose is traditionally offered with each book sold. A more universal reason for choosing this date: famous authors were either born or died on 23 April, for example, Miguel de Cervantes, William Shakespeare, Inca Garcilaso de la Vega, Maurice Druon, K. Laxness (Icelandic Nobel Prize winner), Manuel Mejia Vallejo, Vladimir Nabokov, and Josep Pla.

The "World Book and Copyright Day" aims at drawing the attention of government bodies as well as the public at large to this means of knowledge, expression and communication which, despite the emergence of increasingly sophisticated media, remains the basis of active education and critical thinking. It also emphasizes the role of books and copyright in the development of a culture of peace, tolerance and universal dialogue.

In a statement about the importance of books and reading, Milagros del Corral, Director of UNESCO's Division of Creativity, Cultural Industries and Copyright, and Head of the organization's Publishing Office, said: "Reading means establishing an interactive dialogue with the virtual universe created by the author of a text: a universe of intellectual representations that differ according to the imagination of each reader". Ms del Corral highlighted the persistent inequalities in reading, "There are books on all subjects, for all publics and for all times. But we must make sure that books are accessible to everybody everywhere". For further information about World Book and Copyright Day, and on possible future activities and those undertaken in the past please contact: Georges Poussin, UNESCO Division of Creativity, Cultural Industries and Copyright, 1, rue Miollis, 75732 Paris Cedex 15, France (fax: +(33-1) 45685595; e-mail: g.poussin@unesco.org). Further information is also available on UNESCO's Web site: <www.unesco.org/general/eng/events/book/html>.

Swets and Catchword Form Partnership to Provide Electronic Solutions for Publishers

CatchWord and Swets Subscription Service announced at the Frankfurt Book Fair the signing of an agreement to jointly provide electronic publishing services to research and scholarly publishers.

Under the terms of the agreement CatchWord will supply Swets with the electronic publishing infrastructure and platform that will allow Swets to provide a complete end to end electronic publishing service for their publisher customers. The Swets electronic publishing service will incorporate production, hosting, distribution, and other value-added services such as reference linking to Abstracting and Indexing services and will fully utilize the CatchWord global server network. The agreement enables Swets to offer a fully branded electronic publishing service along with its existing portfolio of services to publishers worldwide. It provides CatchWord with extended reach to publishers.

Steven Hartmann, Sales and Marketing Director of Swets commented: "One of our strategic goals is to expand the portfolio of services that we offer our publishing clients, especially in the area of Internet related services. Offering publishers a complete end to end electronic publishing and subscription management package is one key element in the execution of that strategy. CatchWord's proven ability and track record in pro-

viding comprehensive electronic publishing solutions for publishers, plus their ability to provide a series of products that meet the needs of a wide range of publishers meant that they were the obvious candidates for us to contract with."

Simon Inger, Managing Director of CatchWord commented: "Swets Subscription Service has a reputation for service that is widely recognized in the industry. We are therefore delighted to become the exclusive provider of primary electronic publishing services to such a well-recognized player in the scholarly information business. It significantly enhances our presence and profile in the publishing community globally and especially in Europe."

Branded as a new Swets' service, the sales management and publisher relations processes will be handled by Swets, whilst CatchWord will provide the technical infrastructure, production and distribution functions.

Swets Subscription Service is a division of Swets & Zeitlinger, an international company involved in all developments within the area of electronic publishing and the distribution of scientific and professional information. Swets Subscription Service has offices in 18 countries and handles subscriptions for some 200,000 titles from more than 50,000 publishers worldwide.

Other divisions within Swets and Zeitlinger are Swets Backsets Service (backsets and reprints of scholarly jour-

nals), Swets Document Systems (data conversion), Swets Test Publishers (development and publishing of psychological tests), Swets & Zeitlinger Publishers (scholarly journal and book publishers). Swets & Zeitlinger has over 800 employees worldwide.

A key service from Swets in the area of full-text Internet publishing is SwetsNet, the single source for electronic journals. Some 47 publishers are currently participating in the service which provides easy global access to more than 2400 journals via the Web. The straightforward interface and easy-to-use search engine simplify the whole approach to acquiring and accessing Internet journals. A range of additional features are also available to users and library managers, including: table of contents e-mail alerting; an electronic abstracts current awareness service; an SDI (Selective Dissemination of Information) function; seamless linking from secondary bibliographical services (such as SilverPlatter) and library catalogues; and usage statistics.

CatchWord was formed in 1994 and provides publishers with comprehensive, tailored, internet publishing services designed to grow their business by deploying cost-effective, global and secure solutions. CatchWord works closely with its publisher clients and industry intermediaries to help them exploit the Internet as a delivery and a marketing channel to researchers, scholars, musicians and business consumers of information.

IFLA Council Report 1997-1999

The *IFLA Council Report 1997-1999* highlights achievements of the past two years of IFLA's professional work grouped under five major headings: access to information; the electronic environment; preservation and conservation; services and standards; and professional development. A timeline with more than 200 entries include such topics as: the opening of IFLA's FAIFE (Free

Access to Information and Freedom of Expression) Office in Copenhagen; the finalization and approval by UNESCO of the School Library Manifesto; the establishment of Guidelines for OPAC Displays; the promotion of using permanent paper worldwide; approval of IFLA's Guidelines for Braille Users; the creation of the Danida Grant, which enabled several participants from developing countries to attend the IFLA Conferences in Copenhagen, Amsterdam and Bangkok; and several regional training sessions on different topics. Annexes cover IFLA

membership statistics; IFLA finances; IFLA publications; IFLA Executive and Professional Board members; IFLA staff; IFLA's Core Programmes; and IFLA's Regional Offices and Resource Centres. The Council Report has been sent to all members free of charge. Additional copies for members are NLG 20.00; and NLG 45.00 for non-members. The publication can be ordered from IFLA Headquarters, POB 95312, 2509 CH The Hague, Netherlands (fax: +(31-70) 3834827; e-mail: ifla@ifla.org).

Adapting Marketing to Libraries in a Changing and World-wide Environment

Adapting Marketing to Libraries in a Changing and World-wide Environment/Le marketing des bibliothèques à l'heure du changement et de la mondialisation was edited by Réjean Savard and issued as No. 89 in the series, IFLA Publications. It consists of the papers presented in the meetings of the Section on Management and Marketing at the 63rd IFLA Council and General Conference, Copenhagen, September 1997. Papers include: "Marketing Library Services: How It All Began" (Greta Renborg); "La perception du marketing chez les bibliothécaires" (Réjean Savard); "How Librarians Apply Marketing - As Seen from the Desk of a Library Manager" (Sissel Nilsen); "Marketing and Swedish Libraries: About the Situation Today and the Importance of Visible Librarians" (Christina Tovoté); "Les réticences des professionnels de bibliothèque au marketing" (Marielle de Miribel); "Lobby for Libraries. Putting Marketing Principles to Work" (Virginia Walsh); "De l'adapta-

tion du marketing dans les services et systèmes d'information en Afrique francophone" (Yawo Assigbley); "Marketing or Public Relations: A Strategic Choice for Lithuanian Libraries" (Audrone Glosiene); "Marketing of Libraries and Information Centers in China: A Case Study" (Du Yuanking); and "Marketing Is an Attitude of Mind (Hilkka Orava). The publication is available from K.G. Saur Verlag, Postfach 701620, D-81316 Munich, Germany for DEM 78.00 (IFLA members DEM 51.00). ISBN 3-598-21811-7

Education for Librarianship and Information Science in Africa

Education for Librarianship and Information Science in Africa was compiled and edited by Michael Wise and issued as Project Report No. 14 by the IFLA ALP Office. The volume provides accounts of the state of development of the LIS schools in more than 12 African countries. The authors were drawn from Mr Wise's personal friends who taught in

schools throughout the continent. The intention of the editor was to provide a source of inspiration for the small band of teachers in Africa, and some fresh insights for the international community which seeks to support and assist them. Surveyed are anglophone Sub-Saharan Africa, Botswana, Ethiopia, Ghana, Mozambique, Kenya, Nigeria, Senegal, South Africa, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe. The publication is available free of charge for members in developing countries and may be reproduced by non-profit organizations for their own use. The title is available from the ALP Office, c/o Uppsala University Library, Box 510, S-751 20 Uppsala, Sweden (fax: +(46-18) 4713994). ISBN 91-85092-53-3

Acquisition and Collection Development Bibliography

The Acquisition and Collection Development Bibliography compiled by Tatianna Afanasieva and her colleagues at the Russian State Library is now accessible on IFLANET at <www.ifla.org/VII14/>. It is available in four parts covering the years 1990-1997.

Miscellaneous

IBBY-Asahi Reading Promotion Award 2000

The 2000 IBBY-Asahi Reading Promotion Award will be given to the project, Tambogrande, Sowing a Reading Field (Tambogrande Siembra Lectura) in Peru. The five-member Award Jury (Manorama Jafa (India), Silvia Castrillon (Colombia), Tom Eckerman (Finland), Maria Jesus Gil (Spain), and Joan Glazer (USA) met in Tokyo on 25 October 1999 and selected the Tambogrande project as the winner out of seven nominees from different countries.

The town and district of Tambogrande, a rural area of the Piura Department in north Peru, has promoted reading since 1964, when the District Council Public Library was established. A number of people work to promote cooperation between existing public libraries and villages that are part of the Tambogrande district rural libraries network. Their aim is to reduce illiteracy and increase the supply of stimulating reading material. They are also trying to reinforce the

peace process between Ecuador and Peru through recognition of a common historical and cultural tradition. During the severe floods of 1983 and 1998 that hit the area, they continued making books accessible to young readers.

The project, Tambogrande, Sowing a Reading Field aims at continuing the process of collecting folk stories from the area. Its purpose is to rediscover oral tradition, collect local stories and produce them in attractive, easy-to-read booklets and hand-made reading materials that can be used with children and young people who are learning, or who have just learned, to read and write.

The prestigious IBBY-Asahi Reading Promotion Award of one million Yen has been given annually since 1988 to a group or an institution which, by its outstanding activities, has made a lasting contribution to reading programmes for children and young people. The Award will be presented to the winner at the Bologna Children's Book Fair on 29 March 2000.

OSCE Reports on Human Rights Violations in Kosovo

The following was submitted by Patrick Boylan of the International Committee of the Blue Shield <p.boylan@city.ac.uk>.

The Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE - successor to the Helsinki Accords Structures) has published an overall background paper to the findings of the OSCE Verification Mission in Kosovo on human rights violations, together with two detailed reports under the title "Kosovo/Kosova: As Seen, As Told", totalling over 900 pages. The main report is in two parts: Part 1: October 1998 to June 1999; Part 2: 14 June to 31 October 1999 (i.e. since the end of the NATO bombing campaign). In relation to the deliberate destruction of cultural property, the OSCE monitors on the ground ("as seen, as told" of the report's title) the scale of the destruction and serious damage of religious properties on both sides. In particular, in addition to the now well-docu-

mented and serious attacks on at least 80 Orthodox religious cultural properties since 14 June 1999, during its previous phase of monitoring, the OSCE recorded the destruction or significant damage of at least 200 mosques during the previous eight months. The full texts of all papers are available on the OSCE Web site at: <<http://www.osce.org/kosovo/reports/hr/index/htm>>.

Margreet Wijnstroom - the Agatha Christie of Bloemendaal

When Margreet Wijnstroom left the position of Secretary General of IFLA in 1987 after serving in that position for almost 17 years, she started writing mystery novels. Her fourth novel (she promised them five!), *Bevroren in de eeuw* was recently published by Gottmer Haarlem. Like all of her novels, there is something "IFLA" in it. *Bevroren in de eeuw* begins in August 1998 in Amsterdam in the Nieuwe Kerk where the Koninklijke Bibliotheek commemorated its 200th anniversary with the exhibition, The Amazing Alphabet, to which all delegates to the IFLA Conference in Amsterdam were invited during the conference week. An earlier publication, *Bloedig Perkament*, has the Bodleian Library in Oxford as its setting. And all of Margreet's mysteries reflect her hobbies - bridge; golf; horse racing and auto racing (from the grandstand, although she did take a test drive around the track as part of her research!); and hockey. In *Steekspel in de bibliotheek arena* many IFLA officers could be recognized, although their names were changed to protect the innocent! Since IFLA was such a part of Margreet's life, she has contributed her royalties to the Margreet Wijnstroom Fund for Regional Library Development. The fund was established by the Executive Board in 1987 and is used to support IFLA's Regional Offices, to involve librarians from the developing world in the work of IFLA's professional groups, and to support projects in the developing world.

IFLA/UBCIM Publication on Choice's 36th Annual List of Outstanding Academic Titles

IFLA is proud to announce that An *Annotated Guide to Current National Bibliographies*, 2nd revised edition by Barbara L. Bell has been selected for *Choice's* Outstanding Academic Titles

list. Irving E. Rockwood, Editor and Publisher of *Choice* said, "Carefully selected from among the new publications reviewed in *Choice* during the preceding 12 months, Outstanding Academic Titles are truly the 'best of the best'. This year's approximately 600 titles are no exception. Each is an outstanding example of distinguished scholarship, fully deserving of inclusion in this highly prestigious list representing fewer than 10% of the titles selected for review in *Choice* and fewer than 3% of all titles submitted to *Choice*."

And from Barbara Bell, "A current national bibliography is a mirror that reflects the culture of a country. By looking at the current national bibliography one is able to learn about the uniqueness of a country. The emphasis on agriculture and technology, the make-up of its society through its various language publications, particular customs and ceremonies important in the life of the nation, the importance of education, literature, and science, prominent literary authors of the time and political, social and religious trends within a country are all discernible. A current national bibliography should reflect the interests and unique characteristics of a country much as a mirror reflects the uniqueness of an individual."

The first edition dates from 1986 and since that time many changes have taken place in the world, both technically and geo-politically. The methodology for the first edition was to locate and examine the national bibliographies and analytically describe these titles. The second edition includes additional information (such as OCLC numbers, automation, formats, etc.); updated information (e.g., new legal deposit laws, new enhancements in the national bibliography); the addition of new countries; and future plans within a country's bibliographic world.

This publication can be ordered from: K. G. Saur Verlag, Postfach 701620, D-81316, Munich, Germany for DEM 168. ISBN 3-598-11376-5

American Library Association's New Sister Library Programme

To promote the concept of a global community of libraries, the American Library Association (ALA) is encouraging libraries from around the world to form relationships with libraries in the United States. ALA has created the Sister

Library Programme that will match libraries in the US with interested libraries around the world. The relationships are flexible and based on the needs and interest of each partner. If you are interested in forming a Sister Library Relationship with a library in the United States please visit the Sister Library Web site at <<http://www.ala.org/sisterlibraries>> for further information, and to fill out an interest form, or e-mail the ALA International Relations Office at <intl@ala.org>.

Obituaries

Pamela Spence Richards 1941-1999

The Section on Reading joins members of the Round Table on Library History, the Division of Education and Research and Rutgers University in mourning the death of our IFLA colleague, Pamela Spence Richards, Chair of the Round Table on Library History. After a difficult struggle of more than one year with cancer, Pam died on 20 September 1999. She is remembered as a vibrant and enthusiastic advocate of library history and of international cooperation and exchange of people, information, and especially of ideas. Her development of international networks was a special contribution to library historians worldwide. Ms Richards was Professor of Library and Information Science at Rutgers University since 1977. In 1999 she received the Rutgers University Award for Excellence in Research, and in the same year was the recipient of ALA's Jesse Shera Award for outstanding research contributions to librarianship. Her research was recognized by numerous other awards and grants, and in 1997 she was a Fulbright Scholar in St. Petersburg, Russian Federation. Plans are underway to continue her most recent IFLA project, an international survey of the history of librarianship. In recent years Pam and others organized two important and successful conferences: "Libraries and Reading in Times of Cultural Change" in Vologda, Russia in 1996; and "Libraries, Reading, and Publishing in the Cold War", in Paris in 1998. There will be a special publication of the Paris proceedings produced in cooperation with the Section on Reading, the Round Table on Library History, and the Library History Round Table of ALA by the Center of the Book, Library of Congress. Contributions celebrating her life may be made to the Pamela Richards Memorial Fellowship Fund, Rutgers

Foundation, 7 College Avenue, New Brunswick, New Jersey 08901, USA.

Anne M. Galler (1931-1999)

On 26 November 1999 Anne M. Galler passed away after having been diagnosed with pancreatic cancer in July. For the past 12 years she had been Director of the Library Studies Program at Concordia University, Canada. In 1997 the Library Studies Program merged with the Department of Education and Anne was appointed Acting Chair of Education in 1999. Anne was well connected with librarians within the public and private sector as coordinator of the Program's field placement and she worked diligently to ensure that library technicians obtained a recognized status within the profession. The areas to which she devoted most attention included improving literacy, prison libraries, providing services for the disabled and disadvantaged, and school librarianship. She was President of the Canadian School Library Association, 1998-1999; a member of IFLA's Professional Board, 1989-1991; Honorary Advisor for IFLA's Section on Libraries Serving Disadvantaged Persons; and Standing Committee member of the Section on School Libraries. Anne was recently affiliated, as a named Fellow, with the National Library of Canada during a sabbatical leave. Her work during

this Fellowship included an international survey of national school library policies, and a Canadian school libraries needs survey. Anne also had a major influence in developing and nurturing the acceptance of the UNESCO School Library Manifesto, which has already had a profound influence on school library policies and projects in various parts of the world. Donations in Anne's memory may be made to the Canadian Cancer Society, Quebec Division, 5111 L'Assumption Blvd., Quebec H1T 4A9, Canada.

IFLA's Secretary General Honored

Ross Shimmon, Secretary General of IFLA, has received an honor in the British Prime Minister's New Year's Honours list. He becomes an Officer of the British Empire (OBE) for services to librarianship and information provision. Ross Shimmon said that he was "astounded and delighted to receive the award". He was particularly pleased because of the recognition it gave to librarians and libraries in the UK. He expects to receive the medal at Buckingham Palace later in the year.

Other recipients of awards in the New Year's Honours list include actress Eliza-

beth Taylor and entertainer Julie Andrews, who both become Dames of the British Empire (DBE); author Doris Lessing, who receives a Companion of Honor (CH); and Richard Branson, who becomes a Knight.

The Honours list is published twice a year, on New Year's Eve and on the Queen's Birthday. Those honored are determined by the Prime Minister with the approval of the Queen.

Ross Shimmon took up the post of Secretary General of IFLA in May 1999. Since 1992 he had been Chief Executive of the (UK) Library Association, the first professional librarian to be appointed to that post. He began his career as a library assistant with Portsmouth City Libraries. He obtained his professional qualifications at the North Western Polytechnic, London and became a Fellow of the Library Association (FLA) in 1972. He worked in public libraries in Hampshire and the London Borough of Bexley. He was seconded from Bexley to the Department of Education and Science in London as part of the library advisory team. Other posts have included teaching and research in library studies at Southampton, Aberystwyth and Papua New Guinea and deputy librarian at Preston Polytechnic in London.

International Calendar

January 19-22, 2000. Paris, France. 5th Joint Technical Symposium. Theme: "Image and Sound Archiving and Access: The Challenges of the 3rd Millennium". For information: JTS Paris 2000, c/o Archives du film et du dépôt légal du CNC, 7 bis, rue Alexandre Turpault, 78390 Bois d'Arcy, France (fax: +(33-1) 34605225; e-mail: jts2000@cst.fr; <www.cst.fr/jts2000>)

January 24-26, 2000. Krakow, Poland. 8th International BOBCATSSS Symposium on Library and Information Science. Theme: "Intellectual Property versus the Right to Knowledge". For information: Royal School of Library and Information Science, Birketinget 6, DK-2300 Copenhagen S, Denmark (fax: +(45) 32586007; e-mail: bobcatsss@db.dk; www.bobcatsss.com)

February 8-10, 2000. Bielefeld, Germany. Bielefeld 2000 Conference. Organized by the British Council, the Buch-

händler-Vereinigung, and the University of Bielefeld. Theme: "Value-added Gateways to Global Information: Optimizing End-User Services". For information: Sekretariat der Bibliothek der Universität Bielefeld, Postfach 8620, D-33615 Bielefeld, Germany (fax: +(49-521) 1064052; e-mail: sekretariat@ub.uni-bielefeld.de)

March 7-10, 2000. Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. GKII Conference. Theme: "Building Knowledge Societies: Access, Empowerment, Governance". For information: GK Partnership at the World Bank, 1818 H Street N.W., Washington DC 20433, USA (e-mail: globalknowledge@worldbank.org; <http://www.globalknowledge.org>)

April 10-15, 2000. Windhoek, Namibia. 14th SCECSAL Meeting. For information: Justin Chisenga, Department of Information and Communication Studies, University of Namibia, Private

Bag 13301, Windhoek, Namibia (fax: +(264) 612063806; <http://www.unam.na/1370/niwa/scecsal.htm>)

April 23. World Book and Copyright Day

May 1-3, 2000. Buenos Aires, Argentina. 26th Congress of the International Publishers Association. Theme: "Publishing in the 21st Century: A Path from the Past to the Future". For information: Congresos Internacionales S.A., Moreno 584, 9th floor, 1091 Buenos Aires, Argentina (fax: +(54-11) 43310223; e-mail: conginte@congresosint.com.ar)

June 3-11, 2000. Sudak, Crimea. 7th International Conference

July 9-12, 2000. London, UK. 8th International Congress on Medical Librarianship

August 9, 2000. Athens, Greece. The 16th Annual International Conference of Parliamentary Libraries. Organized by the Section on Library and Research Services for Parliaments and sponsored by the Hellenic Parliament. For information: Eleni Mitrakou, Hellenic Parliament, Serials Department, 218 Lenormant Ave., Athens 11528, Greece

August 9-10, Holon, Israel. Satellite Meeting of the Section on Library Services to Multicultural Populations with the Section of Libraries for Children and Young Adults. For information: Souad Hubert, Bibliothèque Publique d'Information, Centre G. Pompidou, 19 Rue Beaubourg, 75197 Paris Cedex 04, France (fax: +(33?1) 44781215; e-mail: hubert@bpi.fr)

August 17, 2000. Ramallah, Palestinian Authority. Special Meeting of the Sec-

tion on Library and Research Services for Parliaments. Organized by the Section on Library and Research Services for Parliaments. For information: Richard Paré, Library of Parliament, Wellington Street, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada (fax: +(1?613) 9967092; e-mail: parer@parl.gc.ca)

August 13-18, 2000. Jerusalem, Israel. 66th IFLA General Conference. Theme: "Information for Cooperation: Creating the Global Library of the Future"

August 21-24, 2000. Paris, France. Symposium 2000: Managing the Preservation of Periodicals and Newspapers. For information: Marie-Thérèse Varlamoff, IFLA-PAC, Bibliothèque nationale de France, 2 rue Vivienne, 75084 Paris Cedex 2, France (fax:

+(31-1) 47037725; e-mail: marie-therese.varlamoff@bnf.fr)

August 19-26, 2001. Boston, Massachusetts, USA. 67th IFLA Council and General Conference. Theme: "Libraries and Librarians: Making a Difference in the Knowledge Age"

August 18-24, 2002. Glasgow, Scotland, UK. 68th IFLA General Conference. Theme: "Libraries for Life: Democracy, Diversity, Delivery"

August 1-8, 2003. Berlin, Germany. 69th IFLA Council and General Conference

August 2004. Buenos Aires, Argentina. 70th IFLA Council and General Conference

August 2006. Seoul, Korea. 72nd IFLA Council and General Conference

