

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 the Meetings of the Executive Board, December 2000

At the Executive Board meeting, held at IFLA HQ in The Hague, in December, President Christine Deschamps reported on the award of an honorary doctorate to Treasurer Derek Law by the Sorbonne University, Paris. She also reported the completion of 25 years' service by Mrs. Jos de Block, Secretary to the Professional Coordinator at IFLA HQ. The Board congratulated both Derek and Jos.

The Professional Priorities prepared by the Professional Board were formally adopted. They will be used as the basis for the Federation's professional work over the next few years, including the work programmes of the Sections, Round Tables and Core Activities.

The response of the Division on Regional Activities (Division VIII) to the latest proposals on the Federation's regional activities was considered. The response was based on discussions held at Uppsala, with representatives of the three regional Sections and the Division, and each of the Regional Managers present. Secretary General Ross Shimmon had also been there for part of the meeting. The Board also considered an initial response to the report by Marjorie Bloss, chair of the Advisory Group, considering the future of IFLA's regional activities. It was agreed that the Advisory Group should prepare final proposals for consideration by Council during the Boston conference in August 2001.

The Board approved the Federation's budget for 2001, which predicted a small surplus, in line with the established policy to build up reserves to a safe level. Allocations for the core activities were approved. As previously predicted, the amount available in the core activities fund allowed allocations amounting to only two-thirds of the amount provided for 2000. A campaign to encourage larg-

er contributions from a wider constituency will begin early in 2001. Børge Sørensen reported that sufficient funds had been secured from Scandinavian aid agencies to secure the FAIFE core activity for a further three years. The National Library of Canada had announced that, because of changing priorities resulting from government policy, it was withdrawing as host of the Federation's website IFLANET from the end of 2001. The Board considered the urgent need to find an alternative means of maintaining the website.

The Copyright and other Legal Matters committee (CLM) had prepared a statement on Licensing Principles. Board members had a number of comments on the draft and decided to consider it again at its March meeting with a view to adopting it then.

Several countries within the European Union, including the Netherlands, will adopt the Euro currency on 1st January 2002. The Board agreed that IFLA would make the changeover on that date. The new Governing Board will have to approve the Euro figures for all of IFLA subscription rates and other charges at its meeting in August 2001.

A new category of Student Membership was approved for an experimental four-year period. The annual subscription will be NLG 110. The benefits will be receipt of IFLA Journal, normal discount on conference registration and one Section registration. Student membership will last for two years only, with automatic transfer to Personal Affiliate-ship at the end of the period. Further details will be announced shortly.

Proposals for discounted fees for chapters and branches of Association Members and sub-units of Institutional Members (for example, individual faculties of universities), and for 'small units', such as school libraries and one-person libraries and information centres, were also approved in principle. Details of fee

structures and voting entitlements will be considered at the next meeting in March 2001. It was agreed to put a proposal to the next Council meeting to increase the International Association Membership fees to NLG 1,000.

Sjoerd Koopman reported on plans for a meeting in Prishtina in March of the Kosovo Libraries Mission and for practical workshops to be held at the same time.

Ingrid Parent, chair of the Conference Planning Committee, reported that the committee would be considering revised criteria for selection of venues for future general conferences. Members were keen to introduce an Olympic-style ceremony at the end of each conference, whereby the current organisers would formally hand over to the organisers of the next conference. The committee was also looking at the structure of the conference starting with a blank sheet of paper.

The Board made plans for the first meeting of the new Governing Board to take place after the end of the Boston conference in August.

The Director of the Koninklijke Bibliotheek, Wim van Drimmelen generously hosted a dinner for Board members, during which Christine Deschamps thanked him for his continuing support for IFLA and the generous facilities provided by the Royal Library as host of the Federation's headquarters.

News from the Professional Board

The following are highlights from the meeting of IFLA's Professional Board, held at IFLA HQ in The Hague, in December 2000.

After having been discussed during the whole of 2000, including discussions during the Jerusalem conference, "IFLA's

Professional Priorities" were formally approved by the Professional Board. They will be used in the future planning of IFLA's professional programme. The Professional Priorities were also adopted by the Executive Board, later during the same week. They will be distributed widely, and are reproduced elsewhere in this issue of IFLA Journal.

The Professional Priorities have immediately started playing their role. All IFLA's Professional Groups (Sections, Round Tables) have been requested to take them into account in developing their programmes (Open Sessions; Workshops) for the Boston conference in August 2001.

The Professional Board have also taken the Professional Priorities as the starting point for new 2-year cycles of planning the programmes of Sections, Round Tables, and Core Activities. These will replace the former "Medium-Term Programme".

New "Guidelines for Professional Library/Educational Programmes", proposed by the Section on Education and Training, were approved: details can be found elsewhere in this issue of IFLA Journal.

The Board has approved a new Discussion Group: the Metadata Discussion Group, which is sponsored by the Section on Cataloguing. The life-time of a number of existing Discussion Groups was extended for a period of another year. One new Group will have its inaugural meeting during the Boston conference: the Discussion Group on Knowledge Management. For information regarding this Group, contact Hans-Christoph Hobohm <hobohm@fh-potsdam.de>.

The first discussions took place with regard to workshops which have been proposed for the Boston conference. Currently we have received preliminary proposals for about 30 on-site and 5 off-site workshops. The number may have to be somewhat reduced as the conference centre can cater for the equivalent of 10 full days, or 20 half days of these meetings.

As usual during December meetings, the Professional Board invested a lot of time in discussing the many projects that had been submitted for financial support by Sections and Round Tables. Approximately 25 projects were approved; some examples are:

- UNET: UNESCO Model Public Libraries: evaluation of the new Guidelines for Public Libraries.

- Translations of Guidelines for Library Services to Hospital Patient and Library Services to People with Dyslexia into all IFLA's working languages.
- FRANAR: Functional Requirements for Authority Numbers and Records.
- Handbook on the International Exchange of Publications: new edition to replace 1978 UNESCO publication, including a world directory.
- Update of the IFLA Directory of Union Catalogues.
- Participation to a marketing workshop for African librarians (Ghana).
- Mobile Library Services in Indochina: support for workshop.
- Publication of Proceedings of meeting of Latin American library associations.

IFLA President Honoured

IFLA expresses sincere congratulations to Christine Deschamps, President of IFLA, on her receipt of the "*Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur*", the highest decoration available in France. This award is determined by a decision of the President of the Republic. The ceremony is due to take place in late February or early March of this year. Christine stated, "I feel that libraries are indeed honoured!"

IFLA Officer Honoured

Marie-Thérèse Varlamoff, Director of the IFLA Core Programme on Preservation and Conservation (PAC), has recently been appointed "*Conservateur Général*". This is the highest level awarded to the conservation profession in France, and is only reached through a hierarchy of appointments. Candidates are chosen by a Commission, and less than ten individuals each year attain this level. Selection is based on work performance and innovation, among other factors. Congratulations are extended to Marie-Thérèse from the IFLA community.

New IFLA Members

The IFLA membership office is reinstating a previous tradition of welcoming new members to the Federation. This item will appear regularly in the IFLA Journal.

IFLA is very pleased to announce that 38 members have joined the Federation since August 2000. On behalf of the IFLA community, we extend a warm welcome to:

National Associations

Azerbaijan Library Development Association; Papua New Guinea Library Association.

Institutions

International Vaccine Institute, Korea; University College of Education of Winneba, Ghana; Biblioteca Comfenalco, Colombia; Institute of the Information Society Russia, Russian Federation; Southeast Florida Library Information Network, United States; School of Archive, Library and Information Studies of University College London, United Kingdom; Consejo Profesional de Arquitectura y Urbanismo, Argentina; Dansk Centralbibliothek for Sydslesvig, Germany; North Suburban Library System, United States; Open Society Institute, Hungary; Wesleyan University Library, United States; Worldwide Books, United States; National Library of Viet Nam, Viet Nam; Papua New Guinea National Library Service, Papua New Guinea; Pacific Community Library, New Caledonia; Central European University, Hungary; Learning Resource Centre/Library, College of Micronesia, Federated States of Micronesia; Central Library of Astan Quds Razavi, Iran.

Personal Affiliates

Ms Debbie Rabina, Israel; Hugh Wilburn, United States; Roberto Jorge Servidio, Argentina; Ms Jane Wu, Italy; Ms Rosalina Cardozo, Argentina; Ms Sueli Mara Ferreira, Brazil; Ms Ana Maria Peruchena Zimmermann, Argentina; Ms Harriet Kasow, Israel; Ms Iris Chai, Israel; Cyril Oberlander, United States; Ms Alisa Levy, Israel; Ms Francesca Wallner, Italy; Helmi M. Foudeh, Jordan; Ms Mila Ramos, Philippines; Ms Cecile Panzer, Israel; Michael Lacroix, United States, Ms Thanh Loan Ngo, Thailand; Ms Judy Luther, United States.

IFLA cooperates with UNESCO on Virtual Library for the Mediterranean Region

IFLA has signed a contract with UNESCO as part of the MEDLIB Programme, which aims at the establish-

ment of a Virtual Library for the Mediterranean Region.

IFLA will conduct a survey of catalogues of Mediterranean libraries in view of their availability on the Internet. This should pave the way for their accessibility through a harmonised gateway.

"We are looking forward to having the results of this important survey, as it will eventually enable a large group of our colleagues in the Mediterranean area - including of course an important part of the professionals and end users in the Arab world - to benefit from electronic means of communications", commented Sjoerd Koopman, IFLA's Coordinator of Professional Activities.

The survey will be undertaken by the IFLA/UAP Office at Boston Spa (U.K.). The results are planned to become available in the course of May 2001.

Further information:

- about MEDLIB: René Cluzel, UNESCO; E-mail: r.cluzel@unesco.org
- about the survey: Sara Gould, IFLA/UAP; E-mail: sara.gould@bl.uk

Conference Week Schedule and Some Programme Information for the 67th IFLA Council and General Conference, Boston, USA, 2001

IFLA's next general conference will be held at the Hynes Convention Center in Boston, Massachusetts (U.S.A.), 16-25 August, 2001. It is expected that this will become a well attended event, so participants are encouraged to register at their earliest convenience. All details of the conference week may be found in the Boston webpages on IFLANET <www.ifla.org>. Registration facilities are available at that address, and any additional information may be requested from the Conference Secretariat (Congrex Holland) at <ifla2001@congrex.nl>.

As we go to press not all details of the professional programme are available yet. These need to be elaborated by the professional groups (Sections, Round Tables, Core Activities) and many colleagues are currently very busy finalising their parts of the programme. More details, including names of speakers and

titles of papers and satellite events and workshops, will gradually become available on IFLANET.

The week of the Boston conference may be sketched as follows.

On Friday 17 and Saturday 18 August the Executive, Professional and Coordinating Boards and Section Standing Committees will have their first series of business meetings. Important issues on their agendas are of course the outcome of the various elections: IFLA President, President-elect, and other members of the Governing Board, as well as many new members of Standing Committees.

Sunday 19 and Monday 20 August will have during the morning the popular IFLA Newcomers' sessions, as well as Division sessions and meetings of Discussion Groups. On Sunday afternoon the IFLA Council will meet and on Monday afternoon we will have the Opening and Plenary sessions. Both days will be closed with receptions: on Sunday the Exhibition Opening and on Monday at the Boston Public Library.

During Tuesday 21 and Wednesday 22 August, the programme provides for many typical conference sessions, including open sessions, guest lectures and poster sessions. On Tuesday evening a reception will take place at the Museum of Science. On Wednesday there will be the first series of library visits and tours, along with the second series of meetings of Boards and Standing Committees.

Thursday 23 August will be Workshops Day. An estimated number between 15 and 20 will be held, some off site, but most of them at the Hynes Convention Center. Again a large number of library tours will be held on Thursday and in the evening there will be receptions and cultural performances at Harvard University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

On Friday 24 August further conference programme sessions will be held, and the preliminary meeting of the new Governing Board, followed in the afternoon by the second Council meeting and the Closing. During this session the Conference Touch will be passed to the organisers of "Glasgow 2002". This session will be followed by the IFLA President's reception.

Saturday 25 will provide excellent opportunities to the conference participants to choose from all kinds of inter-

esting sightseeing tours, ranging from viewing whales to shopping tours and visits to Gloucester or Newport.

German Federal President Johannes Rau Patron to IFLA 2003 Berlin

Germany's Federal President Johannes Rau has agreed to be Patron to the 69th General Conference of the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA), to be held in 2003 in Berlin.

An important reason for Mr Rau was the promotion of reading, in which he has been engaged in many ways. The President has been connected to the book trade for a long time: from 1949 until 1967 he was active as a bookseller.

Claudia Lux, IFLA Executive Board member, said: "IFLA is proud that Germany's President has honoured us with his patronage for our conference. It demonstrates the importance of the role of libraries in the knowledge age".

IFLA's 69th annual world conference of librarians and other information professionals will be held for the first time in re-united Germany. From 1 - 9 August 2003, approximately 3,500 participants from all parts of the world are expected to gather at the International Conference Centre (ICC) in Berlin.

The decision to have the conference in Berlin, was taken by IFLA's Executive Board after an invitation by Berlin's mayor Eberhard Diepgen and official applications made by the Bundesvereinigung Deutscher Bibliotheksverbände e.V. (BDB), the umbrella organisation for all German library associations.

The conference, which will include a large exhibition, will be organised under the responsibility of the BDB on behalf of IFLA. The organising secretariat is based at the Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin - Preussischer Kulturbesitz.

Contact: Ms Barbara Schleihagen, Generalsekretärin or Mr Christoph Albers, Konferenzkoordinator; IFLA 2003 Berlin Sekretariat, c/o Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin, Potsdamer Str.33, D-10785 Berlin, Germany. (Tel: +(49-30) 265588-52 or -74; Fax: +(49-30)265588-53 or -75; E-mail: ifla2003secr@sbb.spk-berlin.de; http://www.ifla.org).

IFLA's Professional Priorities

After a series of valuable discussions, which took place during the whole of 2000, IFLA's Professional Board has approved the "Professional Priorities", which are reproduced below. Those priorities will form the basis and the starting point for all professional activities that the Federation and all its groups will undertake in the near future.

The International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) is a worldwide, independent, non-governmental organization. The purposes of the Federation as stated in its Statutes are "to promote high standards of delivery of library and information services; to encourage widespread understanding of the value and importance of high quality library and information services in the private, public and voluntary sectors; and to represent the interests of its Members throughout the world." The Professional Priorities outlined in this document will provide guidance in the development of IFLA's professional activities. These priorities are to be incorporated into the professional programmes throughout IFLA's organizational structure, recognizing especially that the needs, concerns and views of every region of the world are to be taken into account, particularly those in the developing world. Regional concerns, communication and information exchange among IFLA's members, and the use of electronic technology to facilitate the implementation of its priorities underpin all of these professional priorities.

Supporting the Role of Libraries in Society

IFLA supports the establishment and maintenance of libraries by serving as an international advocate to ensure that the vital role of libraries in the digital age is well understood and acted upon. IFLA lobbies on behalf of libraries with government officials and community leaders, using all available avenues to secure appropriate funding and staffing of library services worldwide.

Defending the Principle of Freedom of Information

IFLA believes that all people have a fundamental right to create and acquire

information and to express their views publicly. The right to know and the freedom to express are two aspects of the same principle.

Libraries play a key role in securing these rights, and IFLA supports this role by defending the ability of libraries to acquire, organize, preserve and make available the widest variety of materials, reflecting plurality and diversity in the society, and thus to protect and enhance democracy and a free debate; by defending the ability of libraries to ensure that selection and availability of material and services are governed by professional principles, not the political, moral or religious views of individuals or governments; and by defending the ability of libraries to make materials and services available to all users, with no discrimination due to race, creed, gender, religion, age or any other subjective reason.

Promoting Literacy, Reading, and Lifelong Learning

IFLA's programmes promote literacy in many aspects, helping libraries worldwide to develop programmes that support increased literacy for all people, including basic literacy (the ability to use, understand and apply print, writing, speech and visual information in order to communicate and interact effectively), reading (the ability to decipher print and other forms of notation, to understand written language and its construction, and to comprehend the meaning of the written word), information literacy (the ability to formulate and analyze an information need; to identify and appraise sources; to locate, retrieve, organize and store information; to interpret, analyze, synthesize and evaluate that information critically; and to evaluate whether the information need has been satisfied) and lifelong learning (providing for the needs of all learners, whether formal or informal, helping to raise the aspirations and achievements of individuals of all ages and abilities).

Providing Unrestricted Access to Information

IFLA seeks to influence political and economic decisions that have an ethical impact on access to information so that all persons throughout the world have

the same opportunity to participate in the information society without regard to physical, regional, social, or cultural barriers. Ongoing technological progress seems to widen the gap between the information rich and the information poor world-wide. IFLA supports programmes which provide support for information access in developing regions of the world.

Balancing the Intellectual Property Rights of Authors with the Needs of Users

IFLA assumes a dual responsibility, both to the producers of intellectual property and to libraries as representatives of information users, because safeguarding and providing access to products of the mind are fundamental to the growth of knowledge.

IFLA works to protect the rights of authors and the role of libraries by playing an active role with organizations such as WIPO and UNESCO in the drafting of appropriate treaties and legislative models which recognize the dichotomy between the rights of authors and the needs of users.

IFLA also works to assure that intellectual property rights support the universal availability of information by such activities as encouraging national legislation for legal deposit and assuring the right of libraries to make copies of published documents in a manner consistent with principles of fair use. Safeguarding these rights must involve both the owners of intellectual property and its users. It necessitates working in collaboration with authors, publishers and librarians.

Promoting Resource Sharing

IFLA serves as an international forum and advocate for sharing information in all its forms across national borders. It promotes the communication of bibliographic information which is the basis for all resource sharing, it works to develop cooperative principles for international lending, and it supports a voucher scheme to liberate lending reimbursements from national currencies. IFLA works to encourage the sharing of resources, by supporting traditional lending and document delivery, by promoting the communication and easy

exchange of bibliographic information, and by encouraging the development of virtual libraries whose holdings will be accessible without regard to geography or national boundaries.

Preserving Our Intellectual Heritage

Although responsibility for the preservation and conservation of the intellectual heritage in their custody is ultimately the responsibility of individual libraries, IFLA works to promote the establishment of regional, national and international priorities and the application of the best scientific knowledge in the fulfillment of this responsibility. One of IFLA's primary activities is to ensure appropriate coordination at the international level through programmes such as advocacy, training and the development and dissemination of standards and best practices. IFLA also participates in international activities related to disaster preparedness and recovery.

Developing Library Professionals

IFLA works to strengthen the abilities and knowledge of library and informa-

tion science professionals and paraprofessionals throughout the world in order to improve service to the user. Programmes supported by IFLA encompass all educational processes, including library and information science curricula and continuing education activities such as lectures, seminars, workshops and in-service training.

Promoting Standards, Guidelines, and Best Practices

IFLA actively promotes standards, guidelines and best practices to provide guidance to libraries throughout the world in how to perform core functions well, and in many cases how to perform them in the same manner. The latter is particularly important in areas such as electronic communications where conformity with clear, established and widely accepted and understood standards is indispensable for the exchange of information in cost-effective ways.

Supporting the Infrastructure of Library Associations

IFLA supports the infrastructure of library associations, especially in coun-

tries and regions where these are poorly developed, because they provide the essential means for accomplishing IFLA's goals at the national level. Library associations provide many valuable services to librarians. They work to develop effective library programmes and services that meet the needs of library users and advance societal objectives and interests, ensuring public access to information, and preserving and protecting cultural resources.

Representing Libraries in the Technological Marketplace

IFLA serves as an international advocate for libraries and their users, seeking to influence the development of technology in the world marketplace, especially technology that controls the flow and availability of information. IFLA represents both the sophisticated interests of high-tech libraries and the practical concerns of more traditional users. It negotiates on behalf of libraries (and for the benefit of library users) in discussions on international trade and telecommunications, and it also works to encourage the development of affordable technologies that will bring information to all the populations of the world.

From the FAIFE Committee

New Director for FAIFE

IFLA is delighted to announce that it has appointed Susanne Seidelin to be the new Director of its Freedom of Access to Information and Freedom of Expression office (FAIFE).



Susanne Seidelin the new Director of FAIFE

Susanne Seidelin is currently Chief Consultant at the Danish National Library for the Blind and a member of the Board of the DAISY consortium of libraries and organisations for the blind and visually impaired.

Ms Seidelin, accepting the appointment said: "To deal with freedom of expression and free access to information in a global perspective is a once in a lifetime professional and personal challenge. I am greatly looking forward to it."

Ross Shimmon, Secretary General of IFLA said that he was sure that Ms Seidelin, with her strong track record of successful project management and her commitment to enabling people to get access to the knowledge they need, will build on the excellent achievements of FAIFE since its establishment.

Ms Seidelin succeeds the founding Director, Jan Ristarp, who recently

retired. It is hoped that Ms Seidelin will take up the post early in 2001.

FAIFE-L - mailing list on intellectual freedom

A new discussion list devoted to libraries, librarianship and intellectual freedom.

FAIFE-L is an electronic forum intended to foster communications among IFLA members and others concerned with the issues related to the work of FAIFE (Free Access to Information and Freedom of Expression). The aim is to facilitate the exchange of information and opinions.

The FAIFE-L mailing list is an international Internet mailing list that focuses on libraries, librarianship and intellectual freedom issues, including FAIFE services and activities. The goals of the FAIFE-L mailing list are:

- * to raise the general awareness of the correlation between libraries, democracy and intellectual freedom,
- * to facilitate sharing of information on matters of interest related to libraries, librarianship and intellectual freedom,
- * to stimulate debate on these complex issues,
- * to create a forum for both library professionals and others engaged in intellectual freedom and
- * to distribute information from the FAIFE initiative itself.

The list is open to all interested individuals, institutions and organisations worldwide. Both IFLA members and others who are interested in FAIFE activities are encouraged to participate.

The working language of the FAIFE Committee and Office is English, but information from FAIFE will be translated into the other official IFLA languages (French, German, Russian and Spanish), whenever possible. Any assistance in this matter will be much appreciated.

Messages from subscribers forwarded to the FAIFE-L can be in any language, but will not be translated. Please bear this in mind when participating.

FAIFE-L is hosted and managed by the FAIFE Office in Copenhagen, Denmark.

FAIFE-L is an open and unmoderated discussion list, which means that all messages forwarded to the list will automatically be distributed to all subscribers. Information intended exclusively for FAIFE should be forwarded directly to the FAIFE Office (faife@ifla.org) or FAIFE Committee members (see contact information on the FAIFE web site: <http://www.faife.dk>).

Anyone may subscribe, and only subscribers may post to this list. Any subscriber may freely send messages to the list. However, this list is provided as a convenience to IFLA members and others who have a legitimate interest in participating in FAIFE discussions or receiving

news from FAIFE. It is not to be used as a source of addresses for commercial or other uses not part of the business of the IFLA/FAIFE initiative.

FAIFE-L is hosted and administered by the FAIFE Office. To contact the FAIFE Office, please send a message to: faife@ifla.org

To subscribe, send a message to: majordomo@list.dbc.dk.

In the body of the message type: subscribe FAIFE-L YourE-mailAddress

To submit, send a message to: faife-l@faife.dk.

Please indicate your topic in the topic line of the message and include your name and address in the body of the message.

IFLA/FAIFE Office

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From the Divisions, Sections and Round Tables

Ask an Expert

Section on Document Delivery and Interlending would like to announce a recent addition to its website <<http://www.ifla.org/VII/s15/sidd.htm>>.

Now you can "Ask an Expert" your questions on document delivery and interlending. While the service is intended particularly for questions related to IFLA documents and services, questions related to international document delivery and interlending will also be welcome. Please try it out at <<http://www.ifla.org/VII/s15/sidd.htm#8a>>.

For more information contact: Ms Carol Smale, Information Coordinator, IFLA Section on Document Delivery and Interlending (e-mail: carol.smale@nlc-bnc.ca).

Guidelines for Professional Library/Information Educational Programmes - 2000

IFLA's Professional Board has approved the *Guidelines for Professional Library/Information Educational Programmes -*

2000, prepared by the IFLA Section on Education and Training.

The new guidelines primarily cover the graduate and professional level. They address the following aspects:

- * Curriculum
- * Faculty and Staff
- * Students
- * Administration and Financial Support
- * Instructional Resources and Facilities

Lis Byberg, Chair of IFLA's Division on Education and Research commented: "I am delighted and proud to present these new Guidelines; after almost a quarter of a century it was high time and our profession deserves this up-to-date version in support of educational programmes on a state-of-the-art basis."

The guidelines are in effect a revision of the "Standards for Library Schools" published by IFLA in 1976 for the Section on Education and Training. This new version has been drafted by a working group of the Section whose members include: Evelyn Daniel, Susan Lazinger and Ole Harbo.

The text is available from < <http://www.ifla.org/VII/s23/seat.htm#3> > and upon request from IFLA Headquarters.

IFLA Discussion Group on Reference Work - a four year perspective

by Annsofie Oscarsson, Head of Reference, Umeå University Library, Sweden

Reference and information work is one of the fundamental pillars of our libraries, and has turned out to be even more important concurrently with the information explosion on the Internet. This information overflow is a phenomenon that may seem, at first glance, easy to handle as "You can find anything on the Net". As librarians we know that this is not the real truth. If you think that you found what you searched for, there are still lots of pitfalls, one of which could be summarized into one word: Quality. The Internet explosion entails many new aspects, like access and availability, due to complicated copyright restrictions. We also must recognize, reorganize and adapt our services in order to meet with the new virtual needs. In this respect I am referring to both digital and physical environments, as both virtual and physical patrons form our user community today.

These are just a few reasons for claiming that traditional reference librarian skills will continue to be valid and will continue to provide a good foundation

for the sector, together with new skills such as interpersonal ones, technology, pedagogical skills, and probably skills that we yet cannot identify. Traditionally, the mission of reference librarians is to retrieve, structure and evaluate information, but will this be unique to us in the future? One important aspect is that we are facing competition from other information providers on the net and how do we handle that? Will libraries be the place where we will work in the future? Which organization will best fit future needs? Cooperation will be even more important, and how do we best organize collaborative reference service between libraries world wide? The technique is here, but how do we use it in the most appropriate way?

It is extremely important that these matters are treated, discussed and considered on an international level, and IFLA is an excellent and vigorous forum of great importance for the library sector in many fields.

Up to 1997 there was no forum within IFLA specifically addressing Reference Work. At the Copenhagen conference, I took the initiative of starting a Discussion Group on this topic. The Section of Document Delivery and Interlending (Division V, Collections and Services) agreed to affiliate the group. The number of participants has increased every year: from 40 for the first meeting, more than 100 librarians attended the Bangkok meeting, and 150 reference librarians participated in this year's discussions in Jerusalem. With respect to the importance of assessing this field of librarianship and considering the great interest with which this Discussion Group has been met, it is my hope and desire that Reference Work will continue to be addressed within this organization on a permanent basis. I will give a short background and a brief overview of the work of this group until today.

Start-up meeting, Copenhagen 1997

The scope of the Discussion Group was discussed, and defined to include all aspects of reference work in all types of libraries in all regions. The importance of the new electronic environment should be emphasized, and also the fact that a change is taking place in reference work. The future role of reference work should be an important issue as well as the quality aspect. It was generally agreed to cover the following important topics:

- Organization
- Ethics
- The impact of electronic materials

- Reference collections
- Continuing education of reference librarians

Procedures

Discussions have mainly been based on discussion papers, submitted in advance and available on IFLANET to permit browsing before the conference. Reports from meetings are also posted on the Discussion Group's web page.

First Official meeting, Amsterdam 1998

The topic of the first official meeting was *The Organization of Reference Services*. In order to find out if there were any differences in the organization with respect to library type with regard to the reference department, reference services etc, the following four library types were identified: National Libraries, University and Research Libraries, Public Libraries and Special Libraries. From each of them a coordinator conducted, and reported on a survey based on three questions:

1. Where in the organization is the reference department found?
2. Which services are offered, and are there different levels?
3. What are the positive and negative effects?

The substance of the discussion which followed was that it is not always the organization itself that is important but rather the needs of the users and what they expect from reference librarians. However, as a result of information technology, a change in the organizations can be expected in the foreseeable future. Another issue was how we can serve the users in the best way, whether physical or virtual - this is really the focus point and highlights the importance of defining reference work. Which services are we going to provide in the future? How do we adapt our library organization to meet with future needs?

Second Official Meeting, Bangkok 1999

The theme of this year's Discussion Group on Reference Work was *The New Definition of Reference Work in a Changing Reference Culture*. More than 100 people attended the meeting from different parts of the world. There were eight papers submitted and four of the authors were present at the meeting. Two of the papers referred to surveys based on the questionnaire from previous year. The two surveys assess the changing nature of reference work. One of the challenging facts which came up was, that if reference librarians cannot uphold a good standard, users will try to obtain their answers from other refer-

ence service providers. The conclusions highlight the changing relationship between reference librarians and users.

Among other issues scanned from the papers was Roving Reference, in which reference librarians rove around with the potential of answering questions, and can also rove around the collection with wireless communication. The point is that users want help and information where they are, that is, in front of the computer catalogue, the CD-databases etc., and do not want to leave the computers to walk up to the reference desk. The concept of the "virtual reference interview" or how to make the computerized reference service more human, was also discussed as well as declining statistics regarding reference desk questions.

Third Official Meeting, Jerusalem 2000

The theme **A Space Odyssey: Building Bridges Between Virtual and Physical Reference Services** attracted more than 150 reference librarians. The meeting room was quite crowded and many people were listening to the session from an adjacent room. Five discussion papers were briefed, giving input for the following discussion. The user, the physical patron, was addressed in many aspects as well as the new possibilities of serving remote, virtual users. A model for evaluating and developing reference services on the Internet was also described. Several interesting ongoing projects from the US were reported on, such as the Collaborative Digital Reference Services promoted by the Library of Congress. Aspects and solutions to problems with regard to reference services within special collections such as European Document Information, which is a typical example of fields where both printed and electronic material is used, were presented. Changes in the physical reference environment and the abolition of the traditional reference desk in favour of roving librarians promoted lively discussions. The changing role of reference librarians, and the willingness or unwillingness to change attitudes and methods of working were taken up as well as the generation shift and the importance of acquiring young professionals for reference service. Finally, real-time digital service was mentioned, such as chatting with an expert, a theme that certainly will be highlighted in future discussions.

For further information, please visit the Discussion Group's web page <<http://www.ifla.org/VII/dg/dgrw/index.htm>> or contact Annsofie Oscarsson (e-mail: annsofie.oscarsson@ub.umu.se).

Reports of Meetings

Managing the Preservation of Periodicals and Newspapers, Paris, 21-24 August 2000

The following report was submitted by Ralph W. Manning, Chair of the IFLA Professional Board.

A satellite meeting on "Managing the Preservation of Periodicals and Newspapers" was held in Paris from August 21-24, 2000. It was a very successful symposium with 185 participants from 40 different countries. As part of my role in summing up the results of the Symposium, I presented concluding observations. Reaction to my observations focused on the urgent need to take concrete action to preserve the serial literature in Africa.

The following were my concluding observations:

- * The symposium reiterates the resolution passed in 1989 encouraging all countries to preserve their cultural heritage, of which serial literature forms a major part.
- * The symposium further recognizes the need to work with developing countries to ensure that all the cultural heritage of the world is preserved.
- * The symposium recognizes that newspapers, including ethnic and local newspapers, as a subset of serial literature, comprise a particularly valuable component of the world's published heritage and that they should be given consideration for priority in preservation.
- * The symposium recognizes the role of authors and publishers who have interest in ensuring access to their publications. Librarians should enter into continuing dialogue with publishers to ensure short- and long-term preservation and access.

Acknowledging that no medium is truly permanent, the symposium recognizes that all forms of preservation including microfilming and digitization demand an on-going commitment of resources over time to ensure long-term preservation.

Global 2000 - The Information Age: Challenges & Opportunities. A Worldwide Conference on Special Librarianship 16-19 October 2000, Brighton, United Kingdom

The following article was submitted by Hans-Christoph Hobohm, Chair of Division: Special Libraries and Editor-in-Chief, INSPEL

The American Special Libraries Association held its second global conference, co-sponsored by the IFLA Division 2 "Special Libraries" together with several other international and national associations of the information world. More than 700 Special Librarians from 55 countries met in the seaside resort of Brighton on the south coast of England.

The program was divided into three tracks: three keynote speeches were followed by sessions organized by the SLA International Relations Committee and completed by sessions organized by the co-organising associations.

The keynote speakers were interesting. SLA was successful in inviting personalities one would rarely have the chance to meet in everyday life:

Stephanie Shirley from FI. Group Plc. gave a vivid description of her entrepreneurial life, from the idea of establishing a women-oriented computer business in the 1960s to the extraordinarily successful period of her global enterprise now. Her career is a perfect example for a new successful management style.

Yves-Michel Marti (EGIDERIA, Paris) gave a fascinating presentation of what it means to do 'business intelligence' and he gave the librarians a lesson in professional strategic thinking. He emphasized that librarians are still human beings and showed that this might be their competitive advantage in a world which is more and more relying on machines. Even if the librarians are still predominantly collecting 'white sources' (like the published information) which only represents 15% of the total information value, they are the keepers of the gateways to rest of the iceberg with the remaining 80% of high value 'grey or informal sources' like people. His advice for librarians to survive in the more and more business oriented world: be more self-confident!

Chantal Cuer, a well known BBC presenter was the keynote speaker of the last day of the conference. She gave some brilliant insights into information and knowledge management in the media world.

The second track of general papers consisted of a varied collection of presentations from all over the world. The topics ranged from Knowledge Management to Digital Libraries, from new personal skills to global strategies and, in most cases, varied from highly scholarly to more practical quality. Most of the papers will appear in the journal of the IFLA Division of Special Libraries "*INSPEL - International Journal of Special Libraries*" (vol. 34 (2000) no. 3/4). This collection of papers represents an outstanding overview of special librarianship at the end of the 20th century.

The SLA determined to make this conference a truly global one and offered several fellowship awards for librarians who otherwise could not have afforded to come. To apply for it one had to submit a paper on one's own professional work or studies. These papers were not presented at the conference. However, they will be published in future INSPEL issues, as they represent a very interesting sample of "Third World" reports and reflections.

Within the third conference track organized by the co-sponsoring organizations, IFLA had the opportunity to address the issue of 'global networking' and to present the work and achievements of our association. This triggered some interesting discussions and considerations on the life and the capacities of truly international or large organizations. At the closing panel IFLA was also represented and this was the opportunity to raise the question of the 'global digital divide' which had so far not really been discussed. There had been a lot of talk about soft values during the conference but not about culture and cultural diversity. The forefront of the information profession, as the Special Librarians often consider themselves, sometimes has problems gaining this global view, which the work of IFLA is all about. It is too often forgotten that information is a very context sensitive thing and that not all geographical or even social "contexts" are able to use the new information media and will therefore end up as

"information poor" parts of the world's societies. Apart from other mainstream topics like knowledge management or competitive intelligence, this reflected the informal impression of some of the participants that the conference was still too much an Anglo-American event (to the extent that some did not understand the conference structure).

This conference made a great effort to gather such a variety of special librarians from all over the world. We have to be grateful to SLA for helping us to developing a mutual global understanding in the information world. We are therefore looking forward to the next SLA-Global conference which shall take place in two years.

Pacific Island Association of Libraries and Archives' (PIALA) 10th Annual Conference Tumon, Guam, November 2000

The following article was submitted by Ruth Tighe, a newswriter from Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

IFLA/RTMLA research results were heard round the world - or half-way, at least - when the executive secretary of the (Caribbean) Commonwealth Library Association (COMLA), Norma Amenu-Kpoda, presented findings of a survey of library associations, conducted together with Michael Wooliscroft of the University of Otago, New Zealand, to attendees of the Pacific Island Association of Libraries and Archives' 10th annual conference in Tumon, Guam, in November 2000.

Her key-note presentation was based on a quote from George Bernard Shaw: *"People are always blaming their circumstances for what they are. I do not believe in circumstances. The people who get on in this world are the people who get up and look for the circumstances they want, and if they cannot find them - make them."*

This text could as easily refer to library associations as to individuals. Amenu-Kpoda provided a recommended list of "critical areas for action" to keep associations healthy and vibrant.

In no particular order, these areas are: expanding membership, becoming financially viable, communicating to members and the public, seeking permanent accommodations and staff, becoming

advocates of the profession, and undertaking research and publication.

Library associations, said Amenu-Kpoda, seem to encounter the same problems regardless of where they are located. Their survey of associations in developing countries revealed, she said, *"that despite regional differences, (that is between Asia, the Americas and the Caribbean, Africa, Europe and the South Pacific), varying geographic situations, size of professional population and overall economic conditions, there was an array of similar problems in developing countries."*

One of the key findings of her survey, was that many library associations in developing countries would have to *"create new circumstances"* - reassessing their priorities, restructuring their operations and realigning responsibilities - if they wished to halt any downward slide and retain any impact and influence in their communities.

Librarians, she urged, should associate *"indiscriminately"* in order to support and strengthen their library associations.

(It may be noted that Amenu-Kpoda found her way to Guam through mutual membership with Arlene Cohen, program chairman for the Guam conference, on the IFLA Round Table for the Management of Library Associations (RTMLA) Executive Committee.)

The UNESCO Infoethics conference, Paris, 13-15 November 2000

The following report was submitted by Ross Shimmom, Secretary General of IFLA

This was the third UNESCO Infoethics conference, attended by about 100 people from around the world representing many different interests.

- There were three main themes:
- A: The role of public authorities in access to information
 - B: The fair use concept in the information society
 - C: Protecting human dignity in the digital age.

Library interests were reasonably well represented, both on the platform and among the participants. Ekaterina Genieva spoke in the session devoted to "Broader and more efficient provision of public contents" within theme A, concentrating on recent developments in Russia. She emphasized particularly the need for

effective telecoms infrastructure. The head of a library school in Venezuela, an additional speaker whose name was not announced audibly, spoke on the theme "Facilitating access to networks and service." He was worried that governments, in developing systems to provide access using new technology were losing sight of what he called the "traditional infrastructure" by which he meant public libraries, museums, archives. He also stressed the need for information literacy skills and for content to be made available in languages other than English.

I intervened in this session making the point that libraries have a vital role in making information available; they are neutral spaces in which people from different backgrounds feel comfortable, are not pressurized to buy anything or to conform to a particular point of view. But they need the investment to make available information, ideas and works of imagination to the widest possible audience.

I was heartened by many of the contributions to theme B. Distinctions were made between free use (of public domain information) and fair use (of copyright material). Incidentally, UNESCO itself came under criticism for not making all its publications available on a copyright free basis. Several speakers emphasized that the policing of copyright legislation should not have the effect of increasing the digital divide. Herman Spruijt, of the International STM publishers, however took a very hard line, referring several times to the IFLA position paper on Copyright in the Digital Environment. He emphasized the publishers' concerns about the ease of downloading, manipulating and republishing material and said that, contrary to IFLA's statement, 'digital IS different'. Information is not free, society must pay, licensing is the way forward, was his line. "Information will be accessible to all at an affordable price through licensing at differential prices", he argued. Naturally I intervened at this point, arguing that from the users' point of view, digital was *NOT* different. People needed access, regardless of the medium. Some way must be found to preserve the concept of fair dealing/fair use in the digital environment. I made the point that most new intellectual property makes significant use of existing publications, accessed through libraries. I also took the opportunity to remind the audience of the position of the Third World and the dangers of the digital divide widening rather than narrowing. Hellen Niegaard also made a useful intervention in this session,

emphasizing the share of the market represented by libraries and UNESCO's interest in democracy building.

The final theme proved to be quite scary, with several speakers demonstrating how much surveillance of our telephone calls and e-mail messages takes place and how they are intercepted by government agencies.

In summary, I think that the interests of libraries and their users showed up

pretty well. Philippe Quéau of UNESCO said that the next steps would be:

- * A summary report to be prepared will appear on the Website
- * A follow-up report will be sent to all UNESCO Member States asking for their opinions
- * An international committee of experts will meet in March 2001 to draft recommendations
- * The recommendations will be submitted to the UNESCO General Conference in October 2001

* The outcomes will be used in preparations for a UN World Summit on Cyberspace Communications scheduled for 2003, dates and venue not yet fixed.

* That summit should result in International Codes of Conduct.

The conference papers are available on the UNESCO infoethics web pages <<http://webworld.unesco.org/infoethics2000/index.html>>

From ALP Core Programme

New ALP Director appointed

Birgitta Sandell has been appointed Director of the IFLA Advancement of Librarianship Programme (ALP).

The appointment, announced jointly by the University Library Uppsala, Sweden and IFLA, is for the period until 31st December 2003, with the possibility of renewal. It takes effect immediately.

On learning of her appointment, the new Director said: *"I am delighted to have the opportunity to continue the work Birgitta Bergdahl started, and to work with IFLA in these changing times. ALP remains important because of continuing scarce resources in developing countries."*

Acting as a catalyst within IFLA for its work in the developing world is a key task for ALP, she said.

Ms Sandell is supported by Ms Gunilla Natvig, Administrative Officer and by Ms Karin Lindblom, Administrative Assistant.

ALP is one of several IFLA Core Programmes. Hosted by Uppsala University Library in Sweden, ALP receives most of its funding from aid agencies in the Nordic countries. Its mission is to further the library profession, library institutions and library and information services in

the developing countries of Africa, Asia and Oceania, and Latin America and the Caribbean. Its medium term goals in these regions are to assist in continuing education and training, support the development of library associations, promote services to the general public, including the promotion of literacy, and assist in the introduction of new technology.

The founder Director of ALP, Birgitta Bergdahl, had held the position since 1989. Sadly, she was forced to take early retirement in July of this year because of ill health. In her absence, she was presented with a scroll, in recognition of her outstanding contribution to the work of IFLA, by President Christine Deschamps at the IFLA conference held in Jerusalem in August.



Birgitta Bergdahl's farewell party: B. Sandell, L-E. Sannu and B. Bergdahl

Publishers and Libraries - Partners in the Electronic Age: Reflections on a Workshop at IFLA 2000

The following report was submitted by Dr Gary E. Gorman, Associate Professor, Library and Information Management, School of Communications & Information Management, Victoria University of Wellington, PO Box 600, Wellington 6015, New Zealand (fax: +(64-4)4635446; E-mail: gary.gorman@vuw.ac.nz).

Editor, Online Information Review (MCB); Editor, International Yearbook of Library and Information Management (Library Association Publishing)

Introduction

Time to withdraw from the bustle of meetings, both formal and informal, and to reflect on some of the key issues exercising the minds of both librarians and publishers. This is an opportunity offered each year by MCB University Press at its IFLA workshops. In Jerusalem the workshop, on the theme of 'publishers and libraries - partners in the electronic age', attracted some 50 reflective practitioners and academics, ranging from national and university librarians to managers of research institutes, government and public libraries, and academics from countries as far apart as New Zealand and the Netherlands, from Africa and Asia. All of us shared one common interest - how can we improve the synergies between libraries and publishers?

MCB had established four focal points, and these were used to create focus groups charged with reflecting on the key issues: the future of grey literature, the future of publishing, the promotion of electronic collections, alternative purchasing options. Each group discussed its topic over a splendid lunch that did much to facilitate the fruitful exchange of ideas, which were then summarised by the group's rapporteur and subsequently uploaded on MCB's *Library LINK* discussion forum at <<http://www.liblink.co.uk/ifla2000workshop.html>>.

Focal Point 1: The Future of Grey Literature

The Luxembourg Convention's definition of grey literature notwithstanding, there was some disagreement in this group on

the definition of grey literature. For example, emerging forms of grey literature which do not comply with the definition include the following:

- * Dynamically controlled Web sites
- * Web sites which use multimedia
- * Ephemera
- * Informal dialogues of work transmitted between parties.

Also emphasised at this definitional level were such points as the fact that grey literature is produced for a purpose other than publication, that it is work which is not peer reviewed and work which does not have a cost associated with it.

Moving beyond definitions, the group reached consensus on the potential value of the product being developed by GreyNet, but at the same time there was some question as to whether users would be prepared to pay for this service when grey literature in fact is free of charge. There were other matters raised with regard to GreyNet, but the recent post-Conference announcement that MCB would cease investing in this service makes that discussion moot, and substantiates the view that paying for a grey literature service is not an economic proposition.

Grey literature remains a perennial problem for information professionals in terms of product knowledge, acquisition, processing, bibliographic control and use. Clearly MCB felt that grey literature had a future in terms of its range of services, but this has proved not to be the case. There is an issue here that could well be taken up by relevant IFLA groups in terms of keeping grey literature on the international information agenda.

Focal Point 2: Publishers: Who Needs Them? The Future of Publishing

Given the provocative nature of this topic and the sponsorship of the workshop, it is little wonder that the discussion was rather more animated than that on grey literature. Doubts about the future of the journal as the primary mode of scholarly publication prompted the start of the discussion, as many librarians are moving from the point of ownership to the point of access. Some members of this focus group suggested that the disaggregated article is becoming

the unit of value rather than a complete journal issue.

The discussion then turned to the benefits and disadvantages of electronic material. Journals in the print environment are published in subject areas and therefore can be located broadly by subject. In contrast, if articles are merely placed at random on a database, processes such as searching and browsing will become very tedious. Furthermore, some people like to browse among the shelves, sometimes across different disciplines, hoping for a serendipitous discovery. Others maintained that as technology is developed these functions will be facilitated by services such as electronic tables of contents and full-text linking from citations and between articles published and offered by different vendors. This discussion highlighted another role for publishers - indiscriminate linking can be dangerous and should be controlled by a professional intermediary.

Academics within the group pointed out that, for them to succeed in their profession, they needed the added value of publishers to have their articles included in a refereed journal. They expressed concern at the length of time it takes for an article to appear in print and emphasised that scientists, especially, need to publish articles on up-to-date research and get the information into the public domain as quickly as possible. They were worried that publishers might hold articles in a particular field until there are sufficient items to constitute a whole issue - but of course this is true in both print and electronic journals. In the electronic environment there is a strong case to be made for articles being published, perhaps in disaggregated form as received, and then subsequently bundled into 'subject packages' or discrete journals.

Librarians and information managers within the group stressed that publishers continue to play a useful role in filtering information but that a breakthrough is needed and agreement required on matters of payment and licensing. One might have expected some controversial discussion on these points, but in fact the matter was treated rather cautiously. Another area of concern is for libraries and users to retain the privileges and fair use exceptions that are already available in the print environment, when they access electronic material. Much is happening

in this regard, but again the discussion seemed to skirt the 'hard questions' to some extent.

The group concluded that publishers should be wary during this transitional period of producing an electronic journal which is merely the electronic version of an existing print journal. There needs to be a redefinition of the whole package, and electronic versions must be significantly enhanced if they are to warrant production. This is not merely a selling point for publishers but a matter of professional concern to librarians, who want their users to have the advantages that e-publishing of journals brings.

Focal Point 3: Marketing on Campus - How to Ensure the Best Usage of Electronic Products

In academic libraries the electronic information environment is still unfamiliar to some users, and clients - both academics and students - demonstrate different levels of experience and confidence. This means that promotion and use instruction, even for one electronic product, is not straightforward, as it is not directed at a homogeneous group. Bring into the equation a range of electronic products, as well as remote access issues, and the situation becomes even more complex.

In some cases students are more aware of electronic products and how to use them than academics. Thus there is a need to educate academics, and not assume that they know about access matters in the emerging technologies. The use of electronic products should inform the way in which academics teach and the way they encourage use of these resources by students. Some suggest that this could lead to new ways of teaching. Academics, and not just librarians, should also encourage students to evaluate the quality of the information/resources they use.

On a slightly different tack, the group emphasised that to ensure the best usage of electronic products it is important for publishers to work with librarians in providing items needed to assist users. Traditional materials are still required, such as posters and hard copy guides - although these must be brief and to the point. Other simple devices are also useful, such as shelf strips to notify where hard copy items are also available online. Some online guides are available, but often they are too detailed and intricate, providing too many options, and therefore fail to encourage use of the product.

In their place simple, step-by-step online guides are needed. Such a guide should have a simple starting screen, as the initial steps on how to get in and search should be easy and quick. Options and choices should come later in the online guide. These later options and choices could include examples/simulations of searches and online tutorials at different levels.

Moving away from these teaching devices, the group also suggested that demonstrations are useful tools to ensure best usage of electronic products. These sessions should be geared to both academics and students, bearing in mind the different levels of experience. Users need to be clear about what they are accessing (and currently it is not always clear), and they need to be clear about the quality of the information they are accessing - hence they need to be aware of features for evaluation.

In addition to demonstrations of products libraries need feedback on the use of electronic products, and this should be qualitative feedback. Statistics do not show how useful the product has been, only that it has been 'used' in some sense. Comments from users in the library do not provide this information, as generally these tend to be negative - arising only when users have experienced difficulties. Quick and easy online feedback would be a helpful feature for electronic products.

There are, as this group has suggested, numerous ways in which the creators and distributors of electronic products can work with libraries to ensure that their resources have the most effective use. This can only benefit both publishers and users in the long run.

Focal Point 4: Alternative Purchasing Options for E-publishing Models

The discussion on 'alternative purchasing options' centred around a small number of keywords - access, availability, consortia - and generated a wide range of comments reflecting the constitution of the group (national libraries, research library consortia, academic departments, public and university libraries). Principally, however, any viable purchasing option was seen as a means of improving access to materials. This means that the materials must be more widely and more readily available than in conventional purchasing arrangements if the alternatives are to attract purchasers.

However, it is not merely a matter of improved access, but in fact an attractive purchasing option must address a number of other concerns expressed by librarians. These are:

Value-added product - what is offered must include a range of 'add-ons' that make it an attractive and accessible product, such as indexing, links, provision of extra services.

Quality assurance in the product - the purchaser must feel confident that the publishing process is as rigorous as in conventional materials being offered, and not just include a number of extra features, so the whole refereeing and editorial process must continue to exist, and must be more transparent.

Stable product - what is here today must be in the same place tomorrow, as purchasers are paying for improved access, and have the right to expect that that access is constant across time.

Archived product - a function of stability, there is considerable concern that publishers in an e-environment do not take seriously the need to maintain stable archives of their product, which means that the purchasers need to look at archiving options themselves.

Rights to the product - especially in a consortial environment, purchasers need to know very clearly what their access rights and privileges are and how these relate to fair use by their clients.

Distribution of the product - in purchasing in the electronic environment, libraries want to know that materials will be distributed in a more timely manner than in conventional publishing, as this is increasingly expected by their clients, and they also want an assurance that distribution will be on a regular basis.

Underlying these concerns is a particularly powerful constant: financial and budgetary considerations. However improved the access and availability might be, purchasers must know that they are receiving value for money, and ideally greater value for less money. Consortia are seen as one way to achieve this ideal of improved access and availability in the context of greater value for the money spent. Interest in consortia seems to wax and wane, but at the moment there is renewed interest in the value of consortia and in experimenting with new models for consortial agreements.

It is important that consortia, and the purchasing options which they seek to negotiate, are viewed as contextual by all

parties. That is, little value is seen in a consortium that follows a pattern used elsewhere without first testing the viability of that pattern or model in its own context. Similarly, publishers need to recognise the contextual nature of their sales and licensing agreements - one size fits all is simply not an option. If consortia are contextual, then purchasing agreements must be flexible and open to negotiation. This is especially true as one moves from developed to developing countries, where consortia may be a new phenomenon and where budgets are even more restricted than in other countries. Yet the developing countries have, if anything, a greater appetite and need for information products, but offered by publishers at more competitive prices - there is no easy solution to this conundrum.

Finally, there emerged general consensus that purchasers and publishers

should be working more closely together to create more flexible consortia, that publishers should be more sensitive to the needs of purchasers in developing countries, and that, whatever happens, both purchaser and producer together need to ensure that information products are increasingly accessible and available at a fair price.

Conclusion

In this participant's view at least three of the sessions highlighted current concerns of a range of information professionals. In particular the continuing role of publishers must be emphasised time and again, for there are many wedded to the Internet and its supposed 'democracy' in terms of information availability. What they do not realise is that the publishers (or, more correctly, their editors and edi-

torial boards) continue to have an important filtering function in the production of reliable information products. Furthermore, these publishers can improve their products if they ensure the presence of value-added services and user-friendly interfaces, and if they recognise their responsibility to listen to both users and information professionals. This sort of co-operation flows over into the matter of consortia, where both publishers and clients need to work together to ensure that products, services and agreements that are closely tailored to the needs of individual consortia. Much of this may seem obvious, but in the heat of daily activity we often tend to forget these points. Therefore, it is sometimes useful to stop and reflect in a profession not much given to introspection. This is precisely what the MCB workshops seek to do, and one hopes that this publisher and others listen to the results of such deliberations.

From other Organizations

Memory of the World

UNESCO's Memory of the World Conference was celebrated in Mexico from September 27 to 29, 2000

In Manzanillo, Colima, Mexico, the Second International Conference of the UNESCO Memory of the World Programme brought together specialists in preservation and access techniques and policies to discuss new trends in preserving and disseminating archives and library heritage materials. 125 professionals from 43 countries attended the meeting, which was organized by the Mexican Memory of the World National Committee, the University of Colima and the Government of the State of Colima.

The programme included four main topics: Access to our Documentary Heritage; Pilot projects and the Memory of the World Register; Regional priorities in safeguarding and Access to documentary heritage; and Regional priorities in safeguarding and Access to documentary heritage.

In his speech for the opening ceremony, Alain Modoux, Assistant Director-General a.i. for Communication and Information, UNESCO, said that the Programme "is not about sites and monuments but about manuscripts, incunabula and archives, whether sound, film,

paper or also oral tradition. These are of course of other nature as monuments. While one is monumental, solid and visible from long distances, the other is often hidden and has to be discovered and preserved in completely different ways".

"The UNESCO Memory of the World Programme, is the story's frame of the Sleeping beauty and the prince. In other words it signifies a union of all those who are preserving and giving access to the beauty -the world's documentary heritage. Therefore I hope that the Second International Memory of the World Conference hosted in Mexico, in the country of sun, sea and gods, where narrative and pictographic heritage like Popol-Vuh and Codices were created, makes a significant contribution towards a clear vision and a world-wide workshop of preservation of and access to documentary heritage in the information age", Mr. Modoux said.

Guidelines for Legal Deposit Legislation

In October 2000 UNESCO published the *Guidelines for Legal Deposit Legislation* by Jules Larivière, Director of the Law Library at the University of Ottawa,

Canada. This is a revised, enlarged and updated edition of the 1981 publication by Dr. Jean Lunn.

The role of national libraries in ensuring universal and equitable access to information continues to be a cornerstone in the development of a knowledge society. A national library faces many challenges in ensuring that the published heritage of its country is acquired and preserved for all to use. An important vehicle in assisting national libraries to meet this responsibility is legal deposit. The 1981 Guidelines for Legal Deposit Legislation prepared by Dr. Jean Lunn proved useful to many countries in developing their own legislation.

However, the advent of new formats, including digital publications, has raised new issues. It is imperative that information made available to the public in digital format be included as part of a national library's heritage collection. It is hoped that this new and enlarged edition of Dr. Lunn's work, which in particular addresses the issue of electronic formats, will similarly assist countries as they develop, update and revise their legal deposit legislation.

Marianne Scott, Former National Librarian of Canada and Chair of the

Conference of Directors of National Libraries (CDNL) Advisory Committee on the Revision of the Guidelines, stated:

"I am very pleased to see that a new edition of the 1981 Guidelines for Legal Deposit Legislation is now available. Legal deposit is a vital tool which supports the long-term preservation and availability of a country's published heritage. This revised and enlarged edition of the Guidelines tackles the challenges of depositing on-line electronic publications which are increasingly becoming an important part of the world's published heritage."

Sincere appreciation is due to UNESCO, which, through IFLA (International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions), provided the financial support for this research work, and to the National Library of Canada for directing the project.

The full text of the publication is available at <http://www.ifla.org/VII/s1/gnl/legaldep1.htm>

CRIMEA 2001

Libraries and Associations in the Transient World: New Technologies and New Forms of Cooperation

The Seventh International Conference will be held in Sudak, The Autonomous Republic of Crimea, from June 9-17, 2001. It is intended that there will be a number of guest events in other Crimean towns: Yalta, Alushta, Simferopol and Feodosia. Sudak is one of the most beautiful and tranquil locales on the Crimean Black Sea coast. The history of Sudak dates to antiquity. It is a small Crimean town of unflinching charm, surrounded by fantastic mountains crowned with picturesque ruins of the medieval Genoese fortress.

The Conference venue, "Sudak Tourist and Health Center", is a complex of twenty modern buildings in a garden setting.

The adjacent beach, some two kilometers long, might well be the best in the Crimea. The beach, restaurants, cafes and shops are located on the territory of Sudak Tourist and Health Center.

During the Crimea Conference, the Sudak Tourist and Health Center will accommodate only the participants in the Conference. The best conference rooms in Yalta, Alushta, Simferopol and Feodosia will be placed at guest and satellite events disposal.

Discover new picturesque places of the Crimea! For a complete copy of the Call for Papers, see <http://www.iliac.org/crimea2001/index.html>

For a brief report on Crimea 2000, see <http://www.ala.org/irrt/2000september.pdf>

Miscellaneous

National Librarian appointed

Dr Peter Lor has been appointed the first National Librarian of the National Library of South Africa with effect from 1 November 2000. He held this post in an acting capacity since the National Library was launched on 1 November 1999, when the State Library in Pretoria and the South African Library in Cape Town merged.

"I am looking forward to the challenges of leading the National Library of South Africa," says Lor. "The opportunities presented to this new institution must be seized. We need to revitalize the national library as an institution. I envisage that we will focus on three strategic directions. They are to hold a mirror to the nation and promote nation-building by providing access to the nation's published documentary heritage; to build a bridge to the information society; and to level the playing field for access to information."

Dr Lor has over the past few years served on several government task teams and working groups engaged in developing policy for library and information services for a democratic South

Africa, including the Working Group on National Libraries which was convened by the Minister of Arts, Culture, Science and Technology and which resulted in the formation of the National Library. He was also instrumental in spearheading the unification of the various professional library associations in South Africa into a single association, the Library and Information Association of South Africa (LIASA), now in its third year of existence. He is a member of the Board of SABINET (the South African Bibliographic and Information Network) and serves on the Executive of the Pretoria Citizens' Advice Bureau.

Peter Johan Lor was born in Apeldoorn, the Netherlands, in 1946 and emigrated to South Africa with his parents in 1952. He holds a D.Phil degree in Library Science from the University of Pretoria. Following appointments as, inter alia, university librarian at the University of Bophuthatswana (1980-1982) and assistant director of the State Library, Pretoria (1982-1986), he was appointed an associate professor and subsequently professor in the University of South Africa's Department of Library and Information Science. From 1992 to 1999 he was director of the State Library.

Dr Lor is the author or joint author of over ninety publications. In 1998 he was appointed an Extraordinary Professor in the Department of Information Science at the University of Pretoria. He serves as a consultant editor or editorial adviser to several journals, including *Alexandria* and *Interlending and document supply*.

Dr Lor participates in the activities of a number of international bodies, among others the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) and the Conference of Directors of National Libraries (CDNL). In 1995 he was commissioned by IFLA to draft guidelines for legislation for national library services for the General Information Programme of UNESCO. From 1996 to 2000 he was chairman of the CDNL. From 1996 to 1998 he was vice-chairman of the Standing Conference of African National and University Libraries in Eastern, Central and Southern Africa (SCANUL-ECS). In 1996 he served as a consultant on national library legislation to the government of Namibia. In 1998 he served on a commission appointed to evaluate the Royal Library in The Hague, the national library of the Netherlands.

Dr Lor is married to Monika Albrecht and has three sons. His extraprofessional interests include ornithology and music.

Introducing Karl Guttzeit IFLA-UBCIM Programme Secretary

Karl Guttzeit joined the UBCIM Programme as secretary this October. He is replacing Stephannie Ratthei, who is now specializing in the IT-Field of the DBF.

Karl, a graduate of The Evergreen State College, Olympia, WA, U.S.A., recently earned a Master's degree from the Johann Wolfgang Goethe-University in Frankfurt am Main, Germany, having taken American Studies as a major academic field and English Studies and Art

History as minors. His academic interest quite strongly reflects his particular cultural situation as a bilingually raised dual national. Even though he mainly grew up in Frankfurt am Main, where he is still living, he has been traversing between the European and American cultures all his life. Mediation between these and other cultures has become one of his strongest commitments. Karl's decision to work for the international UBCIM Programme to a large extent stems from this personal commitment.

Karl's professional experience includes seven years of part-time employment in the antiquarian book business, where he was mainly involved in buying and selling books as well as advertising. Also, for nearly three years, immediately before starting as UBCIM Programme Secretary, he worked as a

student assistant at the Institute for American Studies of the J. W. Goethe University. In this capacity, apart from assisting in administrative work, he actively participated in the compilation of a bibliography on the Classical Tradition in North America. Continuing his academic efforts, he is presently writing a Ph.D. dissertation concerning the reception of classical rhetoric in the United States.

As IFLA-UBCIM Programme Secretary his tasks comprise the organization of office routine, the maintenance of the office's "correspondence" database, archives and collection of journals and publications as well as the preparation of camera-ready copies. He also assists the Programme Director Marie-France Plasard in editing *ICBC* and *UBCIM* publications.

International Calendar

March 5-9, 2001. Havana, Cuba. Northeast Document Conservation Center and National Archives of Cuba International Conference. Theme: "School for Scanning: Cuba, Issues of Preservation and Access for Paper-Based Collections". For information: School for Scanning: Cuba, Archivo Nacional de Cuba, Compostela #906 esq. San Isidro, Habana Vieja 10100, Havana, Cuba (fax: +(53-7) 338089; e-mail: arnac@ceniai.inf.cu)

March 28-30. Berlin, Germany. 7th International Conference of European University Systems. Theme: "The Changing Universities - The Role of Technology". For information: EUNIS 2001, Humboldt University at Berlin, Unter den Linden 6, 10099 Berlin, Germany (fax: +(49-30) 20932959; <<http://www.hu-berlin.de/rz>>)

May 29-31, 2001. Beijing, China. 12th International Conference on New Information Technology. Theme: "Global Library Development in the New Millennium: Fertile Ground for Distributed Cross-Disciplinary Collaboration". For information: Ching-chih Chen, GSLIS, Simmons College, 300 The Fenway, Boston, Massachusetts 02115, USA (fax: +(1-617) 5213192; e-mail: chen@simmons.edu)

June 7-9, 2001. Alghero, Sardinia, Italy. EAHIL Workshop. Theme: "2001: Cyberspace Odyssey". For information: <<http://medicina.unica.it/alghero2001/main.htm>>

June 9-17, 2001. Crimea, Ukraine. "Crimea 2001". Theme: "Libraries and Associations in the Transient World: New Technologies and New Forms of Cooperation". For information: Crimea Organizing Committee (fax: +(7-095) 9219862; e-mail: crimea2000@gpntb.ru; <<http://www.iliac.org/crimea2001>>)

June 14-20, 2001. San Francisco, California, USA. American Library Association Annual Conference. In addition to hundreds of programs on topics covering all aspects of librarianship that you can attend, ALA has created special programs to assist international visitors, including orientation sessions, one-to one matching with mentors, preconferences, receptions, and more. For information contact the ALA International Relations Office at intl@ala.org. (Fax +(1-312)280-3256).

August 12-16, 2001. Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA. 4th Northumbria International Conference on Performance Measurement in Libraries and Information Services. Satellite meeting organized by IFLA Section Statistics in

collaboration with the Association of Research Libraries. More information at <<http://www.arl.org/stats/newmeas/northumb.html>>

August 13-15, 2001. Washington, D.C., USA. "Digital Libraries for the Blind and the Culture of Learning in the Information Age". Satellite meeting organized by IFLA Section Libraries for the Blind in collaboration with the Library of Congress, National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Toronto, Canada. Information and registration: Owenv@lib.cnib.ca or pateress@lib.cnib.ca; Exhibitors Information: barbara.mates@cpl.org

August 14-16, 2001. Québec City, Québec, Canada. Satellite meeting organized by the Sections on Management and Marketing and on Education and Training. Theme: "Education and Research for Marketing and Quality Management in Libraries". For information: Réjean Savard, Ecole de bibliothéconomie et des sciences de l'information, Université de Montréal, Case postale 6128, Succursale Centre-ville, Montreal H3C, Canada.

August 14-16, 2001. Dublin, Ohio, USA. Joint Pre-conference organized by IFLA Sections Classification and

News Section

- Indexing and Information Technology, in collaboration with OCLC.
- August 14-16, 2001. Buffalo, New York, USA. "Technology, Globalization, and Multicultural Services". Satellite meeting organized by IFLA Sections Library Services to Multicultural Populations and Information Technology. Information and registration: bvw@buffalo.edu
- August 15-17, 2001. Chester, Vermont, USA. 4th World Conference on Continuing Professional Education for the Library and Information Professions Organized by IFLA Round Table on Continuing Professional Education. More details at
- <http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla65/papers/097-104e.htm>; Information: bwools@wahoo.sjsu.edu
- August 16-17, 2001. Boston, Massachusetts, USA. "How do I find a picture of ??: the Changing Nature of Image Research" Satellite meeting organized by IFLA Section Art Libraries in collaboration with ARLIS/New England.
- August 16-25, 2001. Boston, Massachusetts, USA. 67th IFLA General Conference and Council. Theme: "Libraries and Librarians: Making a Difference in the Knowledge Age" Information: <http://www.ifla.org>
- August 18-24, 2002. Glasgow, Scotland, UK. 68th IFLA General Conference and Council. Theme: "Libraries for Life: Democracy, Diversity, Delivery"
- August 1-8, 2003. Berlin, Germany. 69th IFLA General Conference and Council. Theme: "Access Point Library: Media - Information - Culture"
- August 2004. Buenos Aires, Argentina. 70th IFLA General Conference and Council
- August 20-26, 2005. Oslo, Norway. 71st IFLA General Conference and Council
- August 22-28, 2006. Seoul, Korea. 72nd IFLA General Conference and Council