RSAO NEWSLETTER

1. IFLA NEWS

FROM HEADQUARTERS

Message from the President

Kay Raseroka

Dear IFLA Member,

I am delighted to be able to send this letter of greetings as President to IFLA Members, to you who are the heart of our great Federation.

The cross-cutting issues that we selected as areas of focus during 2003-2005, based on the outcomes of the consultative process with you, the IFLA members, are:

- **Advocacy** as a process that empowers librarians to advance the full realisation of the belief in IFLA Core Values at local, national, regional and international levels of library and information service operations.

- **Development** of partnerships with stakeholders who share our values and enhancement of continuing education of librarians. Both of these empower librarians to cope with dynamic change reflected in the emerging areas of opportunity: the Information Society.

During 2003 IFLA focused its advocacy efforts on the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS). IFLA members influenced the content of the WSIS Declaration of Principles and Action Plan which form the basis for emerging information and knowledge society.

The experiences gained at the IFLA Pre World Summit Conference: Libraries at the Heart of the Information Society, has demonstrated beyond any doubt that this goal is attainable. IFLA members from 70 countries participated 'as powerful advocates for the potential for libraries in the rapidly developing information society' in bilateral discussions with representatives of the national delegations to the WSIS on the importance of libraries in the emerging Information Society.

Participants agree that the experience was exhilarating and rewarding both professionally and politically. It opened unprecedented communication on libraries with levels of governments that are rarely accessible to or accessed by librarians. We also firmly agree that it is imperative for us to sustain the gains made. Therefore we urge and encourage all Library Associations and pertinent national institutions to follow up on discussions with representatives of national governments. Where Library Associations missed this opportunity they are urged to embark on their own local initiatives.

IFLA members are requested to plan and devise strategic actions, at the local, national and regional levels, to explore innovative, creative ways and means of facilitating the emergence of inclusive information and communication societies, despite:

- disabilities in reading and in other literacies that provide for skilled exploitation of information;

- paucity of appropriate infrastructure and

- physical disabilities.

This is an auspicious time for librarians to seize an unprecedented opportunity to respond appropriately to and support diverse human needs for information. Librarians' expertise in management of information, their skilled support for users in the exploitation of information tools and the convergence of information communication technologies in facilitating access to information across time, space and through various media are enablers for the fulfilment of the IFLA core values.

However, time is not our side. By mid 2005, IFLA membership needs to have completed advocacy efforts at local, national and regional levels. Communication of nationally or regionally agreed and viable short/long term activities that implement the WSIS Action Plans, would be helpful for coordinated approaches, sustaining concerted influence and activities for negotiation in WSIS 2005 in Tunis.

I urge IFLA members to share their local experiences through http://www.ifla.org/III/wsis/wsis-rm.html site. The Proceedings of the IFLA Pre-World Summit Conference: Libraries @ the Heart of the Information Society have been published and provide an excellent resource for sustained advocacy at the local and national levels.

The success of this coordinated advocacy activity proves, beyond doubt that we have the commitment, capacity and capability, as Librarians, to operate at strategic levels and use our influence with Governments effectively, in support of the principle on freedom of access to information, for the public good. I urge us all to envision success that is an outcome of these beliefs, of our hard work and courage of our convictions. It is important for us to recognise the significance of effective and efficient Library Associations at the national levels, if IFLA is to be truly representative of the global voice of Librarians. Continuing education for librarians must include the development of political savvy and effective negotiation skills as librarians accept that they have a significant role to play as members of Civil Society. We have to seek and work out partnership agreements with other stakeholders, such as telecentres and community technology centres, who are providers of information services within diversity of communities we serve.

Congratulations to all of us! Let us be buoyed up by this success and build on it for the attainment of the reality of human-needs-based library and information services at the heart Information Society.

I wish to express our sincere gratitude and indebtedness to all who contributed to the sustained IFLA presence in the entire WSIS process: Library Associations, parent institutions and other donors for their financial support. Colleagues from all the regions of the World, the Swiss Colleagues and future Librarians (Swiss library science students) harnessed their combined intellectual capital, tenacity, good will and unflagging spirit of volunteerism for the good of our profession. Last, but not least, I wish to pay tribute to the IFLA Headquarters Team, under the able leadership of Ross Shimmon, for the extraordinary effort and success, despite human resource constraints.

Participation of IFLA in advocacy, at the WSIS, was an opportunity that we had to take; however it was possible to allocate only a very small budget for it. The total costs, in human resources, time and money, of the advocacy activities are thus yet to be calculated. The Governing Board, as part of its strategic planning activities, will consider the financial and human resource implications of IFLA's commitment to advocacy, based on this experience. The issue of financing IFLA activities, in general, is one that demands serious consideration by all members, so that IFLA may capitalize on shared expertise, diversity of experience and traditions in this area, when offered. The IFLA Treasurer, Ingrid Parent, will make a full report to Council in August 2004, and your suggestions are always welcome.

May I take this opportunity to express our appreciation for the efforts that the National Association Membership fees Working Group, have made in addressing issues on membership dues. Library Associations (LA) represent a key component of IFLA membership. We thus encourage LA members to assist the Working Group by providing the data that is requested, so that efforts made towards establishing an equitable and affordable fee structure will yield results at the earliest possible time. A satisfactory solution in this area will empower IFLA, in its diversity, to develop ongoing programmes for library association membership development at national and regional levels.

I offer our sincere thanks to Divisions and

Sections for their efforts at incorporating into strategic plans and in the call for conference papers, the theme: *Libraries for Lifelong Literacy*, during this rather difficult, transition stage. We look forward to a rich intellectual feast at the forthcoming World Library and Information Congress in Buenos Aires.

Our South American Colleagues will have the opportunity of a lifetime, to experience the vibrancy of the meeting of minds, as well as the forging of communities of practice across time zones, distance and linguistic barriers. I wish you exciting times as you stretch professional expertise, explore different contexts and experience, to discover innovative ways of bridging the digital divide in all aspects of IFLA's professional priorities.

Ross Shimmon

Ross Shimmon, our Secretary General, retires at the end of March. He has managed both the restructuring and the adaptation of IFLA to the new Statutes expertly. His experience and expertise in formulation of Statutes, has guided IFLA members smoothly across what could easily have been turbulent waters. We thank Ross for his leadership, and personal warmth to all who seek his guidance and expert support.

Beside Ross, of course, there is Pat, his partner in life, whose loving support for Ross extended to IFLA, in special ways. Governing Board and IFLA Staff have benefited immensely from her generosity of spirit, warmth and cheerfulness. We thank them both for the contributions they made to IFLA, professionally and through their own personalities. We wish them good health, joy in retirement and the excitement of seeing the world in a new light, without the L (library) word! Except, of course, reading all the books they have always wanted to read, but lacked the time. We assure Ross that all those library cards he received in Berlin were a token of his welcome to borrow books from all IFLA member libraries.

Rama Ramachandran

Let us welcome, warmly, Secretary General **Rama Ramachandran**, who has been entrusted with the IFLA helm from April1 2004.We pledge our support and wish him and Mrs. Ramachandran an exciting and rewarding period in IFLA. We look forward to sharing with him the opportunities that are on offer to IFLA, as the global voice of librarians, at this propitious time: the emergence of the Information Society.

2004 already promises to be an exciting and productive year for all IFLA members!

Kay Raseroka
President
(Reference 1 ,March 02, 2004)

FROM REGIONAL OFFICE

Excerpts from some Letters/ E-mail Notes

Appeal from Cambodia

I am librarian of National Assembly of Cambodia. I would like to inform you all librarians of any countries receiving IFLA Newsletter that our library needs some documents-books and would like to ask for them in order to allow parliamentarians and legislative researchers to research, extract and compare. However, we can not afford to buy all those books from your countries.

I would like to beg you some donation in form of document-books relative to legislative sector in your country, letting us develop our work. We are please to welcome receiving donation and other materials, relative to work in the library.

Thank in advance
Sincerely yours,
SENG Sowatha (Mrs.)
Librarian, National Assembly
Sothearos Bd, Daun Penh Dt
Phnom Penh, Cambodia
Tel/Fax: 855 23 212 645
E-mail:nallibrary@forum.org.kh
Web site: cambodian-parliament.org

Need Books for Public Library

The Honorable Sir,
The Honorable Publisher,
The Honorable Friends/Colleagues,

I am very pleased to inform you that Pakistan International Peace & Human Rights Organization is an independent, non-profit, non-political & non-governmental organization. We have been working in the fields of Peace, Human Rights, Education, Health, Justice, Development, Environment, Advocacy,Conflict prevention, Disaster Relief, and Gender in the under developed country like Pakistan.

PIPHRO's commitment to improving the quality of education through community participation is the basis for the success of its development efforts and networking with its partners, including the government, NGOs, private institutions, and donors. It aims to develop human resources by training teachers and personnel of NGOs and CBOs working for non formal basic and primary education, as well as to empower poor rural and low-income urban communities to take ownership of their schools. It supports the educational effort and ensures its sustainability by providing training, learning, and advocacy material in the national language.

PIPHRO believe that community participation is essential to ensure that quality education is available to the majority of children. PIPHRO has currently established 7 community-based schools for children of primary-school age and a

library for the people of the area. Where people from every walk of life come get knowledge. In schools there are13 female teachers, who teach 279 children, mostly girls. The sustainability of and continued support for quality education is a matter of concern. The program produces training, learning, and advocacy material focusing on educational issues and problems, reading and reference material for teachers, training manuals for trainers, resource packs, translations of books /CD's and other material.

So, I personally request you that please send us the books & other necessary material for the schools & library, so that children as well as people get knowledge and become responsible citizen of the country. If you are not in position to support us, then kindly send us the name of the other persons/agencies who support us & become the part of this great work. So that we can achieve the sustainability and keep on going with this great mission.

I will be very happy to get the positive response from your side. I do hope for your help to meet and make my dreams true. Take our hands to make this world like heaven.

Thanks.
In Peace & Love!
Truly Yours.
GENERAL SECRETARY
RIAZ AHMED ABRO
PAKISTAN INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND HUMAN RIGHTS ORGANIZATION.
P.O.NINDO SHAHER DISTRICT BADIN.SIND PAKISTAN
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E-MAIL. riazinfo@yahoo.com
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FROM RSCAO

Asia and Oceania Section
http://www.ifla.org/VII/s26/sraao.htm

Message from the Officers

This message is being written at the end of a very productive day in Northeastern Thailand, where an IFLA ALP-funded workshop on curriculum evaluation is being held. This is just one example of our involvement in the Asia-Oceania region. We hope that those of you who regularly read the *Newsletter* will be aware of the range and breadth of IFLA activities, and the RSCAO's roles in many countries of our region.
The 2004-2005 Strategic Plan of the Section focuses on training, and especially training related to information literacy and ICT. The purpose of this is to assist librarians and information workers in Asia and Oceania to develop knowledge and skills needed to function more effectively and deliver higher quality services to their clients. Indeed, all of our activities have this aim, and we are always pleased that so many wish to participate in the activities that we support.

Probably the most visible work we do is at the annual conference, this year to be held in Buenos Aires on 22-27 August. This year our programme includes 6 speakers from across the region, all focusing on the theme: *Information Literacy for a Knowledge Society in Asia and Oceania.* We are especially pleased to announce that Sue McKnight of Deakin University (Australia) will be the keynote speaker. Other speakers come from Russia, Sri Lanka, India, China and Iran. We hope that many members will attend this interesting session. We are also participating in a poster session, which will enable delegates to see the range of work being done in Asia and Oceania, and there will be Section involvement in the Division VIII and Social Sciences Section on *The Changing Role of NGOs in Creating, Validating and Disseminating Information in Developing Countries.*

At the workshop we are currently attending we spoke briefly on the value of membership-- something that we would like anyone reading the *Newsletter* to be aware of. If you are not a member, please take a look at *IFLANET* to see the range of activities and sections available to members--for an organization such as ours, the opportunities are quite amazing. The more participants and members we have, the stronger the Section becomes, so do consider joining, it benefits you as well as IFLA.

We hope to see many of you in Buenos Aires in August. In the meantime, please be aware of approaching deadlines for the various applications for 2005 (travel grants, project

grants, etc.), and do not hesitate to contact either of us if you wish further information.

Gary E. Gorman, Chair (Gary.Gorman@vuw.ac.nz)
Aree Cheunwattana, Secretary (areech@swu.ac.th)
During the upcoming WLIC 2004 in Buenos Aires, the Asia & Oceania Section will offer a professional programme on *Information Literacy for a Knowledge Society in Asia and Oceania.*

RSCAO Member Being Honored

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www.britishcouncil.lk/infoexch/newsharrison.htm

Harrison Perera MBE
- not a birthday cake this time...

This is the cake specially ordered for Harrison Perera to celebrate his appointment by Her Majesty the Queen as an honorary member of the Civil Division of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (MBE).

This richly deserved honour was conferred on him by the British High Commissioner, Stephen Evans, who presented him with the Badge of the Order and the Warrant at a simple ceremony held at the British Council in the presence of family, friends and colleagues.

Harrison worked for the British Council in Colombo, Sri Lanka, for 16 years as Librarian and then Assistant Director (Information) during which time he made an immense contribution to the development of professional standards in librarianship in Sri Lanka. The combination of

his humour and professional guidance helped to build up an excellent team in the British Council. And as a founder member of the British Booksellers Association he did a lot to promote

the development of UK publishing and bookselling in Sri Lanka.

Harrison left the British Council in April 2003 to take up the post of Librarian at the University of Peradeniya in Kandy, Sri Lanka. But his valuable contribution to the Council's work is by no means forgotten, as our Director Tony O'Brien confirmed this when he read out some of the congratulatory messages he had received from past Directors and colleagues worldwide.

Congratulations Harrison!

Tony O'Brien, Stephen Evans, Harrison Perera MBE and Sharon Evans

(Jean Bartlet, Executive Officer - Directorate, British Council Colombo)

FROM FAIFE

Donation from the Netherlands to IFLA's Freedom of Information Programme

The library umbrella organisation of the Netherlands has decided to donate EUR 50,000 to the IFLA Free Access to Information and Freedom of Expression (FAIFE) core activity.

The President of the umbrella organisation, FOBID, Jan-Ewout van der Putten, said that FOBID was "convinced of the importance of IFLA's core activities, especially FAIFE, because

it is concerned with the core content of the profession and of utmost importance to the international advocacy of libraries."

Paul Sturges, the Chair of the IFLA/FAIFE committee, thanking FOBID for its contribution, said: "This is not only a valuable contribution in its own right. Your example is very much needed as a means to encourage other library associations to recognise that they should contribute towards this most important of IFLA's core activities."

The FOBID contribution will be in the form of an annual contribution of EUR 10,000 over five years. The conditions attached by FOBID are:
- That IFLA takes steps to secure broader financial support for its FAIFE programme by encouraging other organisations to follow FOBID's example
- Full reports, including financial reports and accounts are made available to FOBID, so that an evaluation of the effect of its contribution can be made by FOBID after two years.

The IFLA/FAIFE initiative was established in 1998 with initial funding and support from the Danish development agency, DANIDA, the City of Copenhagen and the Danish library community IFLA President, Kay Raseroka, welcoming the announcement by FOBID, said: "I very much hope that many other library associations will follow FOBID's excellent example by contributing to FAIFE. Freedom of access to information is an essential landmark on the road to the equitable information society to which we aspire."
(Josche Neven, Reference 2, Thu, 20 Nov 2003)

2. HAPPENINGS IN THE REGION

INDIA

Programme on Information Management at NIT Silchar

In order to create awareness towards Library Automation, an AICTE-ISTE sponsored Short Term Training programme on "Information Technology Applications in Information Management" was organised at NIT, Silchar from 1-10 March 04. About 35 participants from various parts of the country including Himachal Pradesh, Chandigarh, UP, Haryana, Assam & Meghalaya attended the training programme. During the course, the participants were given lectures, demos & hands on experience on different aspects on digital library, library automation, virtual library, Internet, barcode technology, web page design and development, TQM and HRD issues. Mrs Renu Arora from SAARC Documentation Centre, New Delhi; Dr. B N Sarkar, DSIR, New Delhi; Shri Tasiruddin Ahemd from National Informatic Centre, Guwahati; Dr. Saibaba Batala & Dr. R Bhattacharya from IIT Guwahati & faculty from NIT Silchar & Assam University acted as the major resource persons in this programme.
(Kishor C Satpathy)

Digital Library of India Portal

Recently the Ministry of Communication and Information Technology (MCIT) launched Digital Library of India (DLI) Portal. The Carnegie Mellon University (CMU), Pittsburgh, and the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bangalore, are partners in this mission. DLI should contribute to our economic growth to some extent and would combat Digital Divide. A language independent digital library, widely available through free access on the Internet, will improve the global society in ways beyond measurement.

Mission

The mission is to create a portal for the DLI, which will foster creativity and free access to all human knowledge. This portal will also become an aggregator of all the knowledge and digital contents created by other digital library initiatives in India. Very soon this portal would provide a gateway to Indian Digital Libraries in science, arts, culture, music, movies, traditional medicine, palm leaves and many more. The DLI will be mirrored at several locations worldwide so as to protect the integrity and availability of the data. The DLI will also partner with other country specific Digital Libraries initiatives as part of the Universal Library Project

(http://www.ulib.org/) spearheaded by Prof. Raj Reddy [Founder and Director of the Universal Digital Library (UDL)] and CMU.

Technical Details

Database creation: Creating a scalable database to support the *Universal Library* is one of the desired objectives. The database will house both an image file and a text file at about 50-60 megabytes per book. A 100 terabytes of online storage currently costs around $150,000 and is expected to be under $5000 by year 2005 and thus making it possible to mirror the site in many countries.

Scanning: Currently, the Digital Library project uses a *Minolta PS7000 overhead scanner*, which is potentially able to scan 10000 pages a day.

Data Production: The current approach for document scanning is to digitize the documents at the archival quality of 600 dots per inch (dpi) as a binary image (1 bit per pixel). The resolution of the images is high enough so as to permit reading of the original pages directly on a computer screen.

Optical Character Recognition (OCR): The primary function of OCR is to allow searching inside the text. Unlike in other efforts, the output of the OCR text will not be used for direct viewing by the public, it will only be used for creating a searchable index (where errors tend to have limited impact). Because words are often repeated, the 98% success rate will allow students and scholars to find relevant passage. In the pilot projects, the OCR program Abbyy Fine Reader was run after the scanning was completed.

Chinese and Japanese OCR programs are also available and will be used whenever needed. This project has also stimulated efforts towards the development of OCRs in Indian Languages. Providing a test bed that will allow for the creation of even better OCR programs is one of the goals of this project. Scholars will be able to run newer OCR programs over the scans and possibly correct the output manually.

Metadata: Digital Library Federation (DLF) standards and metadata best practices will be used throughout this project. Bibliographic metadata for the pilot project will be derived from the existing library catalog records. Carnegie Mellon libraries developed software that uses the standard Z39.50 protocol to search and retrieve relevant metadata from catalog records fields. Thus, author, title, and publication data do not have to be rekeyed.

The DLF, a supporter of this project, has several initiatives underway that will allow commercial browsers to harvest metadata more aggressively. The results of DLF's metadata harvesting project will be explored for possible application to the resources produced in this project (www.diglib.org).

Benefits

The principal benefit of the Universal Library will be to supplement the formal education system by making knowledge available to anyone who can read and has access. Libraries have played a vital role in the advancement of human society. Societal advance depends on young people having access to books via libraries and other means. It is expected that making this unique web resource available free to everyone around the world will enhance the learning process.

A secondary benefit of online search is to make locating the relevant information inside of books far more reliable and much easier. Student success in finding exactly what they seek will increase and increased success will enhance student willingness to perform research using this large resource. More than one individual will be able to use the same book at the same time. Thus, popular works will not be checked out and thus unavailable to others.

Many believe that information is now doubling every two years. Machine summarization, intelligent indexing, and information mining are tools that will be needed for individuals to keep up in their discipline work, in their businesses, and in their personal interests. This large digitization project will enable extensive research in these areas.

Partners in the Project

In India: Anna University, Arulmigu Kalasalingam College Of Engineering, ERNET India, Goa University, Indian Institute of Astrophysics, Indian Institute of Information Technology - Allahabad, International Institute

of Information Technology - Hyderabad , Maharashtra Industrial Development Corporation, Punjab Technical University, Punjab, University of Pune, Pune.

In the the U.S.: Carnegie Mellon University.

In China: Beijing University, Chinese Academy of Science, Fudan University, Ministry of Education of China, Nanjing University, State Planning Commission of China, Tsinghua University, Zhejiang University

Prominent People:

From Academia: Prof. M G K Menon, Chairman, Council of Indian Institute of Information Technology, Allahabad and Indian Institute of Technology-Bombay (Mumbai); Dr. N. Balakrishnan, Chairman, Division of Information Sciences, IISc; Dr. M. D Tiwari, Director, Indian Institute of Information Technology, Allahabad; Dr. P.V Konnur, Goa University, Goa.

From Government: Mr. Kamal Kant Jaswal, Secretary, MCIT; Mr. Yashwant Bhave, Joint Secretary, MCIT; Dr. G.V Subbarao, Director of Libraries, Government of Andhra Pradesh; Dr. P. K. Chaturvedi, Director, MCIT, Govt. of India.

From CMU: Dr. Raj Reddy, Founder and Director of the UDL; Dr. Michael Shamos, Director of UDL, Intellectual Property; Dr. Jaime Carbonell, Director of UDL, Language Technologies; Dr. Robert Thibadeau, Director of UDL, Privacy and Security.

The Team includes: S.Srinivas, IISc, Bangalore; S.Venkatesh, IISc Bangalore; Jiju Vargheese, IISc, Bangalore; Viswas Sharma, IISc, Bangalore; Madhavi Ganapathiraju, CMU, USA; Krishna Konduru, CMU, USA; Kishore Madhav, CMU, USA.

For more information, See www.dli.gov.in/
(Anjali Gulati)

IRAQ

Excerps – Helps to Iraq

Aid for Iraq, 2003-2004
The Governing Board of IFLA at its meeting on 9th August 2003 decided to host on IFLANET a list of offers made by the international library community to help rebuild the library infrastructure in Iraq. Offers should be sent to ifla@ifla.org

Reconstruction of Iraq – British Library Offer of Assistance

The British Library has identified two principal means through which it might provide a contribution to the reconstruction of Iraqi libraries and archives under the heading "reconstruction of the collections". These are:

(i) Conservation training
The British Library can offer some assistance with conservation training for Iraqi personnel, as the need becomes clearer in the future. This could take the form of placements and/or internships within the Conservation Department of the British Library, to help with the development of book and paper conservation skills appropriate to the care of the Iraqi collections. Ahead of any practical conservation training, the BL could also offer assistance in Preservation Management, especially in assisting with priority setting and planning, given the scale and size of the conservation problem.

(ii) Production of collection item surrogates
The British Library would be willing to particpate in an internationally co-ordinated and funded programme to produce surrogate copies of cultural heritage items of significance held in the BL's collections as a contribution to the reconstruction of the collections of Iraqi libraries and archives.
British Library
September 2003

Books required by University Libraries in Iraq

While almost all university libraries south of Iraqi Kurdistan were looted and/or burned, even the ones left untouched have little in them. In Kurdistan, there are hardly any books after 1980. It is the same for journals. The law library in Tikrit has a few hundreds law students and 80 books in its whole library - and most of these are Xerox copies of Xerox copies stitched together.

They will accept books in every field and specialty. That said, where they think the need is greatest is in the sciences and medicine - including nursing, pharmacy and veterinary medicine and science. These books, also, can and should be in English. All agriculture related material is also vitally necessary.

While they will gladly accept all texts and back copies of journals, they would lean toward the sciences and engineering and computer science over the political science texts which predominate on your list. Political science (hard as it might be to believe) is not widely taught. Still, I need to emphasize that the need is across all fields, though the books that would be most useful in English are in the sciences, medicine, English literature and language, agricultural sciences, and engineering simply because those fields are all taught in English.

John Agresto, Senior Adviser
Higher Education
CPA, Iraq
March 2004
(Reference 1, March 08, 2004)

ICBS - Simmons, Harvard Team to help Devastated Iraqi Libraries

NEH Grant Seeks to Modernize War-Torn Libraries, Halt Serious Librarian Shortage BOSTON (March 4, 2004) - Responding to the devastating effects of war on Iraqi libraries, the Simmons Graduate School of Library and Information Science (GSLIS) and the Harvard University library system are launching a joint program to provide training for Iraqi librarians and archivists, to help modernize Irqai libraries and address the country's serious shortage of librarians.

The program links the Simmons GSLIS - one of the premier library and information science schools in the nation - with the library and information science professionals of Harvard University, which is home to the world's largest academic library.

The National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) has awarded Simmons and Harvard $100,000 for the two-year project.

The grant is part of the NEH program "Recovering Iraq's Past," which funds projects to help rebuild Iraq's cultural heritage. The program will begin in May, when a team of Simmons faculty and Harvard librarians meet with Iraqi librarians in Amman, Jordan, for a curriculum planning retreat. The Iraqis will identify their needs for training to rebuild collections and to modernize their library systems. Training areas may include preservation, cataloging, collection development and management, and automation and online information systems. Subsequently, Simmons faculty will teach graduate library courses for Iraqi librarians. In collaboration with Harvard librarians, they will oversee a series of special projects and serve as long-term mentors via the Internet.

Michele Cloonan, dean of the Simmons GSLIS and principal investigator for the NEH grant, noted that more than two decades of war and economic sanctions, as well as the chaos of the recent regime change, have left the centuries-old Iraqi book and manuscript collections with a "vast array of problems," and few librarians with contemporary professional training and expertise. "For years, resources were withheld from cultural institutions in Iraq," Cloonan said, "and the recent war has resulted in widespread destruction. Librarians were cut off from technological and professional development. The United States has some of the best library and information science programs in the world, and we're pleased to be able to bring our training to the Iraqis. So much has changed in library and information science since the Iran/Iraq war two decades ago. The Internet wasn't even in use."

According to political scientist Sidney Verba, Harvard's Carl H. Pforzheimer University Professor and Director of the University Library, librarians from Harvard will play a critical role in the Iraqi program. "The Harvard library is pleased to have this opportunity to join with Simmons to work with our Iraqi library colleagues," said Verba, "and to help rebuild the intellectual base of higher education in Iraq." In addition to taking library and archival courses, the Iraqis will work with Simmons and Harvard library specialists on special projects that the Iraqis identify as most needed to rebuild their contemporary and historic collections and to

modernize their library systems.

The Simmons and Harvard organizers also hope to have some Iraqi librarians attend the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions World Library and Information Congeress in Oslo, Norway, in 2005, to rejoin their international colleagues. The Simmons GSLIS directed a similar library-rebuilding program (begun in association with the Harvard Yenching Institute) in Vietnam, through which Vietnamese students earn their master's degrees in library and information science at Simmons. Today, the Vietnamese graduates of the Simmons program are library leaders in Vietnam. Additionally, the ongoing Bosnia Library Project, based at and supported by Harvard University, has assisted in the rebuilding of destroyed and damaged Bosnian library collections since early 1996.
More information:
Diane Millikan, Simmons public relations director
+1-617-521-2364. (For Harvard comments, go thru Peter Kosewski at
+1-617-495-7793).
 For further information about the Simmons Graduate School of Library and Information Sciences at: http://www.simmons.edu/gslis
 For information about the Harvard library system at: http://lib.harvard.edu
(Reference 1, March 05, 2004)

CULTURAL EMERGENCY RESPONSE

The first activity of the Cultural Emergency Response (CER) of 25,000 Euro to help refurbish the Reading Room of the Central Library of the University of Baghdad, damaged during war in Iraq, has been concluded.

The Cultural Emergency Response (CER), a joint initiative of the Prince Claus Fund of the Netherlands and the International Committee of the Blue Shield, allocated the funds. The decision to help refurbish the reading room followed a report by Jean-Marie Arnoult, Inspecteur Général des Bibliothèques, in France, on the damage to archives and libraries caused by the war and the subsequent looting. M. Arnoult, an authority on archives and libraries in

Iraq, took part in the second UNESCO mission last July and made a number of recommendations for action on his return.

The money from the CER has been used to buy tables, chairs and computer equipment. Mr. Wishyar Muhammed, Library Adviser with the Coalition Provisional Administration, identified the need for refurbishment of the reading room. He also facilitated the purchase of the furniture and equipment.

Mr. Muhammed said: "Following the collapse of the Saddam's regime in Iraq last April not only government offices and public buildings were looted and burned but universities, libraries and museums were not safe from such a barbarous act. Among them was the Central Library of the University of Baghdad. We were desperate and thought that the library would never reopen. However, it was only through the help of some good friends of the Iraqi people and human culture and civilization who showed interest in helping the library, that it become possible to refurbish it once more. Among them was the Cultural Emergency Response (CER) which made a generous donation of 25,000 Euros to be spent on the library's reading room. On behalf of myself, as a representative of this library and library adviser in the CPA in Baghdad and also on behalf of all the University's students, its staff and President of the University, I express my sincere gratitude and thanks to CER and the Dutch people".
 http://www.ifla.org/VI/4/admin/iraq030304.htm

Further information from:

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(Reference 2, Wed, 3 Mar 2004)

MALDIVES

Diploma in Library and Information Science in Maldives

1. Introduction

Sri Lanka Library Association launched a special education programme to promote library profession in the Republic of Maldives. This was organized on the request of the Maldivian Library Association. The education programme, which started in1996 was completed in 2003. This is a unique programme in the Common-wealth where library association of one member state organized a professional course to develop library profession of another member state.

Maldives is a small island nation in the Indian Ocean. It is an archipelago consisting of more than 2000 islands formed as atolls. The main library of the nation is the National Library which is in the capital island Male. It functions as a public library too. Hundreds of small school and community libraries with unorganized collections manned by untrained staff can be found in various islands. These libraries function as mere reading rooms. Libraries attached the leading schools in the republic have foreign professional librarians, mainly from Sri Lanka.

Development of the library profession in Maldives moved in a slow phase. The country had no plan to develop the library professionals. Ad hoc courses conducted by foreign consultants who visited the country from time to time and sending library personnel to attend foreign seminars/ workshops were not effective. Long-term foreign training is found costly and inappropriate.

The Maldives Library Association (MLA), which was founded by a few librarians, realized the necessity of a systematic long-term programme to improve the quality of library services in the country. MLA requested the Sri Lanka Library Association to help them in this task. It was agreed that most effective way to develop library services in Maldives is to establish library profession in the country. It was noted that when MLA sought the assistance of SLLA, Maldives had no professionally qualified librarians.

Initial discussions on a development programme were held in Colombo in 1995 when the president of MLA attended the Thirty Fifth Annual Sessions of SLLA. The Education Committee of SLLA proposed to offer the Diploma Course in Library and Information Services (DIPLIS) to MLA as a distance education programme. It also agreed to grant membership to those who successfully complete DIPLIS. In 1995, SLLA appointed Mr. N.U. Yapa to draw up a distance education programme based on DIPLIS for Maldivian librarians.

Objectives of the programme were defined as:

1. Improve knowledge and skills of the library personnel in Maldives, in methods, processes and practices in the field of library and information services
2. Establish closer relationships between library associations of Maldives and Sri Lanka
3. Facilitate library professionals of Maldives to participate in professional development programmes of the Sri Lanka Library Association

Distance Education Programme

DIPLIS in distance education mode was planned to have three parts:

DEPLIS	Distance Education Programme in Library and Information Science equivalent to *Level I (First) of DIPLIS*
ADEPLIS I	Advanced Distance Education Programme in Library and Information Science Part I equivalent to *Level II Part I (Intermediate) of DIPLIS*
ADEPLIS II	Advanced Distance Education Programme in Library and Information Science Part II equivalent to *Level II Part II*

(Final) of DIPLIS

2. DEPLIS

DEPLIS was organized in three components:

a.   Postal Course: a ten-month course with 48 modules. Lecture notes prepared by professionals of SLLA were distributed among the students according to a pre-prepared schedule. Each note carried an assignment that had to be completed by the participants. Students were required to submit the assignments to SLLA to be evaluated by its lecturers

b.   DEPLIS Seminar: At the end of the postal course a seminar was held in Male to provide opportunity to the students and lecturers to interact and exchange ideas. Five lecturers visited Maldives to conduct a five-day seminar organized by the National Library of Maldives.

c.   Examination: An examination Centre was organized in Male to conduct Level I examination of the Diploma in Library and Information Science (DIPLIS Level I Examination was conducted simultaneously in Colombo and Male)

Funds for DEPLIS were granted by the Royal Dutch Embassy in Colombo. These were mainly utilized for the preparation of lecture notes, evaluation of assignments, Seminar in Male, examination, postage and administrative expenses. Thirty-one students were enrolled but only 16 remained by the end of the course. The examination was held in Male in December 1996. This was repeated in April 1997. Twelve students completed DEPLIS.

Certificates of DIPLIS Level I was awarded to the students who successfully completed the DIPLIS Level I (DEPLIS) at a ceremony held in Male in October 1997. The best student of the course was awarded a special gift at the 37th Annual Session of SLLA in Colombo.

3. ADEPLIS I

ADEPLIS I was organized in three components:

d.   Postal Course: a ten-month course with 40 modules. Lecture notes prepared by professionals of SLLA were distributed among the students according to a pre-prepared schedule. Each note carried an assignment that had to be completed by the participants. Students were required to submit the assignments to SLLA to be evaluated by its lecturers

e.   ADEPLIS Workshops: While conducting the postal course two workshops were held in Male to provide opportunity to the students and lecturers to interact and exchange ideas. Four lecturers in two batches visited Maldives to conduct two five day workshops organized by the National Library of Maldives. The workshops were;
-   Workshop Classification and Cataloguing
-   Workshop on Management and Indexing

f.   Examination: An examination Centre was organized in Male to conduct Level II part I examination of the Diploma in Library and Information Science (DIPLIS Level II Part I examination was conducted simultaneously in Colombo and Male)

Funds for ADEPLIS I was granted by the British Council in Colombo. These were mainly utilized for the preparation of lecture notes, evaluation of assignments, Workshops in Male, examination, postage and administrative expenses. Twelve students were enrolled but only 10 remained by the end of the course. The examination was held in Male in October 1998. This was repeated in April 1999. 10 students completed ADEPLIS II.

Certificates of DIPLIS Level II part I was awarded to the students who successfully completed the DIPLIS Level II Part I (ADEPLIS I) at a ceremony held in Male in March 2002. The best student of the course was awarded a special gift at this ceremony. Students completed the course were granted promotions/increments by the Maldivian Government..

4. ADEPLIS II

ADEPLIS II was organized in five components:

a.   Male Workshops: the four subject areas of

the DIPLIS Level II part II were organized into 16 modules. Eight Workshops, each dealing with 2 modules, were conducted in Maldives during March-July 2002. SLLA lectures visited Male to conduct the workshops.

b.   Colombo Workshop: the students traveled to Colombo to participate in a workshop organized in Colombo. Library study tours, special lectures and professional meetings were held during this period.

c.   Assignments: Students were given assignments at the end of each Workshop. SLLA lecturers evaluated the assignments. The students had the opportunity of discussing the problems relating to the assignments at the workshops.

d.   Project Work: Each student was required to develop an information system as project work. A seminar to present the project work was organized during the Colombo workshop. In addition to the presentation the students were required to submit project reports on the information system designed by them.

e.   Examination: An examination Centre was organized in Male to conduct Level II part II examination of the Diploma in Library and Information Science (DIPLIS Level II Part II)

Funds for ADEPLIS II were provided by UNESCO. These were mainly utilized for the workshops, traveling of lectures and students, study tours, evaluations (assignments, project work and examination) postage and administrative expenses. 8 students were enrolled but only 7 remained by the end of the course. The examination was scheduled to be held in November 2002 in Male, and in April 2003 for those who failed to obtain pass marks.

5. Professional Development

When the training programme is completed, with the help of the professional librarians produced by the programme, MLA plans to organize training programmes for Maldivian librarians. These would include short term and long term courses, workshops and seminars. SLLA has already agreed to provide resource personnel for these programmes. It is also planned to revive the MLA activities.

DIPLIS programme was beneficial to SLLA too. The programme generated literature that could be used for local courses. The lecturers had to learn different teaching methods and evaluation techniques. Experience gained by teaching foreign students would have enhanced the teaching ability of the SLLA lecturers.

This programme developed a close relation between the library communities of the two countries.

DIPLIS could be adopted by small nations which have less resources to develop their library profession.

N.U. Yapa, President

Sri Lanka Library Association

SRI LANKA

Low Cost Access to Electronic Journals and Electronic Resources

Sri Lanka received access to few very important on-line databases in 2002 with the facilitation of INASP (International Network for the Availability of Scientific Publications http://www.inasp. info).   Universities in Sri Lanka have been receiving assistance under Sida/SAREC Library Support programme from 1990 coordinated by the Librarian University of Peradeniya, with INASP acting as the foreign collaborator. The assistance provided up to the year 2002 was to acquire academic journals to university libraries. This situation changed in 2002 when the state funded universities experienced severe budget cuts. With the facilitation of INASP, provision was made to all Sri Lankan universities, research institutions and non-profit organizations to access e-information. The time was ripe as most of the universities and research institutes had the infrastructure capabilities to accept this facility.

What is INASP? It is a co-operative network of partners whose aim is to enhance worldwide access to information and knowledge and has provided assistance to promote access to and disseminate of scientific and scholarly information, to support local publication and to

promote in-country capacity building. In 2002 INASP introduced PERI initiatives in Sri Lanka.

What is PERI (Programme for the Enhancement of Research Information http://www.inasp.info/peri/ PERI is a programme of support for partners in developing and transitional countries using new information and communication technologies (ICTs). It has four components:

1. Delivering information
2. Dissemination local research
3. Enhancing IT skills
4. Strengthening local publishing

It's goals are to provide researchers with access to international scholarly literature based on electronic delivery – unlimited access to databases, journals articles and reports across the widest range of disciplines and to develop a network of libraries, national and international, to interface with researchers in developing and transitional countries to maximise access to and use of international scholarly literature.

How it is provided? PERI Country Coordinator with the help of the research community identify the resource requirements of the country and INASP negotiate access to resources with content owners and publishers. The exact cost of each resource is related to the GDP of the country, and some of the resources are provided as a part of PERI without any cost to the recipient country, and some at a discount up to 98% on the normal subscription rates. All educational, research and non-profit organizations throughout the country are eligible to this facility. Passwords and usernames are then provided to eligible institutions by INASP to make use of these facilities.

INASP under the PERI initiative introduced the following facilities to Sri Lanka in 2002, without any cost to the country but expect Sida to support this facility from 2003 onwards. The facilities covered are:

Full text resources:

- Blackwell-Synergy & Ingenta – 608 full text periodicals collection on Social Science and Humanities.

- EBSCO Host – Over 6000 full text periodicals available covering all disciplines.
- Cochrane library – Covers 08 full text online databases, mostly on health related information.

Document Delivery Services

- British Library Document Supply Centre - Inside service: A massive database that expands at the rate of 2 million articles per year. It covers over 19 million articles, 20,000 journals, and 120,000 conference proceedings. The articles are provided at a discounted rate of £ 5.50 to Sri Lanka.

Sri Lanka is planning to launch a project known as the Sri Lanka Journals Online (SLJOL) to strengthen and develop access to journals from Sri Lanka and those published in the South Asian Region as a medium for dissemination of research results. INASP has already agreed to assist in the planning and implementation of this project. This will be similar to African Journals Online (AJOL) the first service established covering African journals.

To complement these activities, INASP provide training workshops on ICT and workshops covering management and production. Two workshops on Electronic Journals and Electronic Resources Library Management were held in Colombo for librarians in 2002, fully supported by INASP.

Access to and dissemination of information are key factors in promoting quality research and building scientific capacity in developing countries. The facilities introduced and hope to be continued help very much to promote these activities.

Sumana Jayasuriya
Librarian, University of Colombo, PERI Country Coordinator & Sida Project Coordinator

THAILAND

Workshop on LIS Curriculum Evaluation in the Great Mekong Sub-region

During the period of 14-16 April 2004, which was the Thai Traditional New Year, known as Songkran Holiday, a group of LIS educators and information professionals in the Great Mekong Sub-region (GMS) attended the *IFLA ALP Workshop on LIS Curriculum Evaluation in the GMS.* This three-day workshop was organized by Mahasarakham University at Chareon Thani Princess Hotel in Khon Kaen, a northeastern province of Thailand. There were 25 participants from 4 countries-- 2 from Loas PDR, 2 from Cambodia, 2 from Vietnam, and 19 from Thailand. Professor Dr. Gary Gorman and Dr. Daniel Dorner from the School of Information Management, Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand served as resource persons.

The Workshop was part of the IFLA ALP Project. The main objectives of the Project were as follows: a) to assess the training needs of LIS personnel in the GMS, b) to determine the most appropriate means of meeting these training needs, c) to organise relevant training programmes in the light of (a) and (b) above, d) to provide a 'train-the-trainer' component in relation to (c) above, and e) to establish a regional centre and network to facilitate ongoing work in (a)-(d). The main targets of the Project included educators from departments of LIS and IM currently engaged in the training of information professionals and library managers and training personnel in major libraries which offer extensive training programmes, either for in-house staff or for the wider profession in their respective countries.

The contents of the Workshop covered all essential aspects of curriculum evaluation, which include definitions, role, purposes, benefits, major types of curriculum evaluation, methods of collecting information, analysing and interpreting information, and reporting information.

In addition to lectures, the Workshop was designed to encourage trainees' participation through group activities. Group activities offered an opportunity for trainees to work together and learn more from each country situation. Group work also enhanced sharing of knowledge and ideas, and establishing friendship and networking among participants. According to the Workshop evaluation, most participants were highly satisfied with the Workshop. They viewed that the Workshop topic was important and timely, that the contents was useful and applicable to their work situations, and that the Workshop was delivered through appropriate approaches.

As the Chair of IFLA Asia & Oceania Section, Professor Gorman took the opportunity to introduce IFLA with focus on the Asia and Oceania region. He encouraged more active involvement from IFLA members and persuaded non-members to join IFLA.
(Sujin Butdisuwan)

3. CONFERENCES/ SEMINARS/WORKSHOPS

REPORT S OF PAST CONFERENCES/SEMINARS/

Regional Workshop On School Libraries Services in Southeast Asia

Date: 8-12 September 2003
Venue: Novotel Lotus Bangkok (Soi DaengUdom Sukhumvit 33 Road)
Organizers: IFLA, UNESCO, and the Thai Library Association
Major Sponsors: IFLA and UNESCO
Number of Participants: 22

SUMMARY

The joint effort of IFLA and UNESCO with the cooperation of local organizations and professionals in the region resulted in a successful workshop "The Regional Workshop on School Library Services in Southeast Asia", which was carried out in Bangkok Thailand, 8-12 September 2003.

Twenty-two participants of this workshop came from Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam. They presented papers concerning school libraries in their countries, information literacy initiatives and activities, and the role of school libraries in the information society.

The resource persons were representatives from the relevant organizations: UNESCO (Paris and Bangkok), IFLA (HQ and Bangkok), IFLA (Asia and Oceania Sections) IFLA (School Libraries and Resource Centres Section), the Thai Library Association, and the Thai Ministry of Education. They came from France, Hong Kong, The Netherlands, Norway, Malaysia, and Thailand.

Participants visited local school libraries in 3 groups and participated in the series of group discussions. Suggestions and recommendations were collected and all participants agreed to follow them through.

PROGRAMME

The workshop was opened by the representatives of the three major organizations involved:

Mr. Sjoerd Koopman, IFLA Headquarters

Mr. Abdelaziz Abid, UNESCO, Paris
Khunying Maenmas Chavalit, The Thai Library Association.

After the welcome addresses, the Permanent Secretary for Education, Ministry of Education, Khunying Kasama Varavarn, delivered her keynote "More than a Library for the School". She pointed out the importance of the school library services to the communities, the need for improvement, and the forward looking to become the gateway to the knowledge base society.

Sessions after the break were the UNESCO's presentation "UNESCO Library Development and the Information Society" and IFLA's presentation "Teaching and Learning for All: The IFLA/UNESCO Manifesto and Guidelines for School Libraries". Mr. Abdelaziz Abid from the Information Society Division, UNESCO, highlighted the work of UNESCO and the role of libraries in the new information context. The use of ICT for lifelong learning and the commitment of UNESCO in cooperation with IFLA to enable libraries and librarians to fully participate in the emerging information society. Ms. Tove Pemmer Saetre (Former Chair of The School Libraries and Resource Centres Section), gave the overview of IFLA's work to support and guide school library development, mission and goals of school libraries, and practical ways to achieve those goals.

Presentations from participants started in the afternoon chaired by Ms. Rashidah Begum (Former Chair of the Asia and Oceania Section). Papers presented included:

➢ Mr. Chum Sophal: "Country Report on School Libraries in Cambodia"
➢ Mr. Widharto: "The School Libraries in Indonesian Education: Its support for National Development to be the Learning Nation"
➢ Ms. Lasoy Sengdara and Mr. Boun Ieng Chounlamany: "Country Report on School Libraries in Lao PDR"
➢ Dr. Diljit Singh: "Country Report Overview of the School Libraries in Malaysia" (paper submitted by Ms. Che Normadiah Bt Hj. Che Abbas)
➢ Ms. Elizabeth R. Peralejo: "The State of School Libraries in the Philippines"
➢ Ms. Sajja Suksathit and Ms. Pornpimol Pornpikhanas; "Country Report on School Libraries in Thailand"
➢ Ms. Valerie Siew: "Country Report on School Libraries in Singapore"
➢ Ms. Ha Ngoc Le and Mr. Le Thuy Duong: "An Overview of Vietnamese School Libraries"

The second day workshop continued with the group presentations "Information Literacy in School" chaired by Mr. James Henri, Secretary of the School Libraries and Resource Centres Sections. Papers presented included:

➢ Ms. Lourdes T. David: "Overview of Information Literacy Among Secondary School Students in the Philippines"
➢ Mr. Widharto: "Some Aspects of Biotrop Library Training Programs in the Library Development In Indonesia"
➢ Ms. Ha Ngoc Le: "The Role of Library in Information Literacy"
➢ Mr. James Henri: "Adapting Education for School Librarianship: Addressing the Needs of the Part Time Student"

After the coffee break was another group presentation "School Libraries in the Information Society" chaired by Mr. Sjoerd Koopman, Professional Coordinator of IFLA. Papers presented included:

➢ Dr. Diljit Singh: "The Role of School Libraries in an Information Society: A Southeast Asian Perspective"
➢ Ms. Rashidah Begum bt. Fazal Mohamed: "Draft Standards for Resource Centre in Malasia Schools: A Preview"
➢ Ms. Susana L. Torres: "The Role of Philippine School Libraries in Education and Learning"
➢ Ms. Zarah C. Gagatiga: "The Storylady

Project: An E-mail Exchange Project between Grade 7 Students of Xavier School, Philippines and the Edith Stein Schule, Germany, January-March 2003".

➤ Ms. Herminigilda H. Salazar: "Philippine Association of School Librarians: a Country Report."

Participants went to visit schools in 3 groups in the afternoon. They were requested to observe and assess the school visited, according to the set of questionnaire, and bring back the comments to the discussion on the next day.

The last workshop day was designed to be group work for participants to interact and discuss using the IFLA/UNESCO School Library Guidelines as the main theme. The morning session was the workshop "Assessment of Libraries Observed" facilitated by Dr. Aree Cheunwattana, Secretary of the Asia and Oceania Section. Then, the Manager of the Regional Office, Dr. Pensri Guaysuwan, facilitated an exercise on "School Library Guidelines".

In the afternoon, participants had a chance to discuss the future of school libraries in the region. Ms. Tove Pemmer Saetre gave a leading discussion on the visions for school libraries, "School Libraries – a gateway to the stars". Then, participants in 3 groups discussed and presented possibilities for regional cooperation. After the groups' presentations, Khunying Maenmas Chavalit summed up the workshop. Recommendations were proposed, and each country/organization sent a representative to say the final words. After the certificates of attendance were presented to the participants, the workshop was declared closed by the President

of the Thai Library Association, Khunying Maenmas Chavalit.

OUTCOME OF THE WORKSHOP

1. Immediately after the workshop (on the participants' departure day, Friday 12 September 2003), Sripatum University hosted a post-workshop for school librarians in Thailand. This workshop was organized by Sripatum University Library, in cooperation with the 3 relevant groups under the Thai Library Association (the International Librarians and Information Specialists group, the School Library group, and the Private School Library group). It was fully funded by Sripatum University. The Seminar, "Information Literacy in School and Professional Presentation in English" highlighted the IFLA/UNESCO School Library Manifesto, the Regional Workshop on School Library Services in Southeast Asia, and the Information Literacy of School Libraries in Southeast Asia. Professional Presentation in English was introduced followed by a workshop "How to Present School Libraries in English".

2. An E-mail list of participants (including resource persons and committee members) was created. A few names of relevant IFLA Sections' Officers were added. This list has been in use as the major means of communication among workshop participants and parties involved in the matter of school libraries.

3. A small project "School Library Development Fund" was initiated using the donations received as the seed money to start the activities. Action has been taken (following the suggestions of the donor) to use some money to buy books for 5 schools in the rural area. This will be a small experimental project growing out from the workshop. Some other projects will be initiated soon.

4. The set of recommendations kindly drafted by Dr. Diljit Singh was widely discussed through E-mail, revised, and adopted as the Workshop Recommendations. It is incorporated at the end of this report.

5. Participants went back to spread the words

about the School Library Manifesto and Guidelines. Reports were received from some participants through E-mail discussions. One written report from the Philippines "The THAI that Binds" was published in the IFLA RSAO Newsletter (December 2003, pp.14-16)

6. A Website is being created to start with the workshop pictures, activities, and papers. It is hoped that the contents of this Website can be expanded in the future.

7. Video tape recording of the workshop activities will be used in the Section's video project to produce the new version.

8. The workshop Proceedings is being prepared.

9. Some participants are preparing project proposals to be submitted for funding.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Whereas

- Improving the quality of education is important to all Southeast Asian countries, especially in the emerging information society,
- Various statements by educators and research by academicians point to the importance of school library services in providing quality education,
- School library services are fundamental to functioning in today's society,
- Reports and feedback from the countries in the region suggest that school library services, especially in public schools, are in need of much improvement, and
- Continued neglect of school libraries will deny many students a foundation for success in an information society, and thereby putting at risk the development and progress of the countries in the region,

We,

- the participants of the Regional Workshop on School Library Services in Southeast Asia,
- organized by IFLA and UNESCO, with the assistance of the Thai Library Association,
- Comprising 22 professional representatives from 8 Southeast Asian countries, and 10 resource persons from 6 countries who represent UNESCO, IFLA, TLA, and the Thai official authority,

- having met in Bangkok, Thailand on 9 – 11 September 2003, and having listened to country reports and presentations, examined two key documents – the *IFLA/UNESCO School Library Manifesto* and the *IFLA/UNESCO School Library Guidelines --,* visited local school libraries, and deliberated on various aspects of school libraries,

Agree to

- Publicize the Bangkok workshop to key stakeholders of school libraries upon returning to one's home countries,
- Adopt the *IFLA/UNESCO School Library Manifesto* and the *IFLA/UNESCO School Library Guidelines,* strive to have them translated into the local languages where such translations do not exist, and work towards their implementation,
- Assist in the development of appropriate policies and action plans, and, in general, contribute to the development of school library services in one's home countries,
- Continue communication with fellow participants,
- Meet again in two years to report and review the progress in the development of school library services in one's home countries,

and hereby make the following recommendations:

Ministries and Departments of Education

- Develop a clear, comprehensive, documented policy statement on school library services, created with input from stakeholders in the nation/state/ province/district, and taking into consideration international developments.
- Use the policy statement as a basis for development plans for school libraries, and incorporate these development plans into national educational plans.
- Provide a suitable space for school library services in every school.
- Provide the necessary funds for the establishment, development and maintenance of library services in all schools. The funds should be provided regularly, be based on the school population, provide for a suitable quantity and quality of teaching-learning resources, including print, non-print and electronic resources.

- Appoint qualified teacher librarians in all schools to manage and provide services by the library. Where possible, the position should be full-time.
- Incorporate training in the use of the school libraries in all training programs for new teachers, and provide opportunities for existing teachers to obtain training on the use of school libraries in teaching and learning.
- Provide appropriate training (including I.C.T. and English) for teacher librarians to cope with new developments and enable them to be active in communication and learning.
- Appoint suitably qualified persons, with appropriate support staff and resources, at Federal, Regional, State, Provincial, and/or District levels for the development and coordination of school library services, and to be responsible for advising, training, and supervising teacher-librarians.
- Develop and publish standards for school library services, where they do not exist, as a means of development targets.
- Develop a curriculum, with appropriate learning resources, for the teaching of library/information skills to all students.
- Encourage professional associations to play an active role in the development of school library services.

National Libraries

- Include school libraries in the national information infrastructure, and in the national library development and training plans.
- Where appropriate, run periodic refresher courses for teacher librarians, or suggest the models of school libraries suitable to particular schools.

School Boards and Local Government Agencies

- Allocate sufficient funds from their budgets for the development of school library services.
- Encourage and facilitate collaboration between public libraries and school libraries.

School Administrators/Principals

- Demonstrate their commitment to school libraries by allocating appropriate resources –

funds, time, human resources, physical facilities – and support for school library services.
- Allocate a suitable percentage of funds from the school budget for the purchase of learning materials, including print, non-print, and electronic resources.
- Appoint a suitably qualified person to provide school library services, and provide opportunities and incentives for their continued professional development.
- Include library/information skills in the school curriculum and integrate them into the appropriate subject areas.

School/Teacher Librarians

- Empower themselves to be proactive regarding school library development and services, and make their presence felt at the school, local, and national levels, by speaking out for school libraries at professional gatherings, organizing publicity campaigns, participating in educational and training programs, etc.
- Exert strong leadership for the development of library services within the school.
- Work closely with School Administrators/Principals, teachers, staff, and parents by keeping them informed of activities and contributions of the school library.
- Strive to be knowledgeable and skillful in their work, by acquiring appropriate educational qualifications and regularly attending continuing professional development activities.
- Join and actively participate in professional organizations for the betterment of the profession.

Parent Teacher Organizations

- Collaborate and assist the school in providing library services, by providing funds, volunteers, expertise, appropriate materials, etc.
- Urge parents to encourage their children to make full use of their school libraries.

Universities and Colleges

- Offer formal educational programs for

teacher-librarians to acquire professional qualifications.

- Offer continuing education programs, such as seminars, workshops, etc. for teacher-librarians.
- Facilitate, encourage, and conduct research on school library services and disseminate the findings widely.

International Organizations

IFLA and UNESCO

- Include school libraries in their development plans
- Strive to have school libraries recognized as players or stakeholders in the promotion of reading and in the global information network at the international forums, e.g. at the World Summit on the Information Society to be held in Geneva, December 2003, and Tunis, December 2005.

IFLA School Libraries and Resource Centres Section

- Distribute the recommendations of this workshop further to relevant organizations
- Lend appropriate professional support to school library development projects in the developing regions

IASL

- Lend appropriate professional support to school library development projects in the developing regions

Regional Organizations

IFLA Asia and Oceania Section

- Distribute the recommendations of this workshop further to relevant organizations.
- Work together with local organizations/professionals to improve school library services in the region.
- Consider projects along the same line to improve school library services in other sub-regions of Asia and Oceania.

IFLA ROAO

- Establish a network of persons interested in the development of school libraries in the region.
- Include programs and activities for school libraries in the mid-term and long-term plans

- Act as a liaison between institutions international agencies and member nations, and between donor institutions and recipients.
- Send the Workshop Recommendations to the relevant government offices according to the participant's requests.

SEAMEO

- Organize a gathering of senior education officials from member countries to develop plans for school library services, and integrate them into national educational development plans.

UNESCO Asia and Pacific Regional Bureau for Education (UNESCO Bangkok)

- Mobilize resources to conduct a study on the current status of school libraries in the region, and use the findings as a basis for further development of school library services.

National Library Associations

- Recognize teacher-librarians as stakeholders in the library and information infrastructure, and provide opportunities for their involvement in professional matters.
- Provide training for teacher-librarians in the management of library services.
- Establish suitable goals and develop action plans for the betterment of school libraries in the country.

Local/Other NGOs

- Continue support the development of school libraries in their constituencies.
- Provide training opportunities for the school librarians in the areas where professional training is in great need.

Publishers

- Produce appropriate print, non-print and electronic materials for children and youth, and make them available at reasonable costs.

(Pensri Guaysuwan)

WLIC, Berlin, 2003 Conference Report from a SIDA Grantee

It was with mixed emotions of excitement and nervousness as I arrived in a reunited Berlin, Germany for the World Library and Information Congress, the newly renamed annual conference of the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) last August 1-9, 2003. It was my first time to attend as one of the speakers, thanks largely to the Asia and Oceania Section and the support of IFLA's Core Activity for the Advancement of Librarianship Programme (ALP) by securing funds from the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA).

During the conference, I realized that the topic of my paper "Public libraries in the information society: what do information policies say" is broader than the Asia and Oceania Section's theme on "Public libraries as learning resource centres" but fits nicely within the Conference theme and the overall mood which focused on "Libraries@ the heart of the Information Society", IFLA's pre-conference to the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS). A revised and concise version of the paper I presented is scheduled to appear in Taylor & Francis' "The New Review of Libraries and Lifelong Learning" upon the editor's prodding.

In short, my paper examined the roles of public libraries in broader public policy, and addressed their social impact towards the "information society". Despite the difficulties of conceiving a national policy towards public libraries, the overall approach that a government makes toward them is an important measure of its commitment to information policy as a whole. It follows then that the place public libraries have in a government's priorities is a good measure of that government's commitment to an informed and educated citizenry. (Full paper is available at http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla69/papers/112e-Calanag.pdf).

The highlights of the conference for me were the following:

I attended the Asia and Oceania's Standing Committee meeting in order to meet the faces behind the names of people I corresponded with, and to thank them personally for the opportunity given to me. I barged into a jampacked discussion group meeting on Knowledge Management, which seems to be a big topic especially for U.S. librarians for I saw a lot of familiar faces from the Special Libraries Association conference in New York held just a couple of months before IFLA's. The plenary sessions and council meetings were, of course, not to be missed, and so were the UNESCO open forum and the exhibitions for the duration of the conference. I also attended the Public Libraries Section's session which focused on innovations in public libraries, and I was impressed by all the presentations, especially by the presenters from Shanghai, China where the library organises lectures by famous local people to attract people into the library, and from very modern Singapore where librarians no longer need to be visibly around in a Do-it-yourself library.

From previous IFLA conferences, I am sure there is always something special to look forward to in IFLA's opening and closing ceremonies. A brass jazz band opened the ceremony which was hosted by Ranga Yogeshwar, grandson of Ranganathan, the great Indian librarian. After all the speeches, the band led everyone to a dinner sponsored by Springer-Verlag in the Palais aum Funkturm. The closing party, on the other hand, which was dubbed a "cultural evening" was held in the palatial State Library of Berlin also called the Prussian Cultural Heritage.

Other educational parts of the conference were held outside the International Congress Centre (ICC). For one, the Asia and Oceania Section enjoyed a nice spicy networking dinner in a Turkish restaurant, thanks to Ms. Helga Schwarz who led the group to the place. The city tour which went around important sites, and with their incredible stories, gave a very clear perspective of what really happened during those dark moments in history. The library visits wherein I was able to see firsthand, for example, the so-called "Buckeburg Conservation Procedure" (BCP) in the Neschen Archive Center (www.neschen.com). The BCP for modern archival paper is an environment-friendly de-acidification procedure since it does not use any solvent, while the conservation machine for the BCP is built for mobile installation in a regular-size working room where only electricity, water connection, and sink are required. The Center itself is located in the former eastern side of Berlin, in Dahlwitz-Hoppegarten, which took more than an hour from

ICC, and so the tour group went back by boat with delicious lunch on board courtesy of Neschen. The views along the river are unforgettable. On another day, I also joined the tour to the Albert Einstein Research Park Library in Potsdam (www.gfz-potsdam.de), which is about an hour from Berlin. The library serves the staff of all research institutes (for astronomy and earth sciences) located in the Park. Potsdam is a popular tourist attraction, and I decided to spend my last day there by joining a sightseeing tour and there are so many amazing places to see, among which are the Dutch Quarter, the Russian colony Alexandrovka, the Cecilienhof Manor where the Potsdam conference of 1945 was held, and the highlight of the tour is the Palace called Sanssouci, which turned into a favourite refuge of Prussian king Frederick the Great. During my first day, when I asked an IFLA German volunteer which place to visit in Berlin, Sanssouci is highly recommended, and thank you for your advice whoever you are.
(Maria Luisa Calanag)

WORLD LIBRARY AND INFORMATION CONGRESS

70th IFLA General Conference and Council Buenos Aires, Argentina, August 22-27, 2004

http://ifla.org/IV/ifla70/index.htm

Theme: *"Libraries: Tools for Education and Development"*

Time and Place/Conference Venue
The World Library and Information Congress 2004 will be held at the Hilton Hotel and Convention Centre in Buenos Aires between August 22 and 27, 2004.

Contact:

Organizing Committee:
Asociacion de Bibliotecarios
Graduados de la Republica Argentina.
Tucuman, 1424, 8o Piso, Dpto. "D"
C1050AAB, Buenos Aires, Argentina
Phone/Fax: +(54)(11)4371-5269 or 4373-0571
E-mail: ifla2004@abgra.org.ar

Conference Secretariat:
Fundacion El Libro
Hipolito Yrigoyen 1628, 5o Piso
C1089AAF Buenos Aires
Republica Argentina
Tel: (54-11) 4374-3288
Fax: (54-11) 4375-0268
E-mail: ifla2004secr@el-libro.com.ar

Programme of Interest

Saturday 21 August 2004
08.30-11.00
1. Professional Committee (Closed Meeting)
11.30-14.30
2. Governing Board (Closed Meeting)
15.00-18.00
10. CB I. Regional Activities (Div VIII.)
Sunday 22 August 2004
All day from 08.30 to 17.20 SC Meetings
The SC Meetings are the business meetings of the Standing Committees of IFLA Sections. They may be attended by observers by permission of the chairs which is usually given. They are a good way of getting to know the work of a Section and may lead to direct involvement.
18.00-19.00 - Caucus Meetings
Evening:
IFLA Officers Reception (By invitation only)
Monday 23 August 2004
09.00-10.30
69. Opening Session - SI
10.45-12.15
70. Council I - SI
12.45-13.45
71. Plenary Session I - SI
The right to know, the right to remember - and libraries
13.45-14.45
72. UNESCO - SI
14.00-16.00
78. SC I. - Africa Section
79. SC I. - Asia and Oceania Section
80. SC I. - Latin America and the Caribbean Section
16.00-18.00
Opening of the Exhibition
Tuesday 24 August 2004
All day: Exhibition
12.00-14.00
94. Poster Sessions
12.45-13.45
95. Plenary Session II. - SI
104. National Associations Meeting

(By Invitation only - for all National Association Members of IFLA)
Evening: Opening Party
Wednesday 25 August 2004
All day: Exhibition
12.00-14.00
118. Poster Sessions
12.45-13.45
119. Plenary Session III. - SI
16.00-18.00
128. Asia and Oceania
Information Literacy for a knowledge society in Asia and Oceania
Evening: Cultural Evening
Thursday 26 August 2004
All day: Exhibition
132. President- Elect Brainstorm Session
Part I. (08.30-12.45)
137. President- Elect Brainstorm Session
Part II. (08.30-12.45)
142. Social Science Libraries with Division VIII.
- Regional Activities - SI
Part I. (13.45-18.00)
Changing roles of NGOs in the creation, validation and dissemination of information in developing countries
(Continues: see Part II.)
143. WSIS Update
16.00-18.00
146. Management of Library Associations - SI
Global Advocacy for Libraries - the role of IFLA and the national library associations
147. Social Science Libraries with Division VIII.
- Regional Activities - SI
Part II. (13.45-18.00)
Changing roles of NGOs in the creation, validation and dissemination of information in developing countries
Evening:Embassy / Consulate Receptions
Friday 27 August 2004
08.30-10.30
160. Management of Library Associations
Library Advocacy - Promoción de bibliotecas
12.45-13.45
164. Plenary Session V. - SI
 14.00-15.50
165. Closing Session - SI
16.00-18.00
166. Council II. - SI
Saturday 28 August 2004
All day from 08.30 to 17.20 SC Meetings
14.30-17.20
211. SC II. Asia and Oceania

17.45-18.45
220. CB II. Regional Activities (Div VIII.)

Welcome to the Asia & Oceania Section's Programme

INFORMATION LITERACY FOR A KNOWLEDGE SOCIETY IN ASIA AND OCEANIA

Wednesday, 25 August 2004, Buenos Aires
The Programme consists of six papers from across the region:

- Making Information Literacy Legitimate (KEYNOTE PAPER)
  SUE McKNIGHT (Deakin University, Australia)
- Global and Regional Phenomena and their Projection on the Models of Developing Information Literacy
  OLGA L. LAVRIK (State Public Library for Scientific and Technical Literature, Novosibirsk, Russian Federation)
- Laying Paving Stones for a Knowledge Society: Analysis of Factors that Affect Information Literacy Levels in Rural Sri Lanka
  WATHMANEL SENEVIRATNE (University of Colombo, Colombo, Sri Lanka)
- Information Literacy Mission in Digital Environment: Prospects and Plans for Developing Society in India
  LEENA SHAH (Government College, Ujjain, India)
- Serious Challenge, Historic Opportunity: Information Literacy Education in China
  ZHANG HONGXIA (Hainan University Library, Haiku, China)
- Information Literacy Activities that Meet Changes in Iranian Society
  ZOREH MIRHOSSEINI (Azad University, Azad, Iran)

This Open Session will provide you an opportunity to learn more about Information Literacy in Asia and Oceania, share your knowledge and ideas and link up with information professionals across the region. Come and join us!
(Aree Chuenwattana)

POSTER SESSION

August 24-25, 2004
12.00-14.00
(see the list at
http://www.ifla/iv/ifla70/poster04.htm)

FUTURE IFLA CONFERENCES

**World Library and Information Congress:
71st IFLA General Conference and Council
Oslo, Norway, August 14-18, 2005**
http://ifla.org/IV/ifla71/index.htm

Libraries - A voyage of discovery
Contact:
>   IFLA 2005 Oslo Secretariat
>   Ann Margret Hauknes, Secretary General
>   Norwegian Library Association
>   Malerhaugveien 20
>   N-0661 Oslo, NORWAY
>   Tel: +47 23243430
>   Fax: +47 22672368
E-mail: IFLA2005@norskbibliotekforening.no

**For paper presentation, please contact the
relevant Sections' Officers,
details of names and addresses:
http://www.ifla.org/vii/**

**World Library and Information Congress:
72nd IFLA General Conference and Council
Seoul, Republic of Korea, August 2006**
http://ifla.org/IV/ifla72/index.htm

Libraries: Dynamic Engines for the Knowledge and Information Society

**World Library and Information Congress:
73rd IFLA General Conference and Council
Durban, South Africa, 2007**
http://ifla.org/IV/ifla73/index.htm

**World Library and Information Congress:
74th IFLA General Conference and Council
Quebec, Canada, 2008**
http://ifla.org/IV/ifla74/index.htm

EVENTS AROUND THE WORLD

June 17-20, 2004, Dublin, Republic of Ireland

The 2004 SLA/IASL Joint Conference

Venue: Trinity College, Dublin
Theme:
From Easop to e-book: the story goes on….

The Eight International Forum on Research in
School Librarianship will be held as part of the
conference.

Contact: The school Library Association
Unit 2, Lotmead Business Village
Wanborough, Swindon, SN4 0UY
United Kingdom

Or e-mail to Aesop@SLA.org.uk

June 24-26, 2004, Hammamet, Tunisia

A Preparatory Meeting for the Tunis phase of the
World Summit on the Information Society
organized by WSIS Executive Secretariat and
Tunisia
More information:
http://www.itu.int/wsis/preparatory2/hammamet/
index.html

June 24-26, 2004, Toronto, Canada

**Preserving the AudioVisual Heritage:
Transition and Access**

2004 JOINT TECHNICAL SYMPOSIUM
TORONTO, ONTARIO ISABEL BADER
THEATER

Organized under the auspices of UNESCO
(United Nations Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization) Information Society
Division

Participating organizations: the Association of
Moving Image Archivists (AMIA), the
International Federation of Film Archives
(FIAF), the International Federation of

Television Archives/Fédération Internationale des Archives de Télévision (FIAT/IFTA), the International Association of Sound and Audiovisual Archives (IASA), the International Council on Archives (ICA), the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA), and the Southeast Asia-Pacific Audiovisual Archive Association (SEAPAVAA).

July 21 - 25, 2004 - Orlando, Florida, USA

PISTA '04

2nd International Conference on Politics and Information Systems: Technologies and Applications (PISTA =B404)
http://www.confinf.org/pista04
Organizer: The International Institute of Informatics and Systemic (IIIS)

July 21 - 25, 2004, Orlando, Florida, USA

EISTA '04

International Conference on Education and Infor-mation Systems: Technologies and Applications

Organized by the IIIS: The International Institute of Informatics and Systemics

More details: http://www.confinf.org/eista04

July 28-August 2, 2004, Italy

VIP Scientific Forum of the International IPSI-2004 PESCARA Conference in Italy (IPSI = Internet, Processing, Systems for e-education/e-business, and Interdisciplinaries)

Venue: hotel Castello Chiola
Detailed program and all relevant information: www.internetconferences.net.

August 14-17, 2004, Austin, Texas, U.S.A.

2nd. International Conference on Computing, Communication and Control Technologies: CCCT '04
Austin, Texas, USA (Silicon Hills)
Sponsored By:

The University of Texas at Austin and IIIS: The International Institute of Informatics and Systemics

complete details:
http://www.iiisci.org/ccct2004/WebSite/Default.asp

More information:
http://www.iiisci.org/ccct2004/website/ISOrganization.asp

September 12-14, 2004, Pyongyang, DPRK

4th Pyongyang International Science & Technology Book Fair

Contact:
Organizing Committee of Pyongyang International Science & Technology Book Fair
Ryonhwa-Dong
Central District
Pyongyang, DPRK
Tel: 850-2-18111 (ext-8048)
Fax: 850-2-381-4644
E-mail: dmw@co.cosin.com

September 27-29, 2004, Lucknow, India

Training Programme on Information Technology Application in Library & Information Services

Contact:
Mr. M U Raja

Organizing Secretary, SIS- IIML Training Programme

Indian Institute of Management
Prabandh Nagar, Off Sitapur Road,
Lucknow 226 013
Phones: (0522) 2734101-2734120 (20 lines)
Fax   : (0522) 2734025-2734027
E-mail : usmani@iiml.ac.in

October 7-8, 2004, Kharkiv, Ukraine

International Scientific Conference 2004 Current Trends in Education in Information Science, Culture and the Arts

Venue: Kharkiv (Ukraine)
Organized by: Ministry of Culture and Arts of Ukraine
Kharkiv State Academy of Culture
Academy of Arts of Ukraine

The conference will be held on the occasion of the 75th jubilee of the Kharkiv State Academy of Culture.

Contact:
Svetlana Syshchenko, secretary
Organizing Committee of the Conference 2004
Kharkiv State Academy of Culture
Bursatski uzviz 4
61003, Kharkiv, Ukraine,
or by email to:
Svetlana Syshchenko, seik@ic.ac.kharkov.ua
Tel. (+38 057) 712 87 94
http://www.ic.ac.kharkov.ua

October 12-15, 2004

The 2nd Shanghai International Library Forum (SILF 2004)

Theme: City Development and Library Service

Shanghai Library, Shanghai, China.

More information:
http://www.libnet.sh.cn/silf2004/.

Contact:
Ms. REN Xiapei
International Cooperation Division,
Shanghai Library, 1555 Huai Hai Zhong Lu,
Shanghai 200031, China
Fax: +86-21-64455006
Email: xpren@libnet.sh.cn

October 13-15, 2004, Montreal, Canada

IMPACT OF DIGITALIZATION ON THE LIFE CYCLE OF THE DOCUMENT: AN INTERDISCIPLINARY ANALYSIS

http://www.ebsi.umontreal.ca/communiques/app el-com-EBSI-ENSSIB.pdf

Contact:
Prof. R   jean Savard, Ph.D.
EBSI, Universit   de Montr   al
Case postale 6128 Succursale Centre-ville
Montr   al H3C 3J7, Canada
(Rejean.Savard@umontreal.ca)

October 13-16, 2004, Memphis, U.S.A.

THE ETHICS OF ELECTRONIC INFORMATION IN THE 21st CENTURY

EEI21 - 2004

The University of Memphis, MEMPHIS, U.S.A.

Contact: Mr. Tom Mendina, Chairman, EEI21 - 2004,
tmendina@memphis.edu

Information regarding EEI21 is available at http://www.memphis.edu/ethics21

November 2-5, 2004, Sophia, Bulgaria

Sofia 2004: Libraries, Globalization, and Cooperation
Hotel Rodina, Sofia, Bulgaria

Hosted by the School of Library and Information Management, Emporia State University, Kansas and the Department of Library and Information Sciences, University of Sofia.

The University of Sofia and Emporia State University will also host a
pre-conference on Globalization and Cooperation Trends in Library and Information Science Education, 2 November, 2004.
http://slim.emporia.edu/globenet/sofia2004/index.htm

Contact:
Prof. Herbert Achleitner
School of Library & Information Management
Emporia State University
Emporia, Kansas, USA
E-mail: achleith@emporia.edu
Prof. Alexander Dimchev
Dean, Faculty of Philosophy
Sofia University, Bulgaria
E-mail: dimchev_uni@abv.bg

Brenda Hough
Sofia 2004 Promotion Director
School of Library & Information Management
Emporia State University
Emporia, Kansas, USA
E-mail: houghbre@emporia.edu
http://slim.emporia.edu/globenet/sofia2004/index.htm

November 8-9, 2004, Cincinnati, Ohio, U.S.A.

VRD 2004 Conference

Hilton Netherland Hotel, Cincinnati, Ohio

Preconference: November 7, 2004
Postconference: November 10, 2004

The 6th Annual Reference Conference of the Virtual Reference Desk

Presented by the Virtual Reference Desk, a project of the U.S. Department of Education, and operated by the Information Institute of Syracuse at Syracuse University.

Sponsored by OCLC Member Services Division, ALA's Reference and User Services Association and Syracuse University's School of Information Studies.

More details: www.vrd.org
.

November 13-18, 2004, Providence, Rhode Island, U.S.A.

American Society for Information Science & Technology 2004 Annual Meeting

MANAGING AND ENHANCING INFORMATION: CULTURES AND CONFLICTS
CALL FOR PAPERS:
http://www.asis.org/Conferences/AM04/am04call.html

November 21 – 24, 2004, Bangkok, Thailand

ASIAN LIBRARY & INFORMATION CONFERENCE

Libraries – Gateways to Information and Knowledge in the Digital Age

Venue: Dusit Thani Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand

Co-organized by:
Thai Library Association, Asia Library News, InfoMedia Asia Limited

Supported by:
UNESCO and IFLA

Contact:
Jaffee Yee jyee@pacific.net.th

Conference organizers contacts:
ALIC2004, GPO Box 701,
Bangkok 10501, Thailand
Email: program@alic2004.com

More details: www.alic2004.com

December 20-22, 2004, Lucknow, India

Training Programme on Marketing of Library & Information Products & Services

Organizer: Society for Information Science (SIS) & Indian Institute of Management, Lucknow (IIML)

Venue: Indian Institute of Management

Contact:
Mr. Sanjay Degloorkar
Organizing Secretary, SIS-IIML Training Programme
Prabandh Nagar, Off Sitapur Road,
Lucknow 226 013
Phones: (0522) 2734101-2734120 (20 lines)
Fax   : (0522) 2734025-2734027
E-mail : sanjayd@iiml.ac.in

February 1-3, 2005, Sydney, Australia

Information Online 2005, the 12th Conference and Exhibition

More information:
http://conferences.alia.org.au/online2005/

May 11-14, 2005, Cape Town, South Africa

From Papyrus to Print-out: the Book in Africa Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow

8th Bibliophilia Africana Conference, Centre of the Book, Cape Town

Co-ordinators:
* The Association of Friends of the National Library of South Africa
www.nlsa.ac.za/about_friends.html
* Society of Bibliophiles in Cape Town
* National Library of South Africa
www.nlsa.ac.za

* Centre for the Book, Cape Town
www.centreforthebook.org.za

Contact:
bibliophilia@nlsa.ac.za
Post:
8th Bibliophiles Conference
National Library of South Africa
P O Box 496, Cape Town
South Africa 8000
website:
www.nlsa.ac.za/bibliophilia.html

9th ILDS Conference 2005 in Estonia!

The President and the Governing Board of IFLA are pleased to announce that the 9th Interlending and Document Supply Conference, 2005 will be held in Estonia.

Five bids had been received and both the IFLA Document Delivery and Interlending Section and the IFLA Conference Planning Committee reviewed them. After consultation it was agreed that all bids were sufficient but the Estonian bid was more substantial. Also it showed that there was a lot of support from the local library community for this conference.

For more information on the Interlending and Document Supply Conference, please contact:

Josche Neven, IFLA Communications Manager, josche.neven@ifla.org
Poul Erlandsen, Chair, IFLA Document Delivery and Interlending Section, poer@dpu.dk
(Josche Neven, Reference 2, Wednesday, April 14, 2004)

Call for bids to host the 10th International Congress on Medical Librarianship (ICML) 2009

IFLA, the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions, invites from IFLA Members bids to host the 10th International Congress on Medical Librarianship (ICML) to be held in 2009.

The International Congress on Medical Librarianship was first held in1953 and has been held every 5 years since 1980. It is organised by theme, reflecting concerns of the times, which are addressed by international representatives of the profession. The value of these conferences includes the development of personal networks among colleagues, development of national and regional library networks, the reporting of medical library and information activities, and the education and training of medical librarians worldwide.

Site Criteria

The Congress site must provide facilities for 2000 attendees with an assembly hall and 8-12 breakout rooms. There must be space for attendee interaction, registration and an exhibition area. In addition the venue must support Internet, audiovisual and other technologies for speakers and exhibitors. The city must provide safe, easy to negotiate transportation, a wide price range of hotels and restaurants, and some alternatives to hotels such as homes or dormitories. Active support from experienced local professionals and libraries is necessary for this congress.

For further information on ICML: www.icml.org

More information contact:
Josche Neven, IFLA Communications Manager
josche.neven@ifla.org
Professional Programme contact:
Bruce Madge, Chair IFLA Health and Biosiences Libraries Section
bruce.madge@npsa.nhs.uk
(Extracted from Josche Neven, Reference 2, Wed, 28 Apr 2004)

4. ALP NEWS

Action for Development through Libraries Programme Core Activity (ALP)

Formerly: IFLA Core Activity for the Advancement of Librarianship (ALP)
http://ifla.org/VI/1/alp.htm

Background

The ALP Programme was launched in 1984 at the IFLA Conference in Nairobi, Kenya, and was the subject of intensive discussion between 1987 and 1989. It was further developed and defined during 1990 and 1991 as a special project and fully operational ever since.

The name of the Programme was changed in 2004 to "Action for Development through Libraries Programme" however, the acronym still remains as "ALP".

Scope Statement

The mission of ALP 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. Within the special ALP areas the MTP goals are to assist in continuing education and training; to support the development of library associations; to promote the establishment and development of library and information services to the general public, including the promotion of literacy; and to introduce new technology into library services. ALP also has a function as catalyst within IFLA for the organization's activities in Third World countries.

The scope of ALP is wide. Therefore, cooperation with relevant IFLA professional bodies, as well as with regional and international organizations, is essential to carry out the programme. ALP achieves its mission through a carefully planned programme of different activities in close cooperation between the International Focal Point of ALP and IFLA's Regional Offices, IFLA's Regional Division and its three Sections, as well as with other partners. This cooperation includes actions such as fund-raising, scholarships and attachment programmes, conferences, seminars and workshops, pilot projects, publications and databases.

Priorities

Library association development

The library associations have an important role to play in marketing and advocating for a higher status of librarianship. Supporting the development of library associations and the infrastructure is therefore very important.

Human resources development

Developing library professionals and paraprofessionals by supporting projects for continuing education activities is another very important priority. This is done through seminars, workshops and in-service training in the application of new technology, preservation and conservation methods and other fields.

Libraries and literacy

ALP promotes the establishment and development of library and information services to the general public, including the promotion of literacy, functional literacy, reading and lifelong learning.

Information technology in developing countries

Supporting the information technology and the integration of it at the different stages of development and libraries with little or no technology is most important to avoid that the gap between North and South becomes even bigger.

Information to the community with a special attention to indigenous communities

The gap between the information rich and the information poor is wide. Especially communities in remote rural areas and suburbs are left behind. ALP tries to address this problem by supporting seminars and workshops with the objective to work out models, guidelines, adequate material and establishing networks of specialists within the field.

(Extracted from http://www.ifla.org/vi/1/alp.htm, Reference 1, 23 April 2004)

2003 ANNUAL REPORT

BACKGROUND

The mission of the Advancement of Librarianship Programme (ALP) 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.

The goals are to support the development of library associations; to assist in human resources development; to promote libraries and functional literacy, reading and lifelong learning; to promote new technology and to support

dissemination of information and publishing activities to the community, with special attention to indigenous communities.

ALP is mission oriented and not subject oriented like other core programmes. Therefore, co-operation with relevant IFLA professional bodies as well as with regional and international organizations is essential to carry out the programme.

ALP achieves its mission through a carefully planned programme of different activities in close co-operation between the International Focal Point of ALP and IFLA´s Regional Offices, IFLA´s Regional Division and its three sections, and other partners. This co-operation includes fundraising, scholarships and attachment programmes, conferences, seminars and workshops, pilot projects, publications and databases.

STAFF AND FINANCE

IFLA, Uppsala University and 17 Nordic library associations and institutions fund the International Focal Point (IFP) for ALP at Uppsala University Library. Sida (Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency) funds are also used for the secretariat. To this should be added contributions in kind from Uppsala University Library.

The ALP IFP is staffed by: Birgitta Sandell Director of the Programme and Gunilla Natvig, Administrative Officer (half-time)

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

The sponsors in 2003 were Sida and the Swedish Library Association. In addition, those responsible for projects in the regions contributed with their own resources and raised considerable funds from external sources.

ALP Meetings and Seminars

Regional workshop on the revitalisation of the East African Library Association (p. 156). The workshop took place in December 2003 at the Arusha International Conference Centre, Tanzania and was attended by 25 members of the three library associations of Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda. The main objective of the workshop was to bring together librarians and information workers in East Africa to deliberate on ways and means of cooperating and networking in the provision of the required information to support the regional integration of the East African countries. The workshop was financed by Sida.

Sub-regional seminar on public library services in the ASEAN/Asia region: Changes and challenges of public library services to bridge the digital divide (p. 268) The seminar was held in June 2003 in Malaysia with the attendance of 193 delegates, the majority from South East Asia. The aim of the seminar was to promote library and information services to the public, especially highlighting the role of ICT with particular attention to the needs of rural and urban marginal areas to bridge the digital divide. A report with proposed recommendations has been published in IFLA RSAO Newsletter 15: 2 (December 2003). With money from Sida ALP supported part of the seminar.

Caribbean Seminar on IFLA/UNESCO's Manifestos and Guidelines for School and Public Libraries (p. 357). The seminar took place in Trinidad and Tobago and the objective was to present the IFLA/UNESCO Public and School Library Manifestos and Guidelines to the professional librarians in the Caribbean. Two participants from each of the ten Caribbean countries attended the seminar. Proceedings will be published. Sida funded part of the seminar.

International seminar on Access to library service and information in indigenous communities in Latin America (p. 359). The seminar was organized by IFLA/LAC and the Amazonian Center for Anthropology and Practiacal Application, CAAAP, in Lima, Peru from 23-25 April 2003 and included delegates from Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Guatemala, Mexico, Peru and Venezuela. The purpose was to recognize the most relevant experiences on the theme in the countries with indigenous populations and, based on this, to propose policies and standards for the promotion and expansion of library and information services. Sida financed part of the seminar. The proceedings have been published in the IFLA ALP Project Report Series (No 22). **The *1st National Seminar on Archives, Libraries, Documentation centres and***

Museums took place in October in Maputo, Mozambique. ALP paid for the travel of Ms Auta Rojas Barreto from Brazil who presented a paper with the title "Preservação do Capital Intelectual – Memória Institucional utilizando Gestão do Conhecimento".

IFLA´S GENERAL CONFERENCE IN BERLIN

SPEAKERS GRANTS

With money from Sida ALP supported six people who had been selected to present papers at the Conference: Charles Batambuze, Uganda, "The role of libraries in providing access to information for children and young adults with special attention to AIDS issues"; Huang Qunqing, China, "Reading outside the library: how has the Internet affected reading in China"; Maria Luisa Calanag, the Philippines, "Public libraries in the information society: what do information policies say"; Premila Gamage, Sri Lanka, "Political perceptions – a view from Sri Lanka"; Siliva Anselmi, Argentina, "Panorama actual de la enseñanza bibliotecológica universitaria en la Argentina"; Mino Eusebio, Peru, (together with César Castro) "Panorama sobre los servicios bibliotecarios en las comunidades indígenas: el caso de Perú".

Birgitta Sandell and Gunilla Natvig participated in the Berlin Conference, took part in the Regional Standing Committee meetings and presented a poster session.

IFLA REGIONAL STANDING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The annual meeting of the Regional Standing Committees in their own regions are most important for the development of ALP.

Birgitta Sandell participated in the Africa Section meeting in Nairobi, Kenya and in the Latin American and the Caribbean Section meeting in Trinidad and Tobago. Gunilla Natvig attended the meeting of the Section for Asia and Oceania in Colombo, Sri Lanka.

Scholarships and attachments

In Service Training, Attachments, for Middle or Senior Staff
Three persons were selected for attachments in

2003 at institutions in the region: Ms Bouakhaay, Laos, Ms K Ibrahim, Malaysia and L Zhan, China. This project is funded by the Swedish Library Association.

Scholarships in Information Technology
Four scholarships were awarded in 2003 to attend the four-week course on Information Technology and Information Services at Victoria University of Wellington. The scholarships were awarded to Ms S Chowdhury, Bangladesh; Ms S Clayhan, Thailand; Ms Thongvanh Panhgnathong, Laos; and Ms K Yangnouvong, Laos. These scholarships are funded by Sida.

The candidates for both programmes were selected by the Advisory and Appraisal Committee of the Regional Standing Committee for Asia and Oceania.

Both the projects have been of great value. Apart from the successful training the projects have developed platforms for networking of professionals, both at individual and institutional levels, and enhancing professional skills.

Other ongoing projects

Journal of librarianship and information science in Africa/Revue de bibliothéconomie et science de l'information en Afrique (p. 24). The project was conceived to improve the sharing of information on Library and Information practices among librarians and information workers in Africa. So far four issues have been published and the editorial committee is working on the 5th. The aim is to increase subscriptions to cover the costs of printing the journal. The project is funded by Sida.

Information Management Curriculum Development in Vietnam (p. 265). The objectives are: to study the higher level training needs in Information management among professionals and librarians; to study Master's curriculum in IM in some developed countries like New Zealand and Australia; to propose a timetable and a core programme of master degree on IM; and to organise a national seminar/workshop on higher education in IM. The output will be a set of recommendations submitted to the Ministry of Education for implementation. Target groups are information professionals and librarians, teachers/lecturers

from departments of library and information science and library and information centre' managers. The project is financed by Sida.

The development of self-training package for information retrieval using distance education approach (p. 246). The project started in 2001 and is carried out in Thailand. Some changes have been done and a WEB component has been included. When the training package is completed it can be delivered in both offline and online modes. Sida has funded the project.

Electronic didactic tool on cataloguing (p. 351). The Library school at the National University in Costa Rica will create an electronic tool to facilitate cataloguing. They will disseminate the tool and train staff of the libraries in Central America to use international standards when processing information in order to make it accessible to the public. Sida has financed the project.

INFOBILA: The Digital Library in Latin America and the Caribbean (p. 354). From 1995 to 1997 ALP supported the establishment of a database within the library field in Latin America. It will now be amplified and digitized, since more countries in the region have expressed their interest to take part in this database with access to full text. Sida is supporting the project.

Project to publish oral tales from Piura (p. 358). In 2000 the association "Yoyay Wasi" in Peru received the IBBY-Ashai Reading Promotion Award. The prize sum was used to launch the project "Tambogrande siembra lectura". For two years the project recorded oral tales on the countryside of Piura resulting in 100 audio cassettes. After revision there were 60 left and about 40% of the material has now been published in nine small books. The tales, legends and poems are in a format that makes them suitable for new readers. ALP paid for the publication of four books with money from Sida.

Minor Field Studies (MFS). Sida has a cooperation programme with Swedish universities, Minor Field Studies (MFS), and the ALP secretariat is administering this programme within the information field. The programme aims at giving Swedish students the opportunity to carry out a two months study in a developing country. In 2003 one student carried out a study "Who does the mobile library reach?" in Thailand. Host institution was the Informal Education Promotion Centre in Bangkok.

PUBLICATIONS

ALP Project Report Series (ISSN 1023-8212)

The following issues were published in 2003:

21. *Intercambio de experiencias de gestión cultural comunitaria en bibliotecas públicas del Cono Sur.* Memorias del encuentro del Cono Sur en Santiago, Chile, 2-12 diciembre 2002. Editada por Amanda Jolly. Uppsala University Library, 2003. 112 pp. ISBN 91-85092-62-2

22. *Acceso a los servicios bibliotecarios y de información en los pueblos indígenas de América Latina.* Memorias del seminario en Lima, Peru, 23 al 25 de abril, 2003. Editado por César Castro y Manuel Cornejo. Lima, 2003. 221 pp.

(Gunilla Natvig)

ANNOUNCEMENT

Call for Applications
IFLA ALP Project Fund

Professionals in the region are invited to submit applications for support to carry out projects in the region. See http://www.ifla.org/VI/1/admin/general.htm#3 for more details, and

http://www.ifla.org/VI/1/admin/alpform.pdf for online application form.

Please note that December 31, 2004 is the deadline for project applications to reach the relevant Regional Managers:

AFRICA
Mr. Henri Sène, Regional Manager
IFLA Regional Office for Africa
Bibliothèque de l'Université
Cheikh Anta Diop de Dakar
B.P. 2006, DAKAR, Senegal
Tel: +(221)8246981
Fax: +(221)8242379

E-mail: hsene@ucad.sn

ASIA AND OCEANIA

Ms. Pensri Guaysuwan, Regional Manager
IFLA Regional Office for Asia and Oceania
118 Charansanitwong 63,
BANGKOK 10700, Thailand
Tel: +(66)(2)4242760
Fax: +(66)(2)8817033
E-mail: guay@asiaaccess.net.th

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARRIBEAN

Ms. Elizabet Ramos de Carvalho
Regional Manager, Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean
c/o Biblioteca Publica do Estado do Rio de Janeiro, Av. Presidente Vargas, 1261
20071-004 Centro, Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brazil
Tel: +(55)(21)3225330
Fax: +(55)(21)3225733,
E-mail: iflalac@mls.com.br

Scholarships and Attachments

IFLA/ALP SCHOLARSHIPS AND
TRAINING ATTACHMENTS GRANTS

Successful Candidates in 2004

The candidates whose names appear below have been awarded the ALP scholarships and training attachment grants in 2004. Congratulations!

Scholarships

1. Ms.Christine Mendoza Manglal-Lan (Philippines)
2. Ms. Premila Gamage (Sri Lanka)
3. Mr. Le Thuy Duong (Vietnam)
4. Ms. Luna Shree Upadhyay (Nepal)
Reserve
Mr. Ikhwan Arif, Amd, Sip (Indonesia)

The scholarship holders will attend a 4-week course organized by the School of Information Management, Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand, in November 2004.

Training Attachment
1. Ms. Khin Zar Win (Myanmar)
2. Ms. C N K Alahakoon (Sri Lanka)
3. Ms. Afsheen Karim (Pakistan)

Reserve
1. Mr. Nafees Ud-Diin (Pakistan)
2. Ms. Sarapee Srisook (Thailand)

Each attachment grant recipient will have a 4-week in-service training at a library in a country in Asia and Oceania in 2004 and possibly 2005. The host institution will arrange the attachment date.

Call for Application
IFLA ALP scholarships and attachment grants in 2005

Information professionals who are interested in the ALP scholarships and attachment grants in 2005 may access
http://www.ifla.org/VI/1/admin.scholaasia.htm
http://www.ifla.org/VI/1/admin.trasia.htm
for application forms.

Contact:
Ms. Daruna Somboonkun, Program Coordinator
23/2 Wudthakard 39, Jomthong, Bangkok 10150, Thailand, Tel/fax: 66-24767736 (in case of difficulty fax:66-25245861 or 66-26286361).
Email:daruna_s@hotmail.com.
The closing date for application is 31 December 2004.
(Daruna Somboonkun)

5. MISCELLANEOUS

AWARDS

1. PADMASRI Award

Prof. Prithvi Nath Kaula, an eminent and internationally renowned Library scientist, teacher to many professionals in the country had been honoured with PADMASRI award. He is renowned International expert, worked for UN, Continuously (and single handedly) publishing the journals. His expert services are being utilized by both Governmental and non Governmental organization. Various awards are given on his name.

2. IATLIS (Indian Association of Teachers of Library & Information Science) Awards

On the basis of the Committee consisting of three LIS senior most teachers / professionals unanimous have recommended:
PROF SB GHOSH, IGNOU FOR THE IATLIS MOTIWALE BEST LIS TEACHER AWARD,

The award was presented to him during inaugural function of XX IATLIS national conference on 21 Nov 2003. The conference was held at University of Madras, Chennai, guindy campus.

3. Person of the Year Social Justice Award 2003-2004

Mr. T. Venkateswarlu, University of Windsor, 401 Sunset Avenue, Windsor, Ontario N9B 3P4, Canada (Originally an Indian) has been selected to receive the prestigious National award titled Person of the Year Social Justice Award (2003-2004). The nominations are open to all people across Canada and one award per year is given to the successful candidate. The award recognizes the contributions, which he has made over the years for the advancement of the society in Canada and abroad.
(Anjali Gulati)

THE CNIB DIGITAL LIBRARY and Children's Discovery Portal

CNIB's Digital Library revolutionizes accessibility and provides a world of information for Canadians who are blind or visually impaired Service includes world's first Internet portal of its kind for blind children

Toronto, ON, November 12, 2003:
More than 105,000 Canadians who are blind or visually impaired gained access to thousands of books, daily newspapers, and magazines today with the launch of The CNIB Digital Library. The online library is the most advanced library of alternative formats in the world and a model for 175 international libraries producing alternative-format information. It also contains *The Children's Discovery Portal*, the world's first portal of its kind for children who are blind.

The CNIB Digital Library offers a completely new reading experience for people who are blind or visually impaired. Currently, only 3% of published materials are available in an accessible format. Highlights include:
- Accessible. The CNIB Digital Library was designed from the outset to ensure it met the accessibility needs of people who are blind or visually impaired. It works with major adaptive technology products including screen reading programs and braille keyboards.
- Comprehensive and easy to use. Brings all of the Library's online services including the CNIB catalogue and digital repository of books into one unified, bilingual, Internet gateway.
- Vast repository. There are more than 10,000 audio, text, and braille titles available online for instant reading, including bestsellers such as Life of Pi and The Stone Diaries. Clients can also search and order from a collection of more than 60,000 titles.
- Exciting new access. Clients can listen to a CNIB Library talking book (with human-voice narration) right from their computer simply by selecting a link for the title of that book.
- Newspapers, magazines, databases. The current editions of more than 40 daily, national, and community newspapers from across Canada are available. Full-text versions of thousands of magazines and databases such as the Encyclopedia Britannica Online are also available.

The Children's Discovery Portal is one of the most exciting parts of this digital transformation. For the first time children who are blind or visually impaired will be able to play online games, participate in online polls, get homework help, sample or read entire books online and chat with other children who are blind from across the country. For some this may be the first opportunity they have ever had to meet another child who is blind.

The CNIB Digital Library is the result of a bold venture to fully transform the CNIB Library's collection and production process to a digital library environment. The Library was relying on obsolete technology to reproduce materials. The collection was also at risk of being lost forever had it not been digitized. The transformation is being funded by That all may read..., an on-going $33 million nationwide campaign.
The campaign got a boost today when The Honourable Jane Stewart, Minister of Human

Resources Development Canada, made a surprise announcement that the Government of Canada would be contributing $6 million towards the CNIB's digital library.

To try out The CNIB Digital Library, visit the Library's Web site at www.cnib.ca/library or www.inca.ca/bibliotheque and select the "guest" option on the login screen. Some functions are not available to guests (they are for CNIB Library clients only and available with password access).

For more information, or to receive a comprehensive live demo or a CD presentation of The CNIB Digital Library, contact:

Julia Morgan
Communications Coordinator
CNIB Library for the Blind
(416) 480-7423
julia.morgan@cnib.ca
(Extracted from Shelagh Paterson, Reference 2, Thu, 20 Nov 2003)

WORLD BOOK CAPITAL 2005

Montreal, Canada, has been chosen to be the World Book Capital for 2005.

This is the fifth time the title of World Book Capital has been awarded by UNESCO. The inaugural city was Madrid in 2001, followed by Alexandria (2002), New Delhi (2003) and Antwep in 2004
See at: http://www.abc2004.be/

The jury for the 2005 award was Pere Vincens, President of the International Publishers Association (who chaired the panel), Fran ose Dubruille, Secretary General of the International Booksellers Federation and Ross Shimmon, Secretary General of the International Fderation of Library Associations and Institutions. Georges Poussins represented UNESCO on behalf of Milagros del Corral.
The programme of the World Book Capital begins each year on 23rd April and runs for a

year.

It is expected that the call for nominations for World book Capital 2006 will be issued in March 2004.

Ross Shimmon
Secretary General
(Reference 2, Wed, 18 Feb 2004)

WSIS

http://www.itu.int/wsis/

Highlight of the Past Events

"Libraries Help Bridge Digital Divide" - Top Librarian

PRESS RELEASE, 28 May 2003

Christine Deschamps, President of the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) called for the forthcoming UN World Summit on the Information Society to recognise that libraries had a key role in tackling the growing "digital divide". She pleaded that world leaders should avoid 're-inventing the wheel'. Instead they should concentrate investment in the existing library network. "A relatively modest investment in technology, training and content would work wonders in making information and knowledge available to the information poor", she said. Deschamps was launching IFLA's response to the Draft Declaration of Principles and Draft Action Plan, issued for consultation by the organisers of the UN World Summit.

IFLA is calling for the Summit to
- commit member States to connect all their public libraries to the Internet by 2006
- support the skills development of librarians
- ensure that intellectual property laws for electronic publications do not prevent public access
- recommend public investment in information and telecommunication technologies
- ensure that libraries providing public access are eligible for affordable connection charges.
"The skill, energy and commitment of the world's librarians will not fail you in the

struggle to bridge the digital divide – provide you give them the resources required", was the challenge made by the IFLA President to the World Summit.
(Reference 1, May 28, 2003)

IFLA Council resolution on World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) 2003

IFLA Council, meeting in Berlin on 8th August 2003, passed the following resolution:

World Summit for the Information Society

Whereas the World Summit for the Information Society offers a unique opportunity for the library community to be recognized as the heart of the information society,
And whereas IFLA has already devoted a great amount of work to influence the draft declaration and plan of action of the World Summit for the Information Society,

Therefore be it resolved that library associations and institutions are urged to advocate to their government representatives to the World Summit for the Information Society for libraries as a global public good,
And be it resolved that IFLA calls upon all governments to address the growing gap between the information rich and the information poor, and promote library development programs for poor rural and urban populations, literacy instruction through libraries, and the strengthening of library education programs,
And be it resolved that IFLA urges governments to eliminate fees for basic services broadly construed, assist in developing local content for electronic information services, and provide equitable access to the Internet,
And be it resolved that this resolution be sent to all national library associations and government delegations to the World Summit for the Information Society.

Proposed by:Carla Hayden, President, the American Library Association,
Robert Moropa, President, the Library and Information Association of South Africa, and Barry Cropper, Chair, Executive Board of the Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals (UK).

This resolution was carried without dissent.
(Reference 1, September 15, 2003)

Libraries @ the Heart of the Information Society

IFLA Pre-World Summit Conference
Geneva, 3-4 November 2003

PRESS RELEASE: 5 November 2003

Delegates from over 70 countries attending the IFLA/World Summit Pre-Conference to the World Summit on the Information society, meeting in the Hall of the General assembly of the United Nations in Geneva on the 3rd and 4th November 2003, call upon the nations of the world to: "Support and extend the existing global network of library and information services to make available and preserve knowledge and cultural heritage, to provide information access points and to develop the twenty-first century literacies essential of the realisation on the information society. High quality library and information services provide access to the information required by the communities they serve. A modest investment in them would quickly return significant dividends."
Ross Shimmon
Secretary General
International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions
P O Box 95312
2509 CH THE HAGUE
Netherlands
Tel: +31 70 3140884
Fax: +31 70 3834827
Email: ifla@ifla.org
(Referece 1, November 05, 2003)

Information Needs Are Legitimate

Interview with Kay Raseroka, IFLA President
by Eva Pressl
Institute for New Culture Technologies

World-Information.Org

What was IFLA's motivation to come to WSIS 2003 in Geneva?

IFLA is concerned with the information society, particularly because it is the pre-stage to a knowledge society. Information and communication technologies (ICTs) are only tools and without people that know how to use and exploit them an information society for all will remain nothing but a distant dream. A lot of people still lack access to ICT. So we are concerned with the actual use of ICTs as a facilitator to access to information for the empowerment of people. The latter is something that we librarians have always dealt with.

What relevance does ICT have for libraries and librarians?

We are probably some of the earliest adopters of technology. Libraries have needed to cooperate and so we networked our libraries in order to be able to transmit data and share information to meet the needs of library users. This we have done for at least three decades. Yet now that ICTs are so readily available it is rather a matter of training people how to use those tools to access information.

Besides the use of ICT in an organizational way does the increased use of digital material change your work?

It changes the speed with which we have access to information, but has also made much more different formats e.g. audio and video available to library users. Moreover the possibilities to exchange and transfer information have multiplied since we do not rely exclusively on printed material any more. But the need for people to absorb information or discover their own need for information to improve their lives remains a basic and unchanged condition. Besides, the use of ICT also means that librarians can reinforce preservation activities by digitizing very rare materials that we can thus make available to a broader audience whereas before one had to visit a special library in order to access information. We used and are still using those new tools for our ends and that is where WSIS is significant. ICTs are available,

but must be seen in the context of the diverse communities.

You said that you digitize a lot of material, have you ever had copyright problems?

What we digitize is already in the public domain meaning that the copyright has already expired. In that sense we rather make information available that was not accessible before. Yet we do have problems with material that is contained in electronic journals which aggregate articles (eg. contained in back issues) and can only be made electronically accessible by paying license fees. The high cost of license fees limits access. Libraries are a public good. They educate and empower people to access and use information. Thus they enable an informed decision making and let people - through the contribution of their own ideas - become better citizens. If libraries can not afford to provide access to information that is needed and helps people to be alert, aware and develop themselves, then the information society's future is endangered.

We will have people who will have to rely on material that is cheap, of dubious quality, based on opinions rather than verifiable facts. This in turn will lead to misinformation. Libraries are at the heart of providing information that is well researched and accurate. Thus concerning the use of the Internet we see our role in providing portals where people can get accurate information. People shall not need to rely on questionably material that they find in the open digital space.

Do you think that copyright is narrowing the free flow of information and the access to information?

Copyright was meant to assist authors, the people that created the material, so that they could be acknowledged appropriately. Yet what is happening now is that it is no longer the authors that benefit, but the publishers. That in itself raises the costs because you are no longer dealing with the person who produced the material, but with an intermediary. Secondly there is a tendency that copyright is extended and surrendered to the forces of the free market.

We think that this is wrong and unfair, because no information is created ab initio. People do not produce material from nothing, they use public good that is provided for example in libraries. And surely the moment copyright expires is the time to feed the products and research results back into the public domain. We are willing to wait for a certain period of copyright, a time span that enables authors to recoup their costs and generate profit. But the extension of copyright (for example that of Mickey Mouse) is destroying the public good and distorting the original intention of copyright. Maybe it is time to reintegrate the moral rights into copyright or (for all concerned) to ask the question of what is morally right in the area of access to information?

Does IFLA take measures against this copyright regime?

We raise awareness concerning the need for a fair copyright system that takes into consideration both the rights of the authors and those of the public. Moreover we appeal to the moral responsibility of sharing information in order to be able to create more knowledge. However, since the rampant exploitation of indigenous knowledge systems for profit has become widespread we are even more worried. The notion that traditional collections of information (held in the memories of communities and shared orally) are said to be in the public domain, by virtue of being community owned warrants rapacious exploitation, addition of the value but without compensation or sharing of credit to the original creators is totally unacceptable. We can not justify such double standards. We must be morally correct and acknowledge that communities, whether from developed or third world communities, need each others information sources for the creation of new knowledge. There are so many cultures that we can only contribute to a better understanding when we share our different perspectives, information and knowledge.

Do you think that copyright issue are adequately represented at WSIS?

If copyright is not an issue then it should be. Some of the NGOs and civil society organizations are very concerned about it. Generally many say that we should partner with the private sector. But we do not have similar values. The industry is concerned with making money by hook or by crook; sorry to say so. And although it sometimes makes the impression that there are business people with social responsibility, observations indicate that they pick and choose those responsibilities as profit dictates.

But if the private sector is not going to provide a solution to this problem who will?

We are not saying they should provide a solution. We are asking if they can listen to the broader issues of morality, ethics and the need of the billions of people who do not have the financial means to participate in their money based system. The product we are looking for is one that enables a sustainability of the quality of life for humanity through the ethical use of information resources by all.

Do you think that WSIS will be a success and help you advance your cause?

What WSIS has done is raise awareness concerning the need of people to use and exploit information. And that is fantastic, because it has never happened before that a conference focused on information as basis for creating knowledge and a better society. IFLA will use the input and experiences from WSIS and continue to help people in being alert to the importance of knowing that information needs are legitimate; learn how and where to find information and how to critically analyse information in order to develop themselves and contribute to a democratic society.
(Reference 1, February 17, 2004)

December 10-12, 2003, the First Phase of the World Summit on the Information Society took place in Geneva, the "Declaration of Principles" (Document WSIS-03/GENEVA/DOC/4-E, 12 December 2003)

and the "Plan of Action" (Document WSIS-03/GENEVA/DOC/5-E, 12 December 2003) **were adopted. (see http://www.itu.int/wsis/documents/)**

Libraries@the Heart of the Information Society

IFLA Issues from World Summit 10-12 December 2003, Nr. 4

The Declration of Principle and Action Plan were finally adopted on Friday evening after many hours of statements about the Information Society. Particularly strong statements were made about gender issues and the needs of people with disabilities.

Adoption was the culmination of eighteen months of consultations and negotiations and represented a major achievement for IFLA and its partners in lobbying the negotiators. The final versions were agreed at the eleventh hour, late on Tuesday 9 December, just before the opening of the Summit.

Unqualified acceptance of the fundamental importance of human rights, and especially of freedom of expression and information was obtained but two issues could not be resolved. The first was Internet governance which some nations wish to keep under the control of ICANN, supervised by the US Department of Commerce and with the involvement of major ICT operators, while others would prefer supervision by an INGO such as the ITU. The second was funding mechanisms to address the digital divide on which a split emerged between developed and developing nations. The Government of Senegal had proposed a Digital Solidarity Fund while the EU and other developed nations argued that existing funding mechanisms should be used. To secure endorsement of the documents, it was agreed to study both between the Geneva and Tunis phases of the Summit. Striking a positive note, the Mayors of Lyons in France and Geneva in Switzerland announced on Friday that they had added to the Senegal Government's contribution taking the fund to over €1 million.

As the civil society organisations have noted, the Declaration and Action Plan fall short of providing the means to implement fully a vision for an equitable and inclusive information society. The make a start but there is much to do.

IFLA has signed the Civil Society Declaration and will be working with our partners in civil society to advance a shared vision.

Nevertheless, most of our concerns are included in the Declaration and Action Plan which offer a framework for action over the next 23 months to Tunis and beyond. It is now up to us to demonstrate to governments that we can turn the statements into reality, that the global library network provides the foundation for the information society.

This has been the most sustained and widespread advocacy campaign ever undertaken by IFLA. It has demonstrated that we can be successful but has taught us many lessons, including the need for the strong core support, provided this time by our Swiss colleagues. We need to learn for the experience as we engage with the Tunis phase of the Summit and for advocacy in other areas.

Many colleagues from national library associations, national libraries and other related organisations participated, presenting an alliance to promote the role of libraries in the information society. Right up to the end, IFLA representatives met with key players including government delegates and ministers, civil society members and HE Adama Samass kou, President of the preparatory process who spoke at WLIC 2003 in Berlin. Contacts made during the summit included funders and organisers of Telecentres in the developing world. IFLA considers this as a valuable contact and we are preparing a joint workshop during the World Library and Information Congress in Buenos Aires in August 2004.

The assistance of students and lecturers from the School of Library and Information Science in Geneva was particularly valuable because they willingly staffed our booth, which we shared with ICA, and distributed information while we met with the key players.

A commentary on the Declaration and Action Plan will be distributed shortly. It will show how IFLA, library associations and libraries are turning the ideas and actions into practice and how, with a little support, we can extend our work so that we will have many stories to tell in Tunis.

We will also work to strengthen the outcomes in those areas in which the Declaration and Action Plan could be improved including the

deficiencies identified in the Civil Society Declaration.

The effectiveness of our advocacy campaign was demonstrated when an IFLA representative was told by a government delegate: "I am sick of hearing about libraries and from you librarians …"

As IFLA President Kay Raseroka noted. "This experience reminds us of the need to partner but also to remember our core values".

Marian Koren (Member of IFLA Governing Board, Netherlands Public Library Association)
Winnie Vitzansky (Standing Committee Member of the IFLA Section on Management of Library Associations, Director of the Danish Library Association)
Alex Byrne (IFLA President-elect, University of Technology, Sydney)

(Reference 1, December 15, 2003)

WSIS Second Phase 16-18 November 2005 in Tunis hosted by the government of Tunisia

WSIS Preparatory Meeting for Phase II

A Preparatory Meeting for the Tunis phase of the World Summit on the Information Society will be in Hammamet, Tunisia, from 24-26 June 2004. This conference will be organised by WSIS Executive Secretariat and Tunisia, and accessible by WSIS registered participants.
More information:
http://www.itu.int/wsis/preparatory2/hammamet/index.html

WWW

Library of Congress Webcast on Portal Applications

The Library of Congress Portals Issues Group is pleased to announce a Webcast presentation of "Finding It Faster: Portal Applications for Information Discovery and Retrieval", a program

originated on November 24, 2003 at the Library of Congress for members of its staff.

You can view the program in full or by individual presentation by visiting http://www.loc.gov/catdir/lcpaig/documents.html#programs
(Extracted from John D Byrum, Reference 2, Mon, 09 Feb 2004)

Hon'ble President of India Launched E-Journal Consortia of UGC

During the UGC Golden Jubilee celebrations at New Delhi on 28 Decemebr 2003, the Hon'ble President of India launched the UGC's ambitious project of providing online journals through Consortia to Universities, that will offer 100 science journals and 250 journals of social science online free, initially. This project is coordinated by INFLIBNET and IUCAA under the umrella of UGC.
News item is available at http://www.hindu.com/2003/12/29/stories/2003122909101400.htm,
http://www.hindustantimes.com/news/printedition/291203/detNAT08.shtml
(J.K. Vijayakumar)

FAIFE-L

With immediate effect, messages which are more appropriate for the FAIFE discussion list will not be posted on IFLA-L. Those who wish to keep abreast of discussions on questions of freedom of expression and free access to information are encouraged to subscribe to this list: FAIFE-L

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

Submissions: faife-l@infoserv.inist.fr
Web interface:
http://infoserv.inist.fr/wwsympa.fcgi/info/faife-l
Ross Shimmon, Secretary General

(Reference 2, Tue, 30 Mar 2004)

Online News

INFLIBNET Newsletter

Latest INFLIBNET Newsletter is online at
http://web.inflibnet.ac.in/news/index.htm
(J.K.Vijayakumar, Wed, 5 May 2004)

IFLA ALP Scholarships in Information Technology

Go to <http://www.sim.vuw.ac.nz/activities/ifla-alp/index.aspx>
and you will find links to both 2002 and 2003 workshops.
(Gary Gorman, Wed, 5 May 2004)

IFLA Asia and Oceania Section's Discussion list
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6. PUBLICATIONS

New IFLA Publications:

Knowledge Management.Libraries and Librarians Taking Up the Challenge

This is a compilation of 17 papers given at various recent IFLA and some other conferences. A special Knowledge Management Discussion Group existed during these years and held meetings during the annual IFLA conferences. Apart from a "Prelude" article, a reprint of the classic "Blow Up the Corporate Library" from the 1990s, the papers are grouped into 3 sections: Political and ethical implications, Issues and instruments and Case studies.
Edited by: Hans-Christoph Hobohm
(IFLA Publications; 108)
ISBN 3-598-21838-0

Price: EUR 74 / IFLA Members EUR 55

Newspapers in International Librarianship
This is a compilation of 35 papers given during the IFLA conferences during the 1990s. This is the period that the IFLA Round Table on Newspapers has been active in promoting awareness of newspaper collections in libraries, providing access to these collections and preserving them. An index of newspapers was added to facilitate access to the rich data in this book.
Edited by: Hartmut Walravens and Edmund King
(IFLA Publications; 107)
ISBN 3-598-21837-0
Price: EUR 78 / IFLA Members EUR 58

Women's Issues at IFLA: Equality, Gender and Information on Agenda
This is a compilation of approximately 30 papers given during the IFLA conferences during the 1990s. The articles have in common that they focus on the position of women in (international) librarianship and in the federation that IFLA is, since the first meeting of the Women's Interests Group in Stockholm, Sweden in 1990. Many of the authors have published extensively on the theme and are now authorities on international librarianship.

Papers from the Programs of the Round Table on Women's Issues at IFLA Annual Conferences 1993 - 2002.
Edited by: Leena Siitonen. München: Saur, 2003, 256 p.
(IFLA Publications; 106)
ISBN 3-598-21836-2
Price: EUR 78 / IFLA Members EUR 58

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Farewell Message

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Incredibly, this is my last hour as Secretary General IFLA. I would like to thank so many people for being such good colleagues, President Kay Raseroka, immediate Past President Christine Deschamps, present and past members of the Governing Board and its predecessors, members of our Sections, past and present Core Activities Directors and hosts, our Regional Managers, members of the conference organising committees, colleagues in our sister organisations in the International Committee of the Blue Shield, in Unesco and in the International Publishers Association and any other organisations. Not least of course, our small team at Headquarters who have been such good colleagues.

Between us all, I think, we have built on the achievements of our predecessors and made progress towards our ambition to be a truly international organisation and, as we claim, the global voice of libraries, librarians and their users.

I have enjoyed my five years at the helm of the good ship IFLA and I think it is in good shape as Rama takes over ready for the challenges ahead. I believe that libraries are needed more than ever as technology advances and terrorism threatens. We need to hold our nerve and defend our principles so that people have free access to information, ideas and works of imagination so that they can make sense of the world around them and take control of their lives.

In a few days Pat and I will return to our home in Faversham. We hope that some of you will find your way there. You will certainly be very welcome. To whet your appetite you might like to check www.faversham.org

Some of you know that my magnificent retirement gift was life membership of KentCounty Cricket Club. If you would like to see where I shall be spending some of my new-found leisure, check www.kentccc.com. If I am not watching cricket, I am quite likely to be at the Kent and East Sussex Railway www.kesr.org

So, farewell, thanks and good luck!

Ross Shimmon
IFLA Secretary General, 1999-2004

IFLA Asia and Oceania Section's Officers 2003-2005

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References:
1. Extracted from IFLANET (http://www.ifla.org)
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