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## School Libraries and Resource Centers Section

### Newsletter Number 38 July 2002



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### 68th IFLA General Conference and Council: Glasgow, Scotland 18-24 August, 2002

*The theme of the 68th IFLA conference is:  
Libraries for Life: democracy, diversity, delivery*

“Free access to information and the products of the imagination has always been recognized as the foundation for an inclusive society, a society that is based on shared values and open to change. Librarians have always played a major role in collecting and transmitting new ideas and better knowledge. Fundamental changes in the way information is used are now making an impact on every aspect of economic, educational and social activity”.

*The subtheme of the 68<sup>th</sup> IFLA conference is:  
Building on the Past – Investing in the Future*

Libraries have played a key role in preserving and making available the literary heritage and inspiration of nations. Librarians begin to develop information literacy skills by helping young people to recognize when information is needed and to have the ability to find, evaluate, and use it effectively.

These themes will provide a common thread throughout the IFLA 2002 program. At this conference, IFLA celebrates its’ 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary, having been founded in Edinburgh in 1927. Also at this conference, the Section of School Libraries and Resource Centers celebrates its’ 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

### Report from the Chair

This year has been a very busy one for the Section of School Libraries and Resource Centres and therefore, myself. There has been a great amount of work to be done. First of all, the compilation of the school library guidelines demanded extra effort, and then extraordinary tasks connected to the celebration of the section’s 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary turned up during the spring. In addition, all of the ordinary duties had to be dealt with, within certain deadlines during the year. There has been a close cooperation between the chair and the secretary through the entire period.

Since I am to this position new, it has been a great advantage to have the secretary, who is far more experienced within the IFLA organisation and therefore has been able to carry out the traditional work and routine tasks in an effective and excellent way.

### **Coordinating Board report**

I participated in the mid-term meeting of the Coordinating Board held in Helsingør, Denmark, 14 – 15, March 2002.

The most important matters discussed were:

- Strategic plans for the sections and the changes required by IFLA. The meeting concluded with the decision that each section would amend their strategic plan as appropriate. The Officers Handbook defines the priorities and goals. After some small changes, made jointly by the chair and secretary, the Strategic Plan for 2002-2003 for the Section of School Libraries and Resources Centres was approved by the Professional Committee at their meeting held in the Haag, Netherlands, 25 - 27, March 2002.
- The Glasgow conference 2002 and the Division's Open Forum. It was decided that the theme would be "Libraries for Life: Learning and Living," and as each section developed their guidelines, these would be the focus of the Open Forum presentation. In particular, they will show how the work of each section meets the needs of its target population(s), through the development of guidelines, case studies, good practices, and other methods. As a consequence of this decision, the secretary of the section and I have agreed on sharing the responsibility for the presentation at the Open Forum.

After the formal closing of the Coordinating Board meeting, the secretary and I continued to work with school library matters for another day and a half day, paying special attention to the guidelines.

### **Other meetings attended**

I represented IFLA and the School Library and Resource Centers Section at the UNESCO consulting meeting for NGO's (non-governmental organizations) held in Paris, 22 February 2002. The purpose of the meeting was to prepare the program for the World Summit on an Information Society, organized by UNESCO. The theme for the meeting is Education in and for an Information Society. The first summit will take place in Geneva in 2003, and the next one will be held in Tunisia in 2005. I continued to promote the role of the libraries, and in particular the school libraries as gateways to worldwide information resources. See more about this at [www.itn.int/wsis/basic01.htm](http://www.itn.int/wsis/basic01.htm)

I am looking forward to the IFLA Glasgow Conference 2002. It is hoped that the Section of School Libraries and Resource Centers will attract extra attention to its activities this year because of the celebration of the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary and the presentation of the new publications. Hopefully, also our Open Session and joint Workshop with the Section of Children and Youth Libraries and the Section of National Libraries will meet our expectations and bring us some new knowledge about the functions of school libraries and how to promote reading for children and young people.

Tove Pemmer Saetre

## **IFLA General Conference: Glasgow, Scotland. Highlights and Selections from the Conference Program and Meetings**

### **Friday, 16 August**

14.00-18.00 Libraries Serving the General Public  
Coordinating Board I (CBI)

### **Saturday, 17 August**

11.30-14.30 School Libraries and Resource Centers  
Standing Committee (SCI)

### **Sunday, 18 August**

13.00-14.20 Introduction to IFLA for Newcomers

17.30 - 20.00 Exhibition Opening and Reception  
Ceilidh - Learn the traditional Scottish Dance

### **Monday, 19 August**

09.30-11.10 Opening Session - Keynote speaker:  
**Seamus Heaney** - *Stiles and Stacks, Old and New*  
Coffee and Shortbread in the exhibition hall after the Opening Session.

12.00-14.30 Libraries for Children and Young Adults  
*Children and Young Adults involved in Libraries for Life*

12.00-14.30 Education and Training  
*Think Local, Act Global: Enhancing Competencies for a Diverse World*

14.45-17.15 School Libraries  
*From Information to Knowledge*

- From bud to blossom - How to become an information - literate person and learn a subject/topic
- From information to knowledge
- The role of the principal in an information literate school community: findings from an International Research Project
- How good is your school library resource center? An introduction to performance measurement

15.00-16.00 Poetry Reading - **Seamus Heaney**

16.00-17.00 IFLA Anniversary Plenary Session I  
*The Dutch Tea Party or IFLA in the Seventies*

19.30-23.0 Opening Reception - Glasgow Science Centre

## Tuesday, 20 August

- 09.00 **Off-site:** *The Mitchell Library*  
The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation announces the recipient of the Access to Learning Award for 2002. The announcement ceremony is open to all IFLA attendees; breakfast will be served. Please RSVP and/or direct any questions to [abishop@clir.org](mailto:abishop@clir.org)
- 08.30-11.00 **Open Forum - Libraries Serving the General Public**  
*Libraries for life: learning and living*  
An overview of the Division of Libraries Serving the General Public and highlights of the work of each of the Division's Sections. Guidelines for School Libraries.
- 13.45-16.15 User Education  
*Developing Librarians as Teachers*
- Learning about learning rather than about teaching
  - What the ACRL Institute for Information Literacy Best Practices Initiative tells us about the librarian as teacher
  - Management of library pedagogical development: from models to statistics
  - School librarian as teachers: learning outcomes and evidence-based practice
- 14.00-15.00 **Plenary Session II**  
Flaming Intimacy: Information, Identity and Difference.
- 16.30-17.45 Libraries for Children and Young Adults  
*Children's Library Service Guidelines*  
Presentation and discussion of the Revised Version.  
(By Invitation only)
- 19.45-21.15 Cultural Evening Concert - Royal Concert Hall

## Wednesday, 21 August

- 09.00-13.00 **Off-site:** User Education Workshop  
*Information Literacy*
- Becoming a librarian-teacher: What does it take? How can you get it?
- 13.00-17.00 Reading Workshop  
*Reading Promotion: Practical Approaches*
- Promoting reading through community partnerships: the US-Russian Reading Promotion Project
  - What shall I read next? Developing tools for reader support.
  - Preliminary Findings: the International Reading Promotion Survey.
- 14.00-15.00 **Plenary Session III**  
*Indigenous Knowledge*

- 15.30-17.30 Bridging the Digital Divide  
Brainstorm session with **Kay Raseroka**, President-elect of IFLA, about the theme she has chosen for her presidential period. (Seating is limited.)

### **Thursday, 22 August**

#### **Library Visits - Various Times throughout the Day**

Coaches depart from the SECC, at the times advised on individual visit tickets.

- 08.30-16.00 Statistics with Library Theory and Research Workshop  
*Northumbria Lite - Measuring Impact and Outcomes*
- Kids voting in Japan: new media learning for kids in elementary schools
  - User behaviour in accessing research information online
  - Successful students: does the library make a difference?
- 12.15-15.45 School Libraries and Resource Centers with National Libraries and Libraries for Children and Young Adults Workshop  
*Reading Development with Young People in Public, School and National Libraries*
- Reader development in the United Kingdom
  - *Bridging the Hell's Gap* - a Swedish school development project focusing the School Library as an educational resource
  - National Libraries

#### **Evening:**

- Edinburgh National Museums of Scotland Reception
- Military Tattoo performance

### **Friday 23 August**

- 08.00-10.00 School Libraries and Resource Centres - SCII
- 09.30-12.30 **Book Event**  
Well known Children's and Adult authors will speak and sign books.
- 12.20-14.00 Libraries Serving the General Public (Div III) - CB II
- Plenary Session IV**
- 14.15-15.30 **Closing Session**

### **Saturday, 24 August**

#### **All day**

- Post Conference Tours

## Agenda for Section's Standing Committee Meetings

Saturday 17 August 11.30 - 14.20 and Friday 23 August 08.00 – 10.00

### AGENDA

1. Welcome
2. Introduction of the Committee
3. Approval of agenda
4. Apologies for absence
5. Attendance of observers
6. Approval of the minutes of the meetings held in Boston, August 2001
7. Matters arising from the minutes
8. Scheduling of meetings and program of the Section
  - Open Session
  - Workshop
  - 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations
  - Other meetings
9. Chair's Report
10. Secretary's report
11. Progress report on Projects
  - Research project on the role of the Principal and School Librarian in an information literate school community:
  - Guidelines for School Libraries
12. Future Conferences
  - Berlin 2003
  - Buenos Aires 2004
13. Future projects
14. Any other business

## 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration of the Section

Don't miss this special celebration! The 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary reception for the Section of School Libraries and Resource Centers will take place Sunday afternoon, 18 August 2002, after the exhibition opening at the Glasgow conference. This special event will be in the area of the children's model library in the exhibition hall. Light food and drinks will be served.

Planning for the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration has mainly been the responsibility of the former chair of the section, Glenys Willars, with the current chair, Tove Saetre supporting the planning activities and discussing the main structure of the arrangements. In connection with our 25<sup>th</sup> celebration an interesting publication has been written. It is a booklet with the title: "The School library: Today and Tomorrow, La bibliothèque scolaire: Aujourd'hui et demain, La biblioteca escolar: Presente y futuro"

In this publication members of the section have presented their school library visions from around the world. As you can understand from the title, the booklet has parallel text in English, French and Spanish. The introduction was written by Glenys Willars and signed by her and Paulette Bernhard as former chairs and Tove Saetre as the present chair. The three have cooperated in editing the publication. The printing is being done by Biblioteksentralen AL, a central Norwegian library service center. Borge Hofset is director of this center and an elected member of the Standing Committee. The printing has been sponsored by the Norwegian Library Association.

The section intends to present the booklet at the celebration event. The booklet will be given free to people who are interested. Together with the Manifesto and the Guidelines, we hope this vision booklet will promote the development of school libraries. The drafting committee hopes that the idea of publishing a jubilee book with visions instead of history will be understood and appreciated by members of the section and other members and officers of IFLA.

## A Vision for School Libraries in the USA

During the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations of the Section of School Libraries and Resource Centers, we shall be proud to launch our vision, for which contributions have been made from all over the world. Here we give an example by Barbara Immroth of the USA

The American Association of School Librarians publishes guidelines for school libraries throughout the country. *Information Power: Building Partnerships for Learning* are the current guidelines while new national guidelines are being developed and some states are writing state standards. We are truly blessed with rich resources of technology and print in our country. All children do not have equal access to these resources. Some schools are richly endowed while others struggle to meet the minimum standards and fill the needs of their students and teachers.

In my vision for a bright future, I hope that school libraries in the USA have:

- 1) Caring, enthusiastic, informed librarians to encourage reading and instruct students in information literacy skills;
- 2) Cooperative teachers who collaborate with librarians in providing instruction and inspiration to all students in the joy of learning;

- 3) Parents who encourage their children to read and learn;
- 4) A community of Administrators and School Board members who provide financial and moral support for library programs to ensure student achievement;
- 5) An international community that supports excellent school libraries for all children.

## The Model Children's Library at IFLA

This **model children's library** has been organized at the request of the Libraries for Children and Young Adults Section of IFLA and has been developed as a partnership between the British Council, the School and Youth Library Groups of CILIP and Demco Interiors.

The library is a space of 144 square meters and showcases the best of children's library design and children's publishing in the UK. Also of interest is a mixed media exhibition, the *Magic Pencil*, which presents works from some of the UK's leading children's book illustrators and a display of suitable materials for visually impaired readers from the National Library for the Blind.

Special events will be taking place in the model library. Four storytellers from England, Scotland, Ireland and Wales will entertain Glasgow school children on Tuesday 20 and Wednesday 21 August. Annie Everall, one of the UK's leading children's librarians will give two sessions in the Product Presentation Theatre on Monday 19 and Tuesday 20 August: The first, "*Read me another one, Miss*" telling you how to tell stories; and "*Children as readers*" on how library services help young people discover the pleasures of literature". Also on Tuesday, there will be a visit from one of the UK's leading authors.

The model children's library is in the Exhibition Hall, Stand 122. As you enter the Exhibition Hall, the model library is in the far right hand corner, next to the Food Court. Just follow the footprints! This model children's library has been made possible thanks to: British Council; CILIP; the School and Youth Library Groups of CILIP; Coutts Library Services, Demco Interiors; Glasgow Libraries, Information and Learning; Hampshire County Council Library Service; Milliken Carpets; Peters Library Services.

## School Library Guidelines

The IFLA School Library Guidelines are ready for printing. The work has been the major responsibility of the Chair of the Section, Tove Saetre. There should be a preliminary printed version ready before the Glasgow conference. The guidelines will be presented by Tove Saetre as one of the speakers at the Division's Open Forum Tuesday, the 20th of August at 0830 to 1100 a.m.



On the 22 – 24, November 2001, four of the Standing Committee members met in London to work on the guidelines. It was a successful meeting with a lot of hard work. At that stage, the working group was able to develop an outline of the main chapters and headlines. They also completed one chapter and decided how to proceed towards compilation of the guidelines. Unfortunately, due to accidents and illnesses, the group was unable to complete their scheduled activities and in the spring, the section chair, Tove Saetre took over the responsibility for completing the document. It is, nevertheless, important to emphasise that it was the workshop in Jerusalem and the summary afterwards, worked out by Glenys Willars and Alexandra Papazoglou, which formed the basis of the guidelines. Hopefully the guidelines together with the Manifesto will be a useful means for promoting the idea of school library and professional school librarianship.

The IFLA Headquarters has promised to do their best to have the guidelines printed in time for the Glasgow Conference. If it is not possible, Tove Saetre will have a limited number printed in a preliminary version so the members of the committee can have it at the Standing Committee meeting.

## **IFLA CONFERENCE 2001, BOSTON - MINUTES**

**The full text of the minutes can be found on the webpage. Excerpts are provided here.**

### **Introduction of the committee and election of officers**

Tove Pemmer Saetre is elected as the new chair of the section. Glenys Willars is elected as the new secretary of the section and J. Linda Williams is elected as information officer.

### **Matters arising from the minutes**

Alexandra explained that the Jerusalem minutes were not posted on IFLANET, as IFLANET did not respond to the mail. Glenys explained that the National Library of Canada will no longer support IFLANET. Two organizations, UNESCO and INYST have offered to host it. The National Library of Canada is evaluating them.

### **Scheduling of meetings and program of the Section**

The section will have two committee meetings, an open session on Monday (program is presented) and an open forum of Division III to attend (program is presented). On Thursday school library visits have been scheduled.

Proposals for projects have to be approved at the next committee meeting.

Books for All: a 27-year-old joint UNESCO and IFLA fundraising project for the purchase of books in developing countries. The idea is to guarantee that the right type of books will reach those that need them. Three years ago an advisory board was established to decide the future of Books for All. It is an important project for IFLA. The decision for its future will be announced at the Berlin conference. The section has already supported the project by offering money. For the past years Glenys Willars represented the section on the advisory board. Glenys asks for a new volunteer. Barbara Imroth accepts to represent the section on the Books for All advisory board.

**The Section of Education and Training** has proposed for the Berlin conference a joint workshop with the Section of School libraries and Resource centers. It could focus on the education and training of school librarians.

The committee needs to nominate a liaison between the Section of School libraries and Resource centers and IASL, since Dianne Oberg who was the liaison is no longer a member of the committee. Kathy Lemaire has agreed to be the liaison.

### **Medium Term Program: review and revision in relation to IFLA's Priorities**

Previously the Medium term Program was established for a period of four years. A new IFLA policy requests a strategic plan every two years. The two-year program of the section will have to be decided at the next committee meeting. It will have to comply with IFLA's list of professional priorities. The section's last action plan is being examined in case it needs to be revised in the light of the new IFLA list of professional priorities. The members of the committee start a discussion on the importance of the training of teachers in the use of the school library. A link needs to be established between library schools and teaching institutions. A smaller group of the committee members will meet during the conference to discuss the strategic plan of the section for 2002-2003.

Since the Resource Book of the section was published, a variety of new materials have appeared. It will be necessary to update the resource book, which can be done electronically.

Anne Clyde informed the committee that IASL has established an International School Library Day, which is the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday in October. The section should publicize the day through the Newsletter and encourage local activities.

### **Chair's report**

Glenys expresses her concern because very few new people were nominated to the section. More national library associations need to send members to the committee. It is also important to encourage new corresponding members to be part of the committee. Anne Clyde pointed out the fact that given the IFLA rules and regulations it is difficult for interested individuals to become committee members.

### **Promotion of the manifesto:**

#### **African/Arab Conference on Public and School Librarianship**

Organized jointly by IFLA, UNESCO and the Rabat School of Information Science, 19 - 21 September 2001 Ecole des Sciences de l'Information, Rabat, Morocco

This conference is aimed at librarians and government representatives engaged with public and school libraries at a managerial and decision-making level, as well as educationalists from African and Arab countries. The conference will be open to participants from elsewhere.

Working languages will be English and French, with simultaneous interpretation.

The fee for registration is US\$100 per person, which includes all conference documentation, refreshments, lunches and conference dinner.

The main topic of the conference will be the latest developments in public and school libraries. Key elements are the promotion of various IFLA/UNESCO publications, the Public and School Library Manifestos, the new Public Library Guidelines and the School Library Guidelines. The situation worldwide will be discussed with special reference to African and Arab countries. Speakers will be drawn from local and regional librarians and educationalists as well as those involved in the work of the IFLA Sections. This event is made possible thanks to generous

support from UNESCO, the US National Commission on Libraries and Information Science (NCLIS) and the IFLA Program for the Advancement of Librarianship (ALP). The Ecole des Sciences de l'Information in Rabat contributes its resources.

### **Progress report on projects**

- Research project on the role of the Principal and School Librarian in an information literate school community: The project was funded by the School Section and examined how principals and librarians work together. The report, an IFLA publication, is ready for publication and its distribution is to be announced soon.
- Guidelines for School Libraries: It was hoped to have a draft of the guidelines, but it was not possible for the members of the working group to have a meeting. The working group could meet in the fall to work on this project.

### **Future conferences**

**Glasgow:** A joint workshop with the Children's and Reading Sections was suggested. We will join the Children's section at the end of the meeting to discuss the practical issues. The idea is to have a few presentations and then discussion groups with the participants. The year 2002 marks the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of IFLA, 125 years of the UK library association, and the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the section. There will be a big celebration for the section. All previous chairs of the section will be invited. The theme will be Libraries for life: democracy, diversity and delivery. The sub theme: building on the past and investing on the future. The opening session, and the guest lectures will be more linked to the overall theme. Tove suggests as the section's theme: democracy, lifelong learning and diversity. How the skills acquired in the school library will help students to become responsible citizens and life long learners. Also suggested is the theme of the importance of the school library in education. A third theme: how school libraries influence democracy.

Glenys informed the committee that this year the section received around twenty papers but most of them were not directly linked to the theme the section had established. Some sections invite specific speakers. We, as a section, can do the same but at the same time we can also have a call for papers. We usually have a representative from the host country. In the Glasgow conference it will be someone from Scotland.

The Children's section will have a model children's library staged in the exhibition area. Any elements of our work could go into that exhibit.

Joint workshop: a case study on how school libraries influence reading through their program.

### **Berlin 2003**

The committee is interested in the joint workshop with the Education and training section. It will be interesting to explore the changes in education and school libraries in Germany, in East Europe.

### **Buenos Aires 2004**

To be discussed in the next year's meeting.

## **Future projects**

- Proposal for a leaflet about the history of the section; vision of school libraries and their development; 5.000 copies to be produced and distributed at the Glasgow conference. The budget will be 2.000 guilders. If not approved for funding by the coordinating board, ROTNAC will sponsor it.
- Leaflet that presents the role of the school library in education (the school library in teaching and learning)
- Guidelines
- Reception in Glasgow: one or two students could be invited to participate. Also classes from around the world (through a questionnaire)

## **STRATEGIC PLAN 2002-2003. IFLA SECTION OF SCHOOL LIBRARIES AND RESOURCE CENTRES**

### **Mission**

The Section of School Libraries and Resource Centers concerns itself with the improvement and development of school libraries and resource centers worldwide. The section promotes advocacy for their qualified and adequate staffing and sufficient budget and provides an international forum for exchanging ideas, experiences, research results and advocacy.

### **Priorities**

1. Promote the role of the school library and resource center in literacy, reading, information literacy and lifelong learning (a/c)<sup>1</sup>
2. Delineate the role of the school librarian and promote best practice
3. Assist school librarians in their professional development, and promote school librarianship in library and information science curricula (h)
4. Promote and disseminate research in the field of school librarianship
5. Develop stronger links between education and school libraries at the international, national, local level.

### **Action plan**

- Celebrate the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the inauguration of the section at the IFLA conference in Glasgow 2002
  - Publish new guidelines for school libraries and learning resources centers and promote them alongside the IFLA/UNESCO School Library Manifesto
  - Organize open sessions at future conferences which support the goals of IFLA and the School Library Section
  - Support international initiatives which promote school library activities and reading
  - Publish and disseminate the professional report of the project “Principals and school librarians in an information literate school community”
  - Publish a leaflet that promotes the importance of the school library in the work of the teacher and its value to the learn
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## News. . .News. . .News

- ◆ The Newcomers Session will be held this year on Sunday 18 August from 13:00 – 14:20, followed by refreshments. Since there is an opportunity for questions and answers during the session, and an opportunity for further discussion during the reception, Officers from the various sections have been asked to attend to answer questions and help newcomers feel welcome during their first IFLA conference
- ◆ There will be simultaneous interpretation at the conference in Council meetings, the opening and closing sessions, the plenary sessions and throughout the conference week in two parallel sessions in English, French, German, Russian and Spanish. The interpreters may be contacted in the interpreters' lounge.
- ◆ The IFLA Booth will be open in the exhibition center from 10:00 – 18:00 on Monday 19 August; 10:00 – 17:00 Tuesday 20 August; and from 10:00 – 15:00 on Wednesday 21 August. It will be staffed by the School Libraries and Resource Center Section along with the Libraries for Children and Young Adults Section from 14:00 – 15:00 on Tuesday 20 August. The most updated brochures from Sections and Round Tables will be available, as well as an IFLA staff member to answer any of your questions.
- ◆ Conference evaluation forms will be in the bags of all delegates and will be processed and analyzed by the Royal School of Librarianship in Copenhagen. Please be sure to fill in an evaluation form and you will automatically be placed in a drawing for a free registration to the IFLA Berlin conference in 2003.
- ◆ The IFLA Express, Issue Two has now been mailed and is on the website [www.ifla.org](http://www.ifla.org) It carries detailed news of many meetings and programs; library visit additions; the ever-growing trade show; and an invitation to the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Access to Learning Award presentation.
- ◆ For athletic delegates and others wanting some Sunday morning exercise in lovely Bellahouston Park, there is IFLA's 5km Run beginning at 11:00. Application forms are available through email – [dawn.vallence@east-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:dawn.vallence@east-ayrshire.gov.uk) A T-shirt will be awarded to each finisher, courtesy of the sponsor CSA.
- ◆ Another new to IFLA event! Friday 23 August there will be a line-up of children and adult authors for you to meet. Check the program for details.
- ◆ International School Libraries Day is the 4th Monday in October every year. This has been very successful and ASLA (Australian SLA) creates great materials every year. Link again on IASL website. Co-ordinator Barbara Braxton, Australia)
- ◆ In the May 2002 issue of InCite (the newsletter of the Australian Library and Information Association), it is reported that Western Australian school students have donated 50,000 books to a school library program run by HOPE worldwide. "The program is providing books to 660 primary schools in Papua New Guinea, 70 per cent of which do not have anything that resembled a library".

- ◆ The American Association for School Librarians has announced that the First Lady of the United States, Laura Bush, held a meeting for principals, superintendents, and other school administrators at the White House 4th June to talk about the value of school libraries. This is part of an ongoing effort to focus on education and libraries. The half-day gathering featured talks by Carnegie Corporation President Vartan Gregorian; Susan Neuman, assistant secretary for elementary and secondary education in the United States Department of Education; and Keith Curry Lance, Director of Library Research Service at the State Library and Adult Education Office of the Colorado Department of Education. "Mrs. Bush wants to get the attention of education administrators, Institute of Museum and Library Services Director Robert Martin told American Libraries, and show them the kind of outcomes that are possible when librarians and teachers work together."  
From American Libraries online
  
- ◆ The IBBY (International Board on Books for Young People) has announced that Aidan Chambers (United Kingdom) is the winner of the 2002 Hans Christian Andersen Author Award and Quentin Blake (United Kingdom) is the winner of the 2002 Hans Christian Andersen Award for Illustration. These Awards are the highest international recognition given to creators of children's books. They are presented every two years by IBBY to an author and an illustrator whose complete works have made an important and lasting contribution to children's literature. Aidan Chambers was selected from among 28 authors nominated for the award. Quentin Blake was selected from among 27 illustrators nominated for the award. Her Majesty Queen Margrethe II of Denmark is the patron of the Hans Christian Andersen Awards. The Awards will be presented to the winners at the opening ceremony of IBBY's 50th Anniversary Jubilee Congress in Basel, Switzerland, on 29 September 2002.
  
- ◆ The IASL 2002 Conference Organizing Committee cordially invites you to the 31st annual conference of the International Association of School Librarianship, incorporating the 6th International Forum on Research in School Librarianship, to be held in Petaling Jaya, Malaysia from 5 to 9 August 2002. A report of the IASL conference will appear in the next newsletter.