



IFLA Bibliography Section

Annual Report 2004

Mission

The Bibliography Section furthers universal bibliographic control (UBC) by promoting standards and best practices in the production, content, arrangement, dissemination, and preservation of bibliographic information.

In the context of UBC the Section is particularly concerned with the work of national bibliographic agencies (NBAs). It is also concerned with the promotion of the importance of the discipline of bibliography to library professionals in all types of libraries, to publishers, distributors, and retailers, and to end-users. While taking full account of technological capabilities, the Section will ensure that its solutions are not necessarily dependent on particular technologies.

The Section is closely associated with the other sections within the Division of Bibliographic Control and, where appropriate, it cooperates with other divisions and sections.

The Standing Committee

While there are 106 associations, institutions, and personal affiliates of the Section, most actions are taken by the Standing Committee, which has the following members:

Bohdana Stoklasova (Czech Republic) *Chair and Treasurer (to 2005)*

Talbott Huey (USA) *Secretary (to 2005)*

Alan Danskin (UK) *Information Coordinator (to 2005)*

Natasa Bundovska (Serbia and Macedonia)

D. Whitney Coe (USA)

Alexander A. Dzhigo (Russian Federation)

Tuula Haapamaki (Finland)

Randi Diget Hansen (Denmark)

Agneta Holmenmark (Sweden)

Unni Knutsen (Norway)

Tomislav Murati (Croatia)
Francisca Movilla Lopez (Spain)
Alberto Petrucciani (Italy)
Alexandra Teplitskaya (Russian Federation)
Regina Varniene (Lithuania)
Claudia Werner (Germany)
Beacher Wiggins (USA)
Yukio Yokoyama (Japan)
Yelena Zhabko (Russian Federation)
Maja Zumer (Slovenia)

Election for new officers will take place in Oslo.

Several conference attendees at Buenos Aires expressed interest in becoming members of the Section.

Strategic Plan and Goals

The Section's current Strategic Plan specifies the following goals:

1. Extend the provision of universal bibliographic control by advocating and promoting the production of national bibliographies.
2. Improve the quality and consistency of bibliographic control by advocating implementation of the recommendations of the International Conference on National Bibliographic Standards (ICABS) and by developing specific guidelines to facilitate such implementation.
3. Promote cooperation with the publishing industry in the provision and preparation of bibliographic information.
4. Publicize the work of the Section.
5. Promote membership in the Section and extend the geographic scope of representation on the Standing Committee.

Actions and Projects

In achieving these goals in 2004, the Section organized a panel of presentations at Buenos Aires on national bibliographies in the Latin American/Caribbean area. Dan Hazen of Harvard University provided an overview of the status, function, and future of national bibliographies. Susana Romanos de Tiratel of the Universidad de Buenos Aires described the situation in Argentina, which does not produce a national bibliography, partly because of fragmentation of responsible agencies. Celia Ribeiro Zaher spoke on the contrasting case of the Brazilian national bibliography, which is highly developed and can serve as a model for others. Araceli Garcia-Carranza of the Biblioteca Nacional Jose

Marti in Cuba described the Cuban national bibliography as representative of the entire culture of that nation. The most recent Section Newsletter contains summaries of these presentations in English and Spanish.

At an earlier open session presented by the Division of Bibliographic Control, which the Section helped organize, Section Chair Bohdana Stoklasova presented the most important actions of the Section completed between Berlin and Buenos Aires Congresses, and Unni Knutsen described a survey by Knutsen and Francisca Movilla Lopez concerning Latin American/Caribbean national bibliographies. For more information on the survey see the Section's page on IFLANET (www.ifla.org/VII/s12/index.htm). Similar surveys will be carried out and analyzed for presentation at future conferences.

Discussion in the two meetings of the Standing Committee focused on developing similar programmes for future conferences and more formal guidelines for the major problems to be faced by the producers of national bibliographies; namely, selection criteria for inclusion of materials, particularly electronic materials, in the bibliographies; other problems of presenting electronic material; and special guidelines for agencies unfamiliar with national bibliographies or with special problems. Future programmes in Oslo, Seoul, and Durban will highlight conditions and problems in Europe, East and Southeast Asia, and Africa, respectively.

The Section's Working Group met in Prague in November 2004 for more specific planning on these projects. Discussion at the Prague meeting focused on the needs of users of national bibliographies and on different aspects involving electronic resources, mainly selection criteria for Internet resources.

Also at Buenos Aires the Section conferred with Claudia Lux, IFLA representative of the IFLA-International Publishers Association Working Group, to further elucidate problems faced by many NBAs in obtaining bibliographic information from publishers. The Section will continue to inform and support the work of this group.

 **Bibliography Section:** <http://www.ifla.org/VII/s12/index.htm>