



University Libraries & Other General Research Libraries Section

Newsletter

No. 30, December 2002

Mission

To promote the development and good management of academic and research libraries in all countries, and to strengthen the integration of the library in the core institutional functions of learning, teaching, research and services.

Welcome

Welcome to the second issue of our Section's newsletter for 2002. From your Executive Team, we wish you and your families our very best wishes for the Festive Season and for a productive and happy 2003.

IFLA 2002 Glasgow Update

Those who were not there missed a wonderful conference. The Conference Theme was:

Libraries for Life: Democracy, Diversity, Delivery

with many sub-themes such as: Change, conflict, future trends and freedom of information.

The Conference took place in the Scottish Exhibition and Conference Centre (SECC), considered one of Europe's finest conference venues. Situated on the banks of the River Clyde, it was close to Glasgow city centre (around 15 minutes walk).

There were over 4,700 people attending the conference from over 120 countries. It was a wonderful multi-cultural experience and an opportunity to catch up with old friends and plenty of opportunity to make new ones.

A very good and colourful account of the IFLA 2002 Conference can be found at:

<http://www.ala.org/online/news/ifla02.html>

which is a American Library Association page linked to the IFLA Conference site.

Your Section's Activities at IFLA 2002 Glasgow

Your Standing Committee organised a number of interesting and informative sessions throughout the conference.

The first session was a pre-conference workshop at the University of Strathclyde titled "***The Impact of Alternative Scholarly Publishing and the Budapest Open Access Initiatives***" with Professor JEAN-CLAUDE GUÉDON as the keynote speaker. His very provocative and thoughtful paper is mounted on our IFLA web site at:

<http://www.ifla.org/VII/s2/sulogr1.htm>

This is a "must read" for anyone contemplating the need for a revolution in traditional scholarly communication and publishing. Other speakers included: Dr. James Neal, Columbia University Libraries, NY; Ms Chris Bailey, Dean of Library Services at Glasgow University; Rev. Fred Friend, Director of Scholarly Communication at University College, London; Cristian Lupovic from the University de Marne-la-Vallee, and Marianne Gaunt, Director of Libraries, Rutgers University.

The ***Marketing Library Services to Academic Communities Discussion Group*** held a well attended session, with approximately 80 present, focussing on marketing information literacy to faculty and students on academic campuses. Papers were prepared by librarians from Estonia, Sweden, and the United Kingdom. A lively discussion followed the presentation of papers.

The ***Performance Measurement in Academic Libraries Discussion Group's*** session was also very well attended, with standing room

only. Participants were treated to presentations from Sandra Parker from the University of Northumbria (which runs the very successful performance measurement conferences), Roswitha Poll, University of Muenster and Anneli Ahtola, Tampere University in Finland. Each paper covered a different aspect of performance measurement in libraries, but emphasised the importance of different sorts of measures (outcome measures) as opposed to more traditional input measures that libraries have used for years. We were challenged to try to measure the "benefit to users".

A very useful site is the IFLA Statistics Section's at:

<http://www.ifla.org/VII/s22/statlinks.htm> which includes many links to statistics, good practice and related information on Performance Measurement.

The Section's Open Session, a huge, simultaneous translation event was titled "**Change and its Impact on Staff**". Over 350 attended this session with speakers: Tom Wilding and Sarah Jones from University of Texas at Arlington, Marielle de Miribel, Mediadix, France, Angles Massisimo Sanchez De Boado from Docent / Investigador, Barcelona, Spain, and Sue McKnight, Deakin University, Australia. All papers were very different, with Sue's paper covering the broad cultural issues in change management, Tom and Sarah covering what it is actually like to be involved in change, Marielle covered the tools to keep in touch with what staff and customers are thinking, and Angles' paper discussing technology change in libraries. The feedback on this session was very complimentary. The papers can be seen at: <http://www.ifla.org/VII/s2/sulogrl.htm>

The final session that involved our Section was a joint one with FAIFE, Latin America and the Caribbean, Regional Office Brazil. The topic was "**The role of the university library in promoting democracy and diversity**". Speakers included Alex Byrne, University of Technology, Australia; Cristobal Pasadas Urena, University of Granada, Spain; Brian Lang, University of St. Andrews, UK; Jenny Raubenheimer, University of South Africa; Suelido Amaral, Universidade de Brasilia, Brasil; Adolfo Rodriguez, Universidad Autonoma De Mexico; and Alekandr Plemnek, St. Petersburg University of Technology, Russian Federation. This truly international panel gave

very thoughtful presentations on a very important topic.

Those attending our Section's conference sessions completed evaluations forms so as to gain feedback to inform the planning of future events. This practice will continue at the Berlin Conference.

News from your Section Executive

Our Section is the largest within IFLA with 520 members. We, therefore, have an important responsibility to make sure the Section's events during the annual IFLA conferences meet your expectations and needs.

During the Glasgow Conference, your Executive held two official meetings. These were well attended by members of the Executive and visitors were welcomed. The official minutes of the meeting are on our site at: <http://www.ifla.org/VII/s2/sulogrl.htm#1b>

A great deal of the first meeting was spent making sure that arrangements were in place for our activities during the 2002 Conference, and naturally, the second meeting spent time planning the 2003 Berlin activities for our Section.

IFLA Headquarters is encouraging greater cooperation amongst Sections so that there is not too much disaggregation caused by highly specialized events. Thus, our Section is collaborating with a number of others to make sure our 2003 Program will suit a majority of our members.

One of our Executive Committee members, Jesus Lau was congratulated on becoming the first Chair of the newly formed Section on Information Literacy. Naturally, the University Libraries and General Research Libraries Section will work with the Information Literacy Section as we share a common professional interest in this important aspect of our work.

The Performance Measurement in Academic Libraries Discussion Group has ceased, and its ongoing work largely taken up by the Statistics Section. We will continue to work with this Section on this topic. However, we have

recommended that a new discussion group be formed, Evaluation and Quality Control in Universities and Research Libraries, as members of our Division, including the National Libraries and Library and Research Services for Parliaments are interested in this topic.

Members of our Section were invited to assist IFLA HQ to draft an IFLA position paper on Open Access. Given the highly successful pre-conference workshop on Alternatives to Scholarly Communication, we are well placed to assist.

2003 Conference, August 1-9, Berlin, Germany

Details of the next conference can be found at: <http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla69/index.htm>

The Conference Theme is:

Access Point Library: Media - Information - Culture

The University Libraries and General Research Libraries Section will be hosting the following events during this IFLA conference.

- Open session on Information Literacy
- Workshop on the Scholar's Portal
- Discussion Group on Evaluation and Quality Issues (if this discussion group is approved by the IFLA Professional Committee)

Browse IFLANET

Have you ever spent a few minutes browsing through the IFLA web site at: <http://www.ifla.org/> ?

It is well worth the time. There are a great many pages of interest. The Section www sites hold a wealth of information and links to other useful sites in a range of professional areas. As our Section is like an "umbrella section", you may wish to discover information about Acquisitions, or Cataloguing, or Marketing, for example. Go to "Activities and Services" and click on "Sections" and be pleasantly surprised at what you find.

Future Conferences

[World Library and Information Congress: 70th IFLA General Conference and Council](http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla70/index.htm)
<http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla70/index.htm>

Buenos Aires, Argentina, 2004
Theme: Libraries: Tools for Education and Development"

[World Library and Information Congress: 71st IFLA General Conference and Council](http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla71/index.htm)
Oslo, Norway, August 14-19, 2005

[World Library and Information Congress: 72nd IFLA General Conference and Council](http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla72/index.htm)
Seoul, Republic of Korea, 2006

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

Editorial Note:

This newsletter is produced by the University Libraries and other General Research Libraries Section of IFLA. The Section intends to publish two newsletters per year, one after the annual IFLA conference, and one before the forthcoming IFLA conference. This way, we hope to encourage members to attend, by highlighting what was, and what is planned to be, showcased at these great conferences.

To keep costs as low as possible, the newsletter will be emailed to members who have nominated an email address, with a paper version to those who have no email address. In addition, the newsletter will be published on IFLANET.

Contributions to the Newsletter are invited from members. Forward these to: Sue McKnight, Information Officer, IFLA Section of University Libraries and other General research Libraries, C/- Learning Services, Deakin University, Geelong, Australia 3217 or email suemck@deakin.edu.au