University Libraries & Other General Research Libraries Section

Newsletter  

No. 31, June 2003

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.

Preparations for Berlin 2003

Members of our Section are fully aware by now that the annual conference in Berlin will no longer be an "IFLA General Conference and Council" – the 69th in fact – but a "World Library and Information Congress". This is no minor change among so many meaningful and far-reaching developments IFLA has been going through ever since Jerusalem 2000.

2003 is an election year for IFLA and Berlin will be the time for transition to the new arrangements in IFLA’s governance: we will say our farewell and thanks to Christine Deschamps and our welcome to Kay Raseroka as new President (2003-2005) as well as to Alex Byrne as new President-Elect (President term: 2005-2007). At the same time, six “old” Governing Board (GB) members were re-elected and four “new” ones elected through the general election process. The remaining GB members will be elected by the Coordinating Boards (CB) of Divisions. Of course, Standing Committee (SC) officers of sections will have to be elected or re-elected accordingly. New Sections approved by Professional Committee and GB during 2002 will have to start operating along the same rules and routines as any other IFLA professional units.

Election year in IFLA typically means that all IFLA professional units have to prepare their strategic plans and activities for the next two-years cycle (2003-2005). In this case, what makes Berlin different from the typical election year in IFLA is just the new arrangements for the strategic planning process, which will have to take into account a set of policy documents issued by IFLA, and the new rules of procedure for future conferences (mainly reduction of activities during the Conference).

SCs will have to rely on these documents and rules of procedure for future conferences in drafting their strategic plans and activities for 2003-2005. These documents include, among others:

- Core Values and Strategic Priorities of IFLA
- IFLA Declarations issued around the 75th Anniversary
- Kay Raseroka’s main theme and strategic priorities for 2003-2005
- Social Responsibility Discussion Group’s recommendations
- Marian Koren’s “Creating a Green Light for IFLA”

Most of these documents are available in IFLANET at the “policies and procedures” corner (http://www.ifla.org/V/cdoc/policies.htm) or the “corporate documents” corner (http://www.ifla.org/V/cdoc/index.html).

Our SC for University and General Research Libraries Section can benefit in addition from documents issued by professional bodies in our sector on the future of librarianship and academic librarianship like the following:


Readers of this Newsletter and members of the Section are requested to read these documents and send their feedback and proposals for our next strategic plan by the end of July to the SC’s Information Coordinator Sue McKnight (email: suemck@deakin.edu.au).

Cristobal Pasadas Urena, Chair, SCURL

World Library and Information Congress:
69th IFLA General Conference and Council

Access Point Library:
Media - Information - Culture

1 - 9 August 2003, Berlin, Germany
Patron: German Federal President Johannes Rau.

All the general conference information is available on the IFLA conference web site at: http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla69/index.htm

There are many social and cultural events, as well as an accompanying persons program, so I am sure that all who attend will have both a professionally rewarding time and an important opportunity to network with colleagues from around the world.
Your Section’s Activities at IFLA 2003 Berlin

Your Standing Committee, jointly with other IFLA Sections, has organised a number of sessions that will be available throughout the conference, and members are speaking at other Section’s events. Here is a quick pick of sessions that may be of interest to members. Of course, there are many more sessions than listed here, and you are encouraged to look on the conference web site so that you can plan your attendance. You are also encouraged to attend presentations on topics that are not immediately relevant to your work situation, as gaining different perspectives on issues facing colleagues in other avenues of librarianship can be very rewarding.

You are also encouraged to attend the two business sessions of our Section, Sessions 27 and 217. This is your opportunity to provide input on future activities that will help meet our goals.

Saturday 02 August 2003
11.30-14.20
27. SC I University Libraries and other General Research Libraries

Sunday 03 August 2003
08.30-10.30
67. Marketing Library Services to Academic Communities - Discussion Group

1. The International Information Literacy Certificate: a challenge for the new millennium?
2. User surveys and focus groups: gathering and using data from academic communities

10.45-12.45
76. Knowledge Management - Discussion Group
Presentation of a recent survey from Sweden

1. Best Practice: KM initiatives in a regional development programme
2. Knowledge Management experiences and practices in the context of Digital Libraries
3. Panel Discussion

12.45-13.45
97. Plenary Session - Adama Samassékou - SI
Le SMSI - premier pas vers une véritable société de la connaissance et des savoirs partagés
The World Summit - a First Step Towards a Society of Commonly Shared Expertise and Knowledge

Tuesday 05 August 2003
10.45-12.45
112. Free Access to Information and Freedom of Expression (FAIFE) - SI
Access Point Library: the Information Society in the Aftermath of 11 September

12.45-13.45
113. Information Technology
Wireless Technologies for Library Services - RFID in Use

16.00-18.00
125. Reference Work - SI
Reprofessionalisation of reference work: interaction in the physical and the virtual library

Wednesday 06 August 2003
10.45-12.45
139. Management and Marketing - SI
Effective advocacy with stakeholders: case studies and approaches to shaping messages and influencing key decision makers

144. Plenary Session - Klaus Ring – SI
Democracy and Globalisation

Thursday 07 August 2003
08.30-12.30
161. University Libraries and other General Research Libraries with Information Technology
Off-site Workshop
The Scholar’s Portal: an international perspective

13.30-17.30
176. Serial Publications & Reference Work - Workshop
Electronic journals: how they are changing our lives

Friday 08 August 2003
10.15-12.15
217. SC II University Libraries and other General Research Libraries

Monday 04 August 2003
News from your Section Executive

Chair/Treasurer: Cristóbal Pasadas Ureña
Universidad de Granada
Biblioteca, Facultad de Psicología, Campus de Cartuja
18071 GRANADA
Spain
Tel. *(34)(95)8243777/958242976
Fax *(34)(95)8242976
E-mail: bibpsi01@ucartuja.ugr.es

Secretary: Ms Frances Groen
McGill University
3459 McTavish Street
MONTREAL, Quebec H3A 1Y1
Canada
Tel. *(1)(514)3984677
Fax *(1)(514)3983561
E-mail: groen@library.mcgill.ca

It is worthwhile emphasising the Goals of the Standing Committee of University Libraries and other General Research Libraries

1. Changing roles of librarians in academic and research libraries
   To understand the professional, social and technological trends to which librarians in academic and research institutions can contribute in order to assume new roles as information providers, educators and knowledge managers, specially in training users to be information literate and lifelong learners.

2. Evaluation and quality assurance in academic and research libraries
   To promote the development and dissemination of best practice in quality assurance and review of services provided by academic and research libraries as part of the institutional evaluation process.

3. The Library’s Role in Shaping the Future of Scholarly Communication and Publishing
   To address opportunities, issues and challenges faced by academic and research libraries in the changing nature of scholarly communication and the problems in providing essential information to users all over the world, but specially for libraries in less developed countries.

4. Global Higher Education Developments and Trends, and their implications
   To academic and research libraries, specially in less developed countries to understand and contribute to the debate on Higher Education issues at the beginning of the new millennium, focusing on the real situation and problems of the sector in less developed countries as well as on the ways academic and research libraries can contribute to democracy and welfare.

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
Buenos Aires, Argentina, August 21th - 28th, 2004

Theme: Libraries: Tools for Education and Development

World Library and Information Congress: 71st IFLA General Conference and Council
Oslo, Norway, August 14-19, 2005

World Library and Information Congress: 72nd IFLA General Conference and Council
Seoul, Republic of Korea, 2006

World Library and Information Congress: 73rd IFLA General Conference and Council
Durban, South Africa, 2007
IFLA and the World Summit on the Information Society

Members of the IFLA University and Other General Research Libraries Section are encouraged to participate in the debates and preparations for the UNESCO World Summit on the Information Society, both through IFLA itself or through their national representatives to the Summit. Feedback and background information from all types of libraries and institutions for the Pre-Summit Conference “Libraries @ the heart of the Information Society” would be most welcome. Relevant information and documents about the Summit and IFLA’s response so far are available either at http://www.itu.int/wsis, and http://www.ifla.org/III/wsis.html. Contributions and comments should be directed to Ross Shimmon and Sjoerd Koopman at IFLA headquarters (ifla@ifla.org).

Alex Byrne wins IFLA Presidential election

Alex Byrne, University Librarian, University of Technology, Sydney, Australia, has been voted President-elect by IFLA members. Alex is a past Chair of the Standing Committee of University Libraries and other General Research Libraries.

He will begin his two-year term as President-elect during the IFLA conference in Berlin this August. He will succeed Kay Raseroka as President in August 2005.

Alex is the current Chair of the IFLA Free Access to Information and Freedom of Expression (FAIFE) Committee.

Congratulations, Alex, on this most important appointment.

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 before the annual IFLA conference in that year, and one after the IFLA conference, serving as a summary of conference highlights. 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