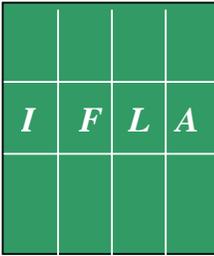


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NEWSLETTER

Section for Latin America and the Caribbean

N. 37 December 2000

NEW ALP DIRECTOR APPOINTED

Birgitta Sandell has been appointed Director of the IFLA Advancement of Librarianship Programme (ALP).
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SATELLITE MEETINGS "IFLA BOSTON 2001"

The Satellite Meetings of the 67th IFLA General Conference in Boston have been approved by the Professional Board:
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MEETING IFLA REGIONAL MANAGERS WITH HQ STAFF,

IFLA's 3 Regional Managers visited the HQ-Office to meet with the IFLA staff at The Hague and to discuss all affairs of current and mutual concern.
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IFLA REGIONAL DIVISION COORDINATING BOARD MEETING

The Regional Division Coordinating Board (RCB) met as a group in Uppsala to discuss the Division 8 organisational structure
(pg. 9)

REPORT FROM THE SECTION FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN PRESENTED TO THE MEMBERS OF THE ALP SUPPORT NORDIC GROUP

This report is based in the Medium Term Programme for the Latin America and the Caribbean Section.
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VISIT OF THE PRESIDENT OF IFLA TO BRAZIL

The President of the IFLA, Mme. Christine Deschamps, visited Brazil from 26 September to 3 October of this year
(pg. 17)

The "Newsletter" is published twice a year in June and December by IFLA's Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean. It is a major communication tool for IFLA members in the region. Please share your ideas and experiences by sending your contribution and suggestions to the Regional Office.

Editorial Committee:

Elizabet Maria Ramos de Carvalho (BR)
Míriam Martínez (CU)
Stella Maris Fernández (AR)

Secretariat:

Ivone Tálamo (BR)
Marly Solér (BR)

Special Advisor

Maria Isabel da Franca (BR)

Revision Approval:

Elizabet Maria Ramos de Carvalho

Spanish translation and revisión:

Stella Maris Fernández

English translation and review:

Hagar E. Gomes(BR)

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF LIBRARY
ASSOCIATIONS AND INSTITUTIONS

REGIONAL OFFICE FOR LATIN AMERICA AND
THE CARIBBEAN

c/o Biblioteca Pública do Estado do Rio de Janeiro
Av. Presidente Vargas, 1261
20071-004 Centro, Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brasil

Tel.: +55 21 3225330
Fax: +55 21 3225733

E-mail: iflalac@gbl.com.br

IFLANET: <http://www.ifla.org>

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EDITORIAL

On reaching the end of 2000, we feel sure that the Latin American and Caribbean Section has achieved its objectives and collaborated towards the development of Librarianship in the region, making the role of IFLA more transparent. This success is to be accredited to teamwork, the effective participation of the members of the Standing Committee, and the support of the IFLA and institutions located in Latin America and the Caribbean.

We feel certain that the more we join together the more opportunity we will have to show the quality of the work carried out by professionals in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Two meetings of the Standing Committee were held, the first in San Juan, Puerto Rico, in March, after the Seminar / Workshop on Distance Education, sponsored by the ACURIL and the University of Porto Rico, and the second in Israel in August during the IFLA's General Conference.

Two more seminars were held, one in June in Chile, with the theme "Tools for library workers professional development in the Information Society era ", and the other in Mexico in November, with the title: "Latin American meeting on library service to Indian communities". These events were supported by the Section as part of ALP projects.

The key issue of the year was the restructuring of the IFLA and the fate of Division 8I. The group designated to analyse the matter, co-ordinated by Marjorie Bloss (USA), recommended that it be discussed during the CB Meeting in Uppsala, Sweden in October. The report of this meeting is one of the news in this Bulletin.

In Sweden the Presidents, Secretaries and Managers of the Regional Offices of the three Sections presented their report to the Nordic Group and discussed the Medium-Term Programme for Division 8, which is being presided by the President of the LAC Section, José Adolfo Rodríguez Gallardo.

After the meeting at Uppsala, the Managers of the Regional Offices were invited to attend a meeting with the staff of the IFLA/HQ in The Hague, where they had the opportunity of presenting short reports on their activities, show the real situation in each region, and become more familiar with the activities of the HQ.

This year we also received the visit of the President of the IFLA and the Secretary-General to Argentina, the venue of the General Conference of 2004, as well as the visit of the President of the IFLA, Mme. Christine Deschamps, to Brazil in September /October, which greatly honoured the Brazilian librarians. More detailed news of this visit can also be read in this Bulletin.

The DANIDA and the ALA are offering fellowships to attend the General Conference of the IFLA in Boston in August 2001. This initiative will allow some colleagues of the region the opportunity of taking part in the Conference.

Finally, I would like to express my thanks for the support given by the members of the SC/IFLA/LAC, especially Stella Maris Fernández for her translations into Spanish. I would also like to thank librarians Ivone Tálamo, Maria Isabel da Franca, Marly Solér and Elizete Souza for their assistance in performing the activities of the Regional Office.

A merry Christmas and a happy New Year to all, trusting that the members of the SC of the IFLA/LAC will continue in their efforts to make the IFLA well known and so increase the number of affiliated members in their respective sub-regions.

IFLA AND ITS SECTIONS

IFLA/HQ

Guust van Wesemael Literacy Prize - Call for Applications 2001

The Prize was established by the IFLA Executive Board in November 1991, to commemorate the late Guust van Wesemael, who was Coordinator of IFLA's Professional Activities from 1979 to 1990 and Deputy Secretary General of IFLA from 1979 to 1991, and his contribution to IFLA's efforts to promote literacy in the developing countries. In 1996 the Prize was re-established under revised conditions.

Objectives The objective of the Prize is to recognise an achievement in the field of literacy promotion in a developing

country. The Prize should preferably be used for follow-up activities such as purchasing targeted collections of appropriate books, but may also be used for other activities such as literacy promotion, training, policy development. The Prize is issued biennially. The focus of the Prize is public library or school library work. Both individuals and library institutions are eligible to apply.

Applications

The applications must be accompanied by:

- the reasons for application;
- a detailed description of the completed project or activity (including a short description of the library, or of the organisation and its activities);
- an explanation of how the Prize money would be used;
- and a realistic budget.

Candidates are also advised to attach a letter of support from their library association.

Reporting

Within six months after receipt of the Prize, the winner must submit to IFLA HQ an interim report of the use made of the funds, and the second instalment will be paid out. When the project period is finished a final report and a financial statement should be submitted. (The report should be in a form suitable for publication in IFLA Journal).

Deadline for application: 1 March 2001

For more information and to request the application form, please contact: IFLA Headquarters:
P.O. Box 95312
2509 CH The Hague, Netherlands
Phone: +31-70-3140884
Fax: +31-70-3834827
E-mail: ifla@ifla.org

IFLA/OCLC Early Career Development Fellowship Jointly sponsored by the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) and OCLC Online Computer Library Center

Purpose of Program

This program provides early career development and continuing education for library and information science professionals from countries with developing economies.

Overview of Program

On an annual basis, the program will select up to four individuals to come to OCLC's headquarters in Dublin, Ohio, USA, for a four-week period to participate in an intensive program of lectures, seminars and mentoring. Topics and issues will include information technologies and their impact on libraries, library operations and management, and global cooperative librarianship.

During their visit to the United States, Fellows will participate in seminars and workshops conducted by the OCLC Institute,

observe portions of an OCLC Users Council meeting, and visit selected North American libraries.

Seminars and workshops will focus on trends and developments in knowledge access management and their implications for a range of library operations and services. By observing a Users Council meeting, the Fellows will gain insight to issues affecting global library cooperation and be exposed to the governance of a global library cooperative. Visits to selected North American libraries provide an opportunity for Fellows to meet leading practitioners and discuss real-world solutions to the challenges facing libraries today.

The OCLC Institute and the IFLA Round Table for the Management of Library Associations (RTMLA) will tailor the agenda and itinerary, when possible, to meet the needs and interests of the Fellows.

Fellows will translate their learning and experiences into specific professional development plans that will guide their continued growth as well as their personal contributions to their home institutions and country of origin.

Key Dates

Applicants should be aware of the following key dates:

- September 2000-April 26, 2001 Applications Accepted
- April 26, 2001 Application Deadline
- May-July 2001 Selection
- August 2001 Award Announcement
- April-May 2002
(actual dates to be determined) Program

Outline of In-residence Program

The in-residence portion of the IFLA/OCLC Early Career Development Fellowship is conducted over a four-week period. The following outline suggests the types of activities in which Fellows will participate. Actual program activities and sequence are subject to change.

Week 1

Introduction to OCLC; overview of technology trends and potential effects upon libraries; state-of-the-art library applications; OCLC products and services

Week 2

OCLC Institute seminar followed by library practicum: specific technologies central to the operation of libraries, integrated library systems, telecommunications, Web tools, cataloging workstations.

Week 3

OCLC Users Council meeting; issues of library cooperation on local, regional, national, and global scale.

Week 4

OCLC Institute seminar followed by library visits; professional development plans.

Eligibility

Promising library and information science professionals who are in early stages of career development and who meet all of the qualifications are encouraged to apply.

Candidates must:

- have a qualifying degree in library or information science or related field (qualifying degree may vary depending upon country of origin);
- have obtained the qualifying degree no earlier than August, 1996;
- have at least two years professional experience since obtaining the qualifying degree;
- be a legal national from a qualifying country (see list of Qualifying Countries);
- read and speak English proficiently;
- have a valid passport;
- be able to obtain an appropriate Visa permitting legal entry into the United States.

Application Procedures

Qualified applicants must submit a complete application portfolio, which must be received by the OCLC Institute no later than Friday, April 26, 2001. Incomplete applications cannot be considered.

A complete application contains the following:

- Application cover sheet
- Resume
List all relevant educational and work experience with dates; publications; honors and awards.
- Essay
An original essay of no more than 1,000 words, written in English, describing why you want to participate in this program. The essay should demonstrate insight into the problems and opportunities facing libraries in your country, an awareness of the role of library cooperation, and evidence of personal commitment to professional development and service. Secondly, the essay should demonstrate facility communicating in English.
- Three Letters of Recommendation
Those recommending applicants should state how long they have known the applicant and in what capacity. Letters should provide evidence of the candidate's commitment to professional development and service and an assessment of the candidate's promise as a developing professional.

To Request IFLA/OCLC Fellowship Application Information:

Details of the fellowship contained in this document will be sent via e-mail or by post upon your request.

Visit < <http://www.oclc.org/institute/ifla/reqappinfo.htm> > or contact Amy Lytle, OCLC Institute at lytlea@oclc.org.

Selection Process

All application portfolios received by the deadline will be reviewed for completeness and responsiveness to the application criteria. Incomplete applications cannot be processed. Application portfolios will not be returned to applicants.

A specially appointed Selection Committee will evaluate and score the applications and propose award winners to the Executive Director, OCLC institute, who shall have final selection authority.

IFLA and OCLC each have two members on the Selection Committee, as follows:

For IFLA:

- Coordinator of Professional Activities
- Representative from Core Programme for the Advancement of Librarianship (ALP)

For OCLC:

- Executive Director, OCLC Institute
- Representative of OCLC Users Council.

List of qualified countries

Albania Algeria Angola Argentina Armenia Azerbaijan Bahrain Belize Benin Bhutan Botswana Brazil Bulgaria Cambodia Cameroon Cape Verde Colombia Chile China Costa Rica Djibouti Dominica Dominican Republic El Salvador Equatorial Guinea Eritrea Fiji Gabon Grenada Guatemala Guinea Haiti Honduras Hungary Ivory Coast Jamaica Jordan Kazakhstan Kyrgyz Republic Kuwait Lao PDR Lesotho Liberia Lituania Malawi Malasia Maldives Mauritania Mauritius Mexico Mongolia Morocco Mozambique Nicaragua Niger Nigeria Palau Panama Papua Philippines New Guinea Poland Qatar Republic of Congo Rwanda Sao Tomé&Príncipe Samoa Seychelles Sierra Leona Slovak Republic Somalia South Korea South Africa St. Lucía Saint Vincent and the Grenadines Suriname Tajikistan Tanzania Thailand The Gambia Trinidad & Tobago Turkey Turkmenistan Ucraina United Arab Emirates Uruguay Venezuela Vietnam Yemen

For more information, please contact the OCLC Institute at institute@oclc.org

New ALP Director Appointed

Birgitta Sandell has been appointed Director of the IFLA Advancement of Librarianship Programme (ALP). The appointment, announced jointly by the University Library Uppsala, Sweden and IFLA, is for the period until 31st December 2003, with the possibility of renewal. It takes effect immediately.

On learning of her appointment, the new Director said: "I am delighted to have the opportunity to continue the work Birgitta Bergdahl started, and to work with IFLA in these changing times. ALP remains important because of continuing scarce resources in developing countries." Acting as a catalyst within IFLA for its work in the developing world is a key for ALP, she said.

The founder Director of ALP, Birgitta Bergdahl, had held the position since 1989. Sadly, she was forced to take early retirement in July of this year because of ill health. In her

absence, she was presented with a scroll, in recognition of her outstanding contribution to the work of IFLA, by President

Christine Deschamps at the IFLA conference held in Jerusalem in August

Further information from:

Ross Shimmon, Secretary General, IFLA
Tel: +31 70 3140884 Fax: +31 70 3834827
Birgitta Sandell, Director, ALP
Tel: +46 18 4713989 Fax: +46 18 4713994

Satellite meetings "IFLA Boston 2001"

The following Satellite Meetings of the 67th IFLA General Conference in Boston (August 2001) have been approved by the Professional Board:

Québec City, Québec, Canada, 14-16 August 2001.

"Education and research for marketing and quality management in libraries"

IFLA Sections on Management and Marketing and on Education and Training, in collaboration with the School of Library and Information Science of the Université de Montréal.

(Venue and dates in August 2001 to be announced)

"How library consortia internationally can make a difference for libraries"

IFLA Divisions on National Libraries (I) and Management and Technology (VI), in collaboration with NELINET (New England Library Network), the International Coalition of Library Consortia (ICOLC) and the Library Consortium Management; an International Journal (MCB Press).

Dublin, Ohio, 14-16 August 2001

Joint Pre-conference of IFLA Sections Classification and Indexing and Information Technology, in collaboration with OCLC.

Buffalo, New York, 14-16 August 2001

"Technology, Globalization, and Multicultural Services"
IFLA Sections of Library Services to Multicultural Populations and Information Technology.

Washington, D.C., dates in August 2001 to be announced

IFLA Section Libraries for the Blind in collaboration with the Library of Congress, National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped.

Boston, Massachusetts, 16-17 August 2001

"How do I find a picture of ...?: the Changing Nature of Image Research"
IFLA Section Art Libraries in collaboration with ARLIS/New England.

Serving on IFLA Standing Committees

Serving on a Standing Committee is one of the best ways of contributing to the work of IFLA. Standing Committees are at the heart of the Federation. They help develop policies, carry out surveys and other projects, prepare guidelines, and organise open

sessions and workshops at the general conference. Serving on a Standing Committee provides opportunities for professional development, networking with colleagues from many different countries and helps to advance the profession.

It can also be great fun!

We have drawn up these notes to provide guidance to Association and Institutional Members considering nominating candidates for election to Standing Committees. They should also help those thinking of accepting nomination.

Responsibilities:

Members of Standing Committees serve in a personal capacity. They do not themselves have to be Members of IFLA, but they have to be nominated by current Association or Institutional IFLA Members.

They contribute to the work of the Committee by:

- Having a working knowledge in at least one of the IFLA languages (English, French, German, Russian, and Spanish). Most of the business of the Standing Committees tends to be conducted in English, so knowledge of English is particularly useful.
- Having a reasonable expectation of attending meetings of the Standing Committee without cost to the Federation. IFLA simply does not have the resources to fund the expenses involved in serving on the committees. The principal meetings are held immediately prior to, and during, the annual general conferences of IFLA. Forthcoming conferences will be held at Boston (2001), Glasgow (2002), Berlin (2003) and Buenos Aires (2004). All of them will take place in August. In between these meetings, business is usually conducted by email and post or fax. Some Sections hold mid-year meetings by agreement of the Committee concerned.
- Contributing actively to ideas for projects and conference programme meetings.
- Joining in the work of the Section, for example, by undertaking projects, organising workshops, preparing translations, etc.
- Sticking to deadlines for reporting financial and other information.
- Responding to requests from IFLA HQ for advice, representation at meetings, etc.
- Assisting in the production of a newsletter, promotional leaflet, and generally disseminating information about Section activities.
- Helping with the translation of newsletters, conference papers, promotional leaflets and other documents where appropriate.
- Encouraging participation in the Section by people in different parts of the world, by identifying potential new candidates and corresponding members.
- Assisting in the allocation of "portfolios" to individuals serving on the committee (for example, editing the newsletter, acting as information coordinator, Section

membership recruitment, organising translations, preparing workshops, etc.).

Serving Standing Committee members are expected to help those newly elected to play a full part in the Standing Committee's work by providing them with background information.

Corresponding Members.

Each Standing Committee may appoint up to five Corresponding Members. These places are intended for people who are normally unable to attend the general conference (and therefore the meetings of the Standing Committee) for geographical or financial reasons. Their role is to represent regions, which might not otherwise be represented. They receive the Committee papers and are expected to maintain regular contact with the officers and other Committee members. They contribute their opinions and active support through involvement in projects, and preparation of translations, etc. Corresponding Members have no voting rights, but if they are able to attend a meeting of the Committee, they are entitled to speak.

Some Standing Committees have established "Observers", "Honorary Advisers" and "Special Advisers". They are listed in IFLA Directory, but they have no official status and have no voting rights.

October 2000 Postal Ballot Results on the Proposed Revision of the Statutes.

Against: 4 (0.5%)

For: 395 (99.5 %)

Return Rate: 27%

(Ross Shimmon Secretary General)

Call for nominations for President, President-elect and members of the Governing Board of IFLA

Dear IFLA Member,

As you know, the Council of IFLA at its meeting on 13th August 2000 approved the new Statutes of the Federation.

The new Statutes provide for a Governing Board, which will replace the existing Executive Board and Professional Board with effect from August 2001. The last meetings of the existing Executive and Professional Boards will take place during the IFLA General Conference to be held in Boston, USA from the 17th to the 25th August 2001. The first meeting of the new Governing Board will take place on Saturday 25th August in Boston.

I am, therefore, writing to you to invite nominations for these important positions, which will help determine the direction of IFLA for the next few years.

The Governing Board, in accordance with the new Statutes, will consist of:

- The President

- The President-elect
- Ten members elected by the membership at large
- Nine members of the Professional Committee, consisting of a chair elected by the Committee itself and one officer, preferably the chair, from each of the eight Divisions of the Federation.

The position of President is open to any candidate, including those who have served as President under the previous Statutes in force from 1993. Each candidate needs ten valid nominations. This will be the only time this post is elected in this way. The person elected will serve as President 2001-2003 only, to be succeeded by the President-elect 2001-2003, who will serve as President 2003-2005.

The position of President-elect is open to anyone, including all the present Executive Board members, except the current President. Each candidate needs ten valid nominations. The successful candidate will serve for two years as President-elect (2001-2003), followed by two years as President (2003-2005) only.

In accordance with the transitional arrangements agreed by Council in August, three of the present Executive Board members will automatically serve for the term 2001-2003 in the new Governing Board. They were elected for four years under the old Statutes and their current term will have two more years to run. They are: Claudia Lux, Jerónimo Martínez and Ingrid Parent.

This leaves seven places on the Governing Board open for election on this occasion. These places are open to anyone. Each candidate needs five valid nominations. Three of the current Executive Board members are eligible to run for election to these places, because they would have been eligible for election for a further two year term on the old Executive Board. They are Nancy John, Derek Law and Kay Raseroka. One current Executive Board member, Børge Sørensen, is not eligible for election to one of these places, because he will have completed two terms on the old Executive Board.

The successful candidates for these places on the Governing Board will serve for two years (2001-2003). Those elected for the first time will then be eligible for election for a final, second term of two years (2003-2005)

As a qualified Voting Member of IFLA, or a Personal Affiliate, you are entitled to submit nominations for the vacancies described in this letter.

Nominations should be made using the proper form (see IFLANET: <http://www.ifla.org>), which may be photocopied. Nominees need not be formal representatives of IFLA Members or Personal Affiliates of IFLA. But their nominators must be the designated representatives of National Association Members or International Association Members or Institutional Members of IFLA. Personal Affiliates of IFLA may also nominate, but they are not entitled to vote in the subsequent elections.

Nominations must be received at IFLA HQ by the close of business on Monday 5th February 2001.

Please note the following points:

- There is no restriction on the number of candidates you may nominate for these positions.
- "Valid nominations" means nominations signed by an authorised representative of Voting Members of IFLA (or by Personal Affiliates of IFLA) who have paid their membership fees for 2000 in full and who are not in arrears.
- Candidates should have a working knowledge of at least one of the working languages of IFLA (English, French, German, Russian and Spanish). Since the business meetings of IFLA tend to be conducted in English, reasonable fluency of this language is highly desirable.
- Candidates should have reasonable expectation of attending meetings of the Governing Board without cost to the Federation. The Governing Board is expected to meet on two occasions each year; during the General Conference of IFLA, and approximately six months later, probably at IFLA HQ in The Hague. Forthcoming conferences will be held in Boston (August 2001), Glasgow (August 2002) and Berlin (August 2003).
- You should ensure that your nominee is willing to stand. We shall seek formal confirmation from each candidate, together with a statement, once we have received sufficient nominations for that candidate.
- Nominations will be accepted only from qualified Voting Members and qualified Personal Affiliates. "Qualified" means those Voting Members and Personal Affiliates who have paid their Membership Fees in full for 2000 and who are not in arrears.

In accordance with the new Statutes, the elections will be conducted by postal ballot. Only qualified Voting Members will be entitled to vote. It is expected that the ballot will take place during March and April 2001, with eight weeks between the dispatch of ballot papers and the closing date for their return. The results will be announced on IFLANET in May 2001.

These elections are extremely important for the future development of IFLA. Please take steps to consider whether you wish to nominate candidates for these positions on the new Governing Board.

With best wishes,
Yours faithfully
Ross Shimmon

Call for Nominations for Section Standing Committees

Dear IFLA Member

Like most professional organisations, IFLA is heavily dependent on the voluntary effort of dedicated people, who serve on committees and boards, developing policies, organising the professional content of our conferences and generally ensuring

the continued success of the Federation. The next elections for our Section Standing Committees will take place early next year. I am, therefore, writing to you to invite nominations for these important committees.

As a qualified Voting Member of IFLA, you are entitled to submit nominations for vacancies on the Standing Committees for which you are registered. (A "qualified member" means a member who has paid the appropriate membership fees in full for the year 2000 and who is not in arrears).

To check the IFLA Sections for which you are registered, please consult the IFLA Directory 2000 - 2001. The appropriate Section numbers are given at the end of your entry. The key to the numbers appears on page [38]. Alternatively, check the membership pages on IFLANET(<http://www.ifla.oeg>).

Those currently serving on the Standing Committee of each Section are listed on pages 48 - 82 of the Directory. Please note that they are limited to a maximum period of service of 8 years (two four-year terms). Those who are completing their second term in 2001 are indicated. They are not eligible for nomination.

Nominations should be made on the attached forms. They should be sent to arrive at IFLA HQ by close of business on Monday 5th February 2001. They should be signed by the authorised signatory of the IFLA Member concerned, and by the candidate. Please note the following points:

1. You may nominate only one candidate for the Standing Committee of each Section for which you are registered.
2. Under revised Rules of Procedure adopted by Council in August 2000, candidates need to be nominated by only one voting Member. That Member may be either an Association Member or an Institutional Member.
3. Candidates should have a working knowledge of a least one of the languages of IFLA (English, French, German, Russian and Spanish).
4. Candidates should have reasonable expectation of attending meetings of the Standing Committee without cost to the Federation. The principal meetings of Standing Committees are held immediately prior to, and during, the general conferences of IFLA. Forthcoming conferences will be held at Boston (August 2001), Glasgow (August 2002), Berlin (August 2003) and Buenos Aires (August 2004).
5. You should obtain the consent of your nominee, using the enclosed Consent Form, which should be attached to the Nomination Form, together with confirmation that the nominee meets the language and attendance requirements, and a brief statement of the nominee's career and present position.

Each Section may have up to 20 people serving on its Standing Committee. If the number of candidates for any Section exceeds the number of vacancies, a postal ballot will be held after the close of nominations.

Please take some time to persuade suitable candidates to accept nomination. The work is rewarding; it presents possibilities for sharing knowledge and expertise with like-minded professionals

in different parts of the world - and it helps IFLA achieve worthwhile developments on behalf of our profession.

It can be great fun, too!

I enclose a sheet of information, which explains the role of Section Standing Committees in greater detail.

With best wishes

Yours faithfully

Ross Shimmon

Secretary General

Please note that the Calls for nominations with Nomination Forms to IFLA Section Standing Committees are being despatched on 18 October 2000 to all voting members of IFLA.

Meeting IFLA Regional Managers with IFLA/HQ Staff

On 19 and 20 October 2000, IFLA's 3 Regional Managers visited IFLA's HQ-Office, to meet with the IFLA staff at The Hague, and to discuss all affairs of current and mutual concern.

After a brief introductory round, all 3 Regional Managers presented a general typology of their regional offices and regional sections:

Henri Sène (Africa), Works from his office at the University Library of Dakar, Senegal. The Regional Office for Africa has been in Senegal since 1979, Henri is its 3rd Regional Manager. He is working hard on bringing the two main African language groups (English and French) together; an expression of that is the publication of a bilingual regional Newsletter. The 54 countries of Africa still experience a lot of communication problems (electricity, email, Internet).

Elizabet Ramos de Carvalho (Latin America & Caribbean). The Regional Office had first been established in Venezuela, but it is in Brazil since 1990: the Clearinghouse at FEBAB until 1999 and the Office at S. Paulo and Rio de Janeiro. Now, both the Clearinghouse and the Office are hosted at the Rio de Janeiro State Public Library. Her newsletter is bilingual English-Spanish. A special challenge of growing importance is the forthcoming IFLA General Conference at Buenos Aires, Argentina, in August 2004.

Pensri Guaysuwan (Asia & Oceania) has the full support of the Thai Library Association, from whose office she used to work before. Nowadays she has her office at her home, enjoying email support from Thamassat University, from which she has now retired as Associate Librarian. One important feature of her work is editing/publishing a regional newsletter, which is being mailed to all RSAO-members, as well as to an additional list of 800 interested persons and institutions.

Special briefing sessions were devoted to:

- Membership (with Kelly Moore)
- Promotion, publicity (with Josche Neven)

- Annual Conference (with Carol Henry)
- Professional activities (with Sjoerd Koopman)
- Running the Federation (with Ross Shimmon)

These were followed by a long session, during which general discussions took place on the subject of closer cooperation between the regional offices and HQ, and on the future of Division 8.

The following are concluding remarks and issues agreed:

1. The exchange of information between HQ and the RO's will be intensified. The RM's will receive copies of all general mailings, and copies of all important correspondence with members and other parties in their regions.
2. The RM's will inform HQ about all specific conditions in their regions which might be of importance, including needs for special forms or sorts of IFLA membership.
3. The RM's will put all possible efforts in the future development of IFLA-membership within their regions.
4. The RM's will put extra efforts in posting all their information (including newsletters, minutes of meetings and conference programmes) to IFLANET and further develop the regional sections' websites.
5. The Africa Section and the LAC Section will continue to try and find a suitable institution to host an IFLANET mirror site.
6. There have been positive experiences with combining regional section meetings with 2-3 day seminars for the regional/local profession; these will be continued.
7. Forthcoming draft texts of IFLA's new Rules of Procedure will be distributed to officers of regional sections and to regional managers.
8. IFLA/HQ will seek to have translations into the other IFLA languages of the documents regarding nominations for sections' Standing Committee members and Governing Board members that recently have gone out.

Below is a section from the document regarding roles, responsibilities and functions within Division 8, which was recently discussed at the Uppsala meeting. This section concentrates on the Regional Offices.

(Sjoerd Koopman, 30 October 2000)

Roles, responsibilities and functions within Division 8 - Regional Offices

- A permanent extension of IFLA/HQ in the region
- Work with RSC and RCB in carrying out IFLA activities in region
- Work with RSC and RCB to support library associations in the region
- Disseminate information about IFLA in the region
- Provide logistical and administrative support to Regional Section (e.g. manage meeting budget).
- Communicate (e.g. newsletter, IFLANET, listserves)
- Seek sources for funding for projects

- Liaise with ALP, other Core Activities and other IFLA professional units
- Membership recruitment

IFLA Regional Division Coordinating Board Meeting

Summary of discussion and recommendations

The Regional Division Coordinating Board (RCB) met as a group in Uppsala on Thursday 12 October 2000 to discuss the Division 8 organisational structure and again on Friday 13 October, when Ross Shimmon was present. Unfortunately Marjorie Bloss was not able to attend. Members addressed the recommendations of the Report of the Advisory Group on Division 8.

RCB members re-affirmed that the regional sections provide an appropriate forum for regional members to share experience and interests and be introduced to IFLA's professional programme. The Regional Division further enfranchises regional membership through representation on the Professional Committee.

RCB supported continuation of the ALP Core Activity in its present form and governance. Noted that ALP staff's expert intermediary role between donor and recipient is valued by donors. Tangible evidence is increased support for developing country projects obtained from diverse sources. Much of ALP's credibility stems from its direct and successful relationship with regional sections.

This document contains:

- current Regional Division priorities;
- breakdown of preferred regional structures;
- recommendations on programmatic concerns;
- description of roles and relationships of the Regional Standing Committees, Regional Offices and Regional Coordinating Board.

1.Regional Division priorities

- Library association development
- Human resources development
- Libraries and literacy
- Information technology in developing countries
- Services to indigenous communities
- Preservation of heritage
- Information for the community
- Free access to information
- Implementing standards and manifestos (in conjunction with HQ)

RCB members noted that these priorities are essentially identical to IFLA's general professional priorities issued in September 2000.

2. Structure (Recommendations 2 and 4)

Recommended

- that Regional Offices be strengthened. This can be achieved by: closer relationship with HQ (already begun with October 2000 meeting of RMs at HQ) and
- additional financial resources eg to employ permanent support staff to undertake specific additional tasks relating to current priorities.

Recommended that additional meeting budget be provided to support expanded membership

2.1 Options for new regional structures:

Africa and Latin America/Caribbean preferred to maintain existing structures with a strengthened Regional Office. Asia/Oceania saw most potential for development of a more effective regional structure to deal with its large geographic area.

Structural division along language lines_for Africa and Latin America/Caribbean was discussed and rejected; nevertheless language remains a barrier to working effectively (see section 3 below)

Africa Section

One Regional Section, one Regional Office (strengthened)

Expand SC membership to 20

Sub-regional structure:

North Africa (two SC members)

West Africa (eight SC members)

Central Africa (three SC members)

East Africa (three SC members)

Southern Africa (four SC members)

Asia/Oceania Section

Option 1

One Regional Section, one Regional Office (strengthened)

SC membership already expanded

Maintain existing sub-regional structure

Option 2

Four Regional Sections with RO in each region*:

West Asia

Russia and Central Asia

China and East Asia

South/Southeast Asia, Oceania

*Call for bids from interested institutions to host Regional Offices in order to share costs

Latin America and the Caribbean

One Regional Section, one Regional Office (strengthened)

Expand SC membership to 20

Maintain existing sub-regional structure

4. Communication and integration (Recommendation 3)

Recommended

- that communication between regional sections and other IFLA sections be improved by: Exchange of Regional Section newsletters eg forwarded to other Section officers;
- schedule Conference Regional SC meetings so as not to overlap with other SC meetings and allow reciprocating attendance;
- schedule Third World Caucus so as not to overlap with other caucuses;
- simultaneous interpretation to be made available for more Conference sessions.

Recommended

that integration between regional sections and other IFLA sections be enabled by:

- exchange of SC membership: regional SCs to nominate members to join other SCs of most interest; and vice versa, to accept other SC's members on to RSCs. These members having ex officio status;
- establish Regional Division Special Interest Groups (within new IFLA structure) to accommodate particular objectives of the Division, eg 'IT in developing countries', 'Libraries and literacy in developing countries'. Any IFLA member may join.

4. Funding (Recommendation 5)

- RCB members agreed with ALP suggestion that information about funds for regional activities be centralised, rather than the funds themselves. This to include source of funds where applicable, eg donor information.

Noted that many of the changes recommended in this document do not need funding as such, but are program and priority adjustments. However clearer definition of IFLA's regional strategy at the higher level might assist in seeking large-scale funding of particular elements of the strategy, eg a programme of library association development workshops for a whole region.

Recommended

- that IFLA HQ seek major funding for regional-level projects which can be managed corporately and involve a wider section of membership

5. Membership development (Recommendation 6)

Agreed that Regional Offices were a suitable permanent presence to recruit IFLA membership within the region.

Recommended

- that a membership recruitment strategy for the Regional Offices be developed by HQ. Implementation may be dependent on additional funding to ROs.

6. Roles, responsibilities and functions within Division 8

Regional Standing Committees

- Facilitate work of regional sections
- Provide advice, through Section officers, to Divisional Coordinating Board on Section activities and priorities
- Work with Regional Offices in carrying out IFLA activities in region
- Advise ALP Office on project selection and priorities
- Organise IFLA Conference programme
- Facilitate, encourage and initiate library projects in the region
- As individual SC members, represent and be a source of advice on a country or a region on the Standing Committee
- As individual SC members, represent the region within the wider IFLA community
- Represent and promote IFLA in home country and the region
- Communicate and liaise between all of the above and the local library community/IFLA membership

Regional Offices

- A permanent extension of IFLA/HQ in the region
- Work with RSC and RCB in carrying out IFLA activities in region
- Work with RSC and RCB to support library associations in the region
- Disseminate information about IFLA in the region
- Provide logistical and administrative support to Regional Section (e.g. manage meeting budget).
- Communicate (e.g. newsletter, IFLANET, listservs)
- Seek sources for funding for projects
- Liaise with ALP, other Core Activities and other IFLA professional units
- Membership recruitment

Regional Coordinating Board

- Represent Regional Sections on Professional Committee and Governing Board
- Set general directions for the work of the Sections
- Advise ALP Core Activity and Nordic Support Group on policy and project priorities
- Liaise with other IFLA professional groups
- Organise Conference programme

Division 8 Coordinating Board

Jose Adolfo Rodriguez Gallardo, Mexico (Chair)
Amelia McKenzie, Australia (Secretary)
Rashidah Begum, Malaysia
Gabriel O. Alegbeleye, Nigeria
Jacinta Were, Kenya
Alice Miranda-Arguedas, Costa Rica
Henri Sene (Regional Manager, Africa)

Pensri Guaysuwan (Regional Manager, Asia/Oceania)
Elizabet Maria Ramos de Carvalho (Regional Manager, Latin America & Caribbean)

IFLA/ALP

DANIDA Travel Grant - 2000

Introduction

In October 1998, the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Danida, allocated a generous grant, 900 000 DKK per year, for the purpose of setting up a Conference Travel Fund to be used by librarians from developing countries, to attend the IFLA General Conferences. The grant runs for a three-year period to start with and the IFLA Bangkok Conference 1999 was the first conference to which the Danida Travel Grant (DTG) was applied and the IFLA Jerusalem Conference 2000 would be the second. As in the previous year the sponsorship covered registration, travel from the nearest international airport to Jerusalem, accomodation and a daily allowance. The grantee was responsible for the costs of personal arrangements, for health and travel insurance, and for expenses en route. The ALP-sekretariat in Uppsala, Sweden had the administrative responsibility.

Announcement

At the end of October the grant was announced through IFLA's listserv IFLA-L and other lists in the regions. Calls for applications were also made in the IFLA Regional Newsletters, IFLA Journal and on the IFLA web site. Application forms were available in English, French and Spanish at the web site and distributed on demand, both in printed and an e-mail version.

Criteria

Criteria for the allocation of the Danida Travel Grant to participate in IFLA's General Conference were the same as the previous year. Priority was given to younger professionals; applicants who are not regular IFLA conference attendees; wide geographical distribution, good general quality of application, evidence of dynamism and commitment, professional background and experience, and commitment shown in letter of application and a well presented CV.

Selection

263 valid applications were received by the deadline. Of these applications, 27 candidates were selected for support: eleven from Africa, nine from Asia and Oceania and seven from Latin America and the Caribbean. The selected candidates came from 27 different countries. The number of grants were determined by calculations based on estimated prices of accomodation, flight tickets, conference fees and also a per diem. The amount for each of the three regions is about the same.

This year we had no applicats from the Arab world. We had some applicants from Muslim countries and one was awarded a grant but in the end he declined to come even if he had been granted a visa. Another grantee could not come because of no diplomatic relations between the countries.

Administration

. A reception was organized at Hotel Mercure where the grantees stayed. We wanted to meet them all and have more time to talk and give them the opportunity to ask questions, and for the grantees to get to know each other. A smaller delegation from the Danish community were also invited. Some practical matters were also handled such as reimbursing those who had bought their own tickets.

Conclusion

Events like this are of great importance as they give young professionals the opportunity to take part in international librarianship. During the conference and after, many acknowledgements and expressions of gratitude were received. For many grantees it was the first time they were outside their country and they were very keen to learn and make new contacts. Many of the grantees said that they had made new friends that had become friends for life. In a report a grantee tells us about a meeting she had organized for librarians in her institutional network, to talk about her experience as being a Danida grantee and sharing information from Jerusalem. She says: "The experience is definitely a way to enhance our professional lives and ways of cooperation." It was a worthwhile venture for the grantees.

By the deadline, February 1, a number of 263 valid applications had been received representing 58 countries, out of which 27 delegates were selected. Africa 1. Serema, Batlang Comma Botswana 2. Tesfaye Shikuru, Bizuwork (Ms Ethiopia 3. Kwafoa, Paulina Nana Yaa (Ms) Ghana 4. Ruheni, Daniel Kenya 5. Anne, Abdrahamane Mali 6. Akinlolu, Adebola (Ms Nigeria 7. Rudatebwa, Télesphore Rwanda 8. Diouf, Souleymane Senega 9. Sewdass, Nisha (Ms) South Africa 10. Chelemu, Gertrude (Ms Zambia 11. Mapasure, Sabelo Zimbabwe Asia and Oceania 1. Munshi, Md. Nasiruddin Bangladesh 2. Yan, Wei China 3. Gadagin, Basavaraj India 4. Jantsan, Dovdonnyam (Ms) Mongolia 5. Manandhar, Prativa (Ms) Nepal 6. Dalisay, Daisy (Ms) Philippines 7. Vaeau, Silia (Ms) Samoa 8. Charoenpaed, Mantana (Ms) Thailand 9. Duong Thi Bich, Hong (Ms) Vietnam Latin America and the Caribbean 1. Silva Pinto, Thais (Ms) Ecuador 2. Montalvo Ponce, Emilia (Ms) El Salvador 3. Mendez Rojas, Conny C. (Ms) Nicaragua 4. Ibasca, Patricia Norma (Ms) Argentina 5. Iglesias García Danilo Cuba 6. Richards, Tereza (Ms) Jamaica 7. Ferreira, Sueli Mara (Ms) Brazil

For more information, please contact:
IFLA ALP c/o Uppsala University Library
Box 510
SE-751 20 UPPSALA, Sweden
Fax: +46 18 471 3994
E-mail: ifla.alp@ub.uu.se

DANIDA Travel Grant - 2001

IFLA ALP is pleased to announce the availability of the Danida Travel Grant, to support a number of delegates from developing countries to attend the 67th IFLA Council and General

Conference, to be held in Boston, Massachusetts, 16-25 August 2001.

Priority will be given to younger professionals with a minimum of 5 years of experience in the field of libraries. In appointing the grants, the Grants Committee will look for a balance between all sectors of library & information work.

Applications, including professional curriculum vitae and information on present occupation should be submitted as soon as possible and should be received by the ALP Focal Point not later than 1st February, 2001.

Criteria for allocation of the Danida Travel Grant

- Candidates are from developing countries (according to Worldbank standards).
- Priority to younger professionals.
- Priority to applicants who are not regular IFLA conference attendees.
- Wide geographic distribution.
- General quality of application.
- Professional background and experience: level of education, positions held and professional experience in general. Type of library experience is also considered in order to get balance between all sectors of library and information work.
- Committed letter of application and well presented CV.

Application forms can be requested from the ALP office:

IFLA ALP
c/o Uppsala University Library
Box 510
SE-751 20 UPPSALA, Sweden
Fax: +46 18 471 3994
E-mail: ifla.alp@ub.uu.se

IFLA/LAC

Report from the Section for Latin America and the Caribbean presented to the members of the ALP support Nordic Group

This report is based in the Medium Term Programme for the Latin America and the Caribbean Section. All the informed actions were studied and approved by the Section members and had the support of ALP to be completed. All were evaluated when finished and reports were sent to the ALP Office at Uppsala.

To start I want to thank you for the support to a lot of activities in the Latin America and the Caribbean area. It is a great opportunity for us to have you here working in the evaluation of some of our activities.

In our Medium Term programme we have 8 areas of activities and in some of these we have more than one.

This report is presented in three sections:

- the first one is related to the projects completed or that will be completed very soon;
- the second one is related to the projects that were submitted to approval and that were evaluated by the Section for Latin America and the Caribbean and approved to be accomplished next year;
- the last is related to the projects that were submitted and are still in evaluation.

Projects completed

In the area of support and development of library and information services and the promotion of reading.

333 Regional meeting on the UNESCO Manifesto on Public Libraries

The meeting was held in Bahia, where more than 200 librarians from 14 countries of the region participated. The works were based in a study of Sueli Angélica do Amaral, from the University of Brasilia, and in the reports sent by the representatives of each participant country. The meeting was also supported by the Government of the Bahia State and by the local Public Library. The resolutions were submitted to a meeting of culture and education ministries and were approved. The responsible person was Maria Conceição da Gama Santos.

343 Latin-American Meeting on the attention to the indigenous communities through library services

This meeting will be held from November 15 to 17 and is also supported by the Centro Universitario de Investigaciones Bibliotecológicas of Mexico. The responsible person is Rosario Granick.

In the area of promotion of education and updating of professionals and para-professionals

335 Workshop for the design of a program of distant education for para-professionals in the Caribbean area

It was a very successful workshop with representatives of all the countries and political entities of the Caribbean. It was also supported by ACURIL (Librarians Association of the Caribbean) and by the School of Librarianship and Information Sciences of Puerto Rico. Almost all the members of its professorate cooperate with the workshop. The responsible persons were Blanca Hodge and Marie Françoise Bernabé.

342 Tools for professional development of the library workers in the era of the Information Society

Last July this meeting took place in Santiago, Chile. The LAC Standing Committee and ALP were represented by Elizabeth Maria Ramos de Carvalho. Representatives from Argentina, Brazil, Bolivia, Peru and Uruguay were presented. The meeting was also supported by the National Library of Chile. The responsible persons were Clara Budnik and Ximena Filiú.

340 The investigation that Stella Maris Fernández did on the programs and plans of studies of the Librarianship Schools was

supported by the Sociedad Argentina de Investigaciones Bibliotecológicas. ALP supported the publication.

In the area of improvement and development of the managerial activities of the library associations of the region

334 Latin American seminar on Librarian Associations

With the support of many departments of the Universidade Autonoma do Mexico and ALP this seminar was held in Mexico City, from March 14-20, 1999 with the aim to improve the associations administration. Fourteen associations of librarians participated and the final report was submitted in september 1999. The responsible person was Rosa Maria Fernández de Zamora.

326 Seminar on Bibliographic Control

In September 1998 this seminar was held in Mexico City with the support of the office of the Universal Availability of Publications. The responsible persons were Elsa M. Ramirez Levya and Roberto Garduño Vera of the University Center for Bibliological Research of the Universidade Nacional Autonoma do Mexico. The final report was submitted in October 1998.

316 INFOBILA

This program was supported for three years, 95, 96 and 97 by ALP funds. It is still running and it is the most important data base on bibliological materials in Latin America. It is supported by the University Center for Bibliological Research of the UNAM.

New Projects

Five projects were evaluated by the Section members and approved and submitted to ALP.

339 I Latin American Meeting on the Local Information Services as Tools for the comunitarian Participation

This project has also the support of COMFENALCO and the responsible person is Adriana Maria Betancur. It is a project for September 2001.

341 New Readers (functional illiterates)

Has the support of the State of Rio de Janeiro government and the responsible person is Maria Alice Barroso.

346 The kit of the reading promoter librarian

Has the support of CEREALC and the responsible person is Elvira Charria.

349 The settlement of libraries in the penitentiaries and other entities that form the penitentiary system of Brazil.

Has also the support of the Librarianship school of the Universidade do Rio de Janeiro and the responsible person is Ludmila Mayrink.

350 Public libraries participative management in the South Cone.

The responsible person is Maria Victoria Peña.

There are some other projects that had been submitted but are under evaluation by the Section members or they were sent back to the responsible persons to do some modifications or to add necessary explanations before a final reslution take place.

- 1 Seminar on reading in marginal groups
- 2 Librarian services to Central America indians
- 3 Guidelines for the evaluation of software to the automation of small and medium libraries
- 4 Seminar on the UNESCO Manifesto on School Libraries
- 5 Production of one prototype of interactive CD-ROM to the teaching of cataloguing
- 6 Third Seminar on the Management of library associations
- 7 Portuguese language librarians meeting, jointly with the Section for Africa.

IFLA General Conference in Jerusalem.

The 66th IFLA General Conference was held in Jerusalem (Israel) on 13-18 August 2000, on the theme: "Information and Co-operation: creating the world library of the future". The venue of the Conference was the International Conference Centre (ICC), Binyana Ha-Ouma, located on the main thoroughfare that goes to the centre of town. The Conference was attended by 1,800 people, 44 of them from the region.

Unfortunately there were no Arab, Moslem or Palestinian representatives, due to the Palestinian boycott made public at a meeting held in the Hotel del Este in Jerusalem and announced by means of a communiqué of the National Conference of Palestinian Librarians, who considered the choice of Jerusalem to host the Conference as an explicit recognition by the IFLA of Israeli sovereignty over the Holy City (IFLA Express no. 8. This also contains the IFLA response to this communiqué).

The above-mentioned document also mentions the efforts made by Palestinians, Arabs, Moslems and international members to cancel the event in that city.

The IFLA meeting was opened on Sunday, 13 August with an approval of the Statutes.

The Opening Session followed, with the participants being welcomed by Professor Sara Japhet, who spoke on how technology and co-operation had changed the world into an international library, and by Member of Parliament Levilun Orley, who stressed that whatever the means used to convey knowledge, the librarian would remain the link between the public and culture.

The next speech was delivered by the President of the IFLA, Mrs. Christine Deschamps, who in presenting the annual report pointed out that during the year the administration had placed special emphasis on two fundamental issues, namely, altering the Statutes and the problem of the Core Programmes.

With regard to the former topic, she stated that the objective of this reform was not only to update the Statutes but also to lend

them a more democratic structure in line with the demands of the 21st century. In respect to the Core Programmes, she underlined the need to re-structure fundamental activities as a result of a decrease in funding and changes in priorities due to the modifications made over the last few years and to technical advances. She then dealt with the matter of Division VIII and the search for a solution that would allow developing countries to carry on working alongside the IFLA. An advisory group set up to study the question will attempt to reach a solution and present it at Uppsala. She also considered that another core theme was the training of new professionals in the area of information, or "knowledge workers", as the British call them.

The Conference Communications were distributed to each participant in a CD-ROM IFLANET Unplugged that also included the contents of the IFLA web-page giving information on activities, publications, main staff positions, members, and so on. Printed copies of the Communiqués were also available upon request.

NEWS IFLA AFFILIATES AND MEMBERS IN THE REGION

ARGENTINA

Electronic Symposium - Electronic journals: from paper to space

The Symposium was organised by the Sociedad Argentina de Información (Argentine Society of Information - SAI). This is the third such Symposium organised by SAI, a private institution that uses this resource towards reflecting on, analysing and exchanging ideas on current issues so as to establish connections by electronic mail. The Symposium, held between 1 September and early October, was attended by 312 people - professionals, librarians, publishers and students from the country, other Latin American countries and Spain.

On the first day of each week, the "official lecture" was announced, this being the basis for discussion and possible presentation of other non-official lectures on the same theme.

The themes proposed were as follows:

- "Electronic publications: new wine in old wineskins", by Eduardo Giordanino;
- "Open Sesame: is there a new magic formula to access electronic publications?", by Virginia Garrote;
- "Proposal for a methodology to evaluate electronic scientific journals and steps towards creating an electronic scientific journal. The experience of the EJB, Electronic Journal of Biotechnology", by Atilio Bustos.

The Director of the Symposium was Daniel Espina, the Co-ordinator being Raúl Escandar, the Co-ordinator of the

Programme on Library Science Studies at the Argentine Society of Information.

Symposium: integrating the school library and the curriculum

Organised by the Society for Librarianship Research (SIB) of the Argentine Society of Information (SAI) and by the University of the Argentine Social Museum (UMSA), the Symposium was an all-day event held in the UMSA auditorium on 26 September. It was sponsored by the Ministry of Education of the Province of Buenos Aires (Resolution 4825 of 18 September).

Over 100 people attended from all over the country (the Provinces of Entre Ríos, Corrientes, Santa Fé, La Pampa, Santa Cruz and Terra do Fogo). The Symposium aroused so much interest that there were even three lectures delivered by representatives from Spain. The Province of La Pampa presented the "bibliomobile" of the Chamber of Representatives that functions as a mobile school library.

Among the various events of the day was the presentation of the UNESCO-IFLA Manifesto on the School Library, as well as the book written by Stella Maris Fernández, "The school library: a centre of resources for learning".

The themes proposed:

- School libraries in the City of Buenos Aires via statistics;
- National policies for the development of school libraries;
- What's going on with the training of the school library user?;
- Marketing in the school library;
- Kindergarten libraries: a daily adventure;
- The two aspects of research and the school library: how to research in the school library and how to research on the school library;
- The role of family and school in stimulating reading;
- Teachers and the school library: a necessary relationship;
- The school library in teacher-training institutions;
- Use of the electronic library at the Instituto Carlos Pellegrini;
- School libraries and public libraries: a fantastic pair for the 21st century;
- The school library and new technologies;
- The roles of the school library and the public library in organised society.

New publications

Fernández, Stella Maris. *De Libros y Bibliotecas*. Buenos Aires, Sociedad de Investigaciones Bibliotecológicas, 2000. 187 p.

Contents: The book and its universes during Antiquity; the painted books of Mexico; The Book of Kells and its

interrogations; Silvio Eneas Piccolomini (Pius II) and the Piccolomini Library in the Domo in Siena; The Belles Heures of Jean, Duke of Berry, Prince of France; The periodicals of the Gesta de Mayor: its authors and the Gandarillas Press; Death and resurrection of the book.

Revista Argentina de Bibliotecología, Buenos Aires, Sociedad Argentina de Información. 1999. v.2.

Includes the papers presented at the Electronic Symposium: Cataloguing in Argentina.

XXXV National Meeting of Librarians - ABGRA 2001 - "Libraries, citizens and the right to information"

The 35th National Meeting of Librarians will be held on 16-19 April, 2000. The meeting will take place during the International Meetings of Book Professionals to be held during the 27th International Book Fair of Buenos Aires and will be attended by prominent colleagues from Argentina and overseas.

The proposed themes for this meeting are as follows:

- Libraries for development;
- Consortia of information or consortia of libraries;
- Training librarians;
- Reading and democracy;
- The library and human rights;
- Librarians without borders;
- Is the digital library accessible to all?;
- Redefining author's rights;
- Library services in distance education;
- Librarians' associations and the right to information.

Requirements for presentation of papers

1. Deadline dates and place of presentation

Those interested must send their papers to arrive at the Selection Committee by 9 February 2001.

2. Form of presentation

2.1 Official languages: Spanish and Portuguese

2.2 The papers must be presented in Word files (6.0 or higher) on 3 1/2 diskette, together with a printed original of 12 pages at most (including bibliography) on A4 size paper, with a left margin of 3cm and the upper, right and lower margins of 2cm.

2.3 Heading: title, followed by the author's name.

2.4 A summary of at most 150 words.

2.5 Bibliography and the conclusions to be inserted at the end of the paper.

2.6 Bibliographical quotations must be complete and in accordance with the usual standards on the subject.

2.7 The authors will enclose a half-page note containing the author's name, profession, entity represented or affiliated to, and an abridged curriculum vitae and addresses.

Presentation of communications

Those interested in presenting communications must observe the same conditions:

- a) Papers must be original and correspond to the themes proposed for the National Meeting
- b) Communications will be presented by one of the authors inside a panel or in some other form determined by the Organising Committee, respecting the pre-established time limit of 10 minutes.

3. Form of presentation

- 3.1 Present the text of the communication together with a summary of at most 250 words to the Selection Committee before 9 February 2001.
- 3.2 Communications must be presented in one of the official languages of the National Meeting: Spanish and Portuguese.
- 3.3 Communications must be presented in Word files (6.0 or higher) on 3 1/2 diskette, together with a printed original of at most 5 pages (including the title, followed by the name of the author(s) and résumé) on double-space A4 size paper, with a left margin of 3cm and the upper, right and lower margins of 2cm.
- 3.4 The bibliography and conclusions must be inserted at the end of the document.
- 3.5 The authors will attach to the communication a half-page note containing the name, profession, entity represented or affiliation, as well as an abridged curriculum vitae and addresses.

4. General instructions

- 4.1 Authors are recommended to present concrete suggestions and projects in their papers and to avoid as much as possible expressions of personal wishes or statements.
- 4.2 The papers and communications are the exclusive responsibility of the authors and in no case represent the opinion of the authorities of the Conference.
- 4.3 The ABGRA reserves the right to publish the communications presented.
- 4.4 The intellectual rights to the paper is automatically ceded to the ABGRA.
- 4.5 Non-compliance with any of these norms will entail automatic rejection of the summary presented.
- 4.6 Only one paper per author(s) will be accepted.
- 4.7 The authors of selected papers and communications will be informed of acceptance by 9 March 2001, together with an indication of the day, time and venue of presentation.

Selection Committee

Tucumán 1424, Piso 8° , Dto "D" C1050AAB Buenos Aires
Argentina Tel (54 11) 4371-5269/4371-0571
Fax (54 11) 4371-5269
E-mail: abgra@ciudad.com.ar
URL: <http://www.abgra.sisbi.uba.ar>

BRASIL

UNIBIBLI

The São Paulo state libraries - USP, UNICAMP and UNESP - have published the 6th edition of the UNIBIBLI database in CD-ROM, Collective Catalogue of Books, Theses and Serial Publications available in the libraries of the universities listed above. The CD-ROM gathers together over 991,000 bibliographical references as well as information on over 50,000 collections of periodicals in these holdings.

Information concerning acquisitions is available in:
<http://www.unicamp.br/bc/HPOL103.HTML>

Result of the 4th Enancib

The 4th National Meeting of Research and Post-graduate Studies in Information Science (Enancib) was a great success. This year the meeting, sponsored by the National Association of Research and Postgraduate Studies in Information Science (Ancib) together with the IBICT and leading institutions, was held in the Parlamundi, Brasília, from 6-10 November. The theme was "Knowledge for the 21st Century: Research in Building the Information Society."

The opening ceremony took place in the Petrônio Portella Auditorium in the Federal Senate on 6 November. The panel included Antônio Miranda (President of the 4th Enancib), Aldo de Albuquerque Barreto (President of the Ancib), Marisa Bräsher (representing the Director of the IBICT), Ottaviano Carlo de Fiore (Secretary for Books and Reading - Ministry of Culture), Raphael Mandarino Junior (the Information Society Program) and Ana Maria Fernandes (representing the Rector of the UnB, Lauro Morhy). On the occasion, Professor Kira Tarapanoff delivered a moving speech in tribute to Professor Cordélia Robalinho Cavalcante, who also received a plaque in recognition of her dedication and significant work in the area of Librarianship.

At the meeting, awards were presented to the winners of the 1st Enancib Prize. In the Master's thesis category, the result was as follows:

1st place: Celeste Aída Sirotheau Corrêa Jannuzzi. "Information for technology and business in Brazil: concepts and terminology" (PUCCAMP, 1999). Advisers: Kátia Maria Lemos Montalli and Vera Sílvia Marão Beraquet.

2nd place: Maria Lúcia de Niemeyer Matheus Loureiro. "Museums, information and art: the work of art as a museological object and as a source of information" (UFRJ, 1998). Advisers: Lena Vânia Ribeiro Pinheiro and Maria Nélida González de Gómez.

In the doctoral dissertation category, the result was as follows:

1st place: There was a tie, so the Committee proposed that the award be divided between:

- Maria Beatriz Almeida S. Bretas. "Telematic interactions: a study on young internauts in Belo Horizonte" (UFMG, 2000). Adviser: Eduardo José Wense Dias, and

- José Maria Jardim. "(In)visible archives: the informational opacity of the Brazilian state" (UFRJ, 1998). Adviser: Maria Néliida Gonzalez de Gomez.

2nd place: Eliany Alvarenga de Araújo. "The social construction of information: informational practices in the context of Brazilian Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs)" (UnB, 1998). Advisers: Marcílio de Brito and Emir José Suaiden.

After the opening ceremony the guests attended a cocktail reception in the Senate Library.

The meeting to launch the thematic edition of the journal "Ciência de Informação" (Information Science), and of the journal "Informare" (January-June 1999) was held on 7 November in the hall of the Parlamundi. The former is part of the collection "Interdiscourses of Information Science: Art, Museums and Image".

The Ball of the Meeting was held in the Naval Club of Brasília on 9 November. This event, prepared as a social gathering of all those who attended the 4th Enancib, began with a cocktail party in the hall of the club. The guests were then ushered into the main hall for a splendid dinner made all the livelier by a DJ.

The 4th Enancib was attended by 400 enrolled participants as well as representatives of companies and public institutions in the area of computer sciences, science and technology, information and telecommunications, who occupied the stands in the hall of the Parlamundi.

The extensive programme included meetings, seminars, round-tables, debates and lectures. Over 200 papers were presented, of advanced work and current or recently concluded research. Of this total, more than 50% were presented by graduate and undergraduate students in the area of Information Science.

Several parallel events took place, including a meeting of public and school libraries sponsored by the Ministry of Culture, a meeting of co-ordinators of post-graduate courses from all over the country, and a meeting of post-graduate students that produced a document to be delivered to Ronaldo Sardenberg, the Minister for Science and Technology, demanding an urgent solution to the situation prevailing in the directorate of IBICT, where there is no real definition as to the occupant of the position. The document, together with a signed petition, was delivered to the MCT on 10 November by representatives of the post-graduate programmes who attended the event.

The IBICT publications and databases were available at the Institute's stand, which was visited by many and made record sales.

The 4th Enancib was well covered by the media, including the TV Senado, Band, LBV TV and radio. In addition, it was reported on in the "Correio Braziliense", "Jornal do Senado" and "Jornal da Comunidade" newspapers, among others. On 7 November, Professor Emir Suaiden (UnB) was interviewed on the programme "Bom Dia DF" of TV Globo, when he spoke about the event.

At the closing of the event on 10 November, Ancib held the elections for the new directorate, with Aldo de Albuquerque Barreto being re-elected. The list of Directors has been made available on the following home page:

<<http://www.alternex.com.br/~aldoibct/ancib.html>>

According to Aldo de Albuquerque Barreto, President of the Ancib, the Meeting clearly revealed a new position of maturity in Information Science and in the studies and research being carried out in this field. Also well defined was Ancib's position as mediator and aggregating agent in representing post-graduate studies and research on the national level in areas related to research policy.

The annals of the meeting will shortly be available on the home page of the event, at the following URL:

<www.ibict.br/4enancib>

Visit of the President of the IFLA to Brazil

1. Porto Alegre, Rio Grande do Sul **Brazilian Congress of Librarianship and Documentation**

The President of IFLA, Mme. Christine Deschamps, visited Brazil from 26 September to 3 October of this year to attend the XIX Brazilian Congress of Librarianship and Documentation, the III Latin American Congress of Librarianship and Documentation, and the VII National Meeting of Legal Information and Documentation. The theme of the Brazilian Congress was "Information for Citizenship".

On 28 September the President of the IFLA delivered a talk on "The IFLA, what it is and what it does". The table was co-ordinated by the Manager of the Regional Office of the IFLA/LAC and by Dr. Sônia Elisa Caregnato, of the Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul.

Mme. Deschamps was also present at the opening session of the General Assembly of the Brazilian Federal of Librarians Associations, where she had the opportunity of contacting the Presidents of the State Associations, Committees on Documentation and Information of the FEBAB and the Trade Unions, and to speak of the importance of FEBAB'S participation in the IFLA.

Mme. Deschamps also took part in and spoke at the closing session, in addition to attending several lectures and panels of Brazilian and Latin American professionals.

During her stay in Porto Alegre, Mme. Deschamps was received by the Governor of the State of Rio Grande do Sul, Dr. Olívio Dutra, and by the State Secretary for Culture, Dr. Luiz Paulo Pilla Vares, to whom she spoke of the importance of the participation of librarians in the Federation. Also present at this meeting were the President of the Congress, librarian Denize Paulsen, Mrs. Maria José Moura, from Portugal, and Mrs. Mirja Ryyänen, from the European Parliament, who also attended the Congress, and librarians Elizabet Maria Ramos de Carvalho, Manager of the Regional Office of the IFLA/LAC, and Maria Isabel da Franca,

Advisor to the Regional Office. The Governor of the State was deeply impressed by the role of the IFLA and authorised the State Public Library to join the Federation.

In Porto Alegre Mme. Deschamps also visited the State Public Library, whose Director, Denize Paulsen, presided over the Congress and the Central Library of the Catholic University of Rio Grande do Sul, where she was received by the Rector, the Director of the Library, Prof. Cesar Augusto Mazzillo. and the Vice-Director, librarian Sônia Holderbaum Vieira, who acted as Vice-President of the Congress.

The IFLA President's visit to Porto Alegre was sponsored by librarian Lúcia Silva Beheregaray, President of the Librarians Association of Rio Grande do Sul.

Both the social part of the visit and the Congress were excellent, offering the participants the opportunity to visit the marvels of Rio Grande do Sul and enjoy the hospitality of the **gaúchos**.

2. Rio de Janeiro

On the morning of 29 September the President of the IFLA, accompanied by the Manager of the Regional Office and Advisor Maria Isabel da Franca, travelled to Rio de Janeiro.

On the afternoon of that same day, a visit was paid to the National Library, where Mme. Deschamps was received by Eduardo Portela, President of the National Library Foundation. The President of the IFLA enjoyed the opportunity to visit a small exposition, specially organised for her visit, containing some of the rare works in the collection of the National Library. She also visited the Rare Books Section, the area for Preservation and Conservation of Documents, and the Manuscripts Section. A cocktail reception was offered, with the presence of the Library Directors and Heads of Sectors.

It should be mentioned that, despite her absence due to previously scheduled engagements (Rio Grande do Sul), Dr. Célia Zaher, Director of the National Library, was responsible for the entire agenda of the visit of the President of the IFLA to the National Library.

On the same day (29 September), a visit was made to the Regional Office of the IFLA in the Rio de Janeiro State Public Library, and to the library proper. Despite the Director of the Library, librarian Lúcia Fidalgo, having remained in Rio Grande do Sul, she designated librarians to receive the President of the IFLA and to accompany her on her visit.

After leaving the Public Library, the President of the IFLA visited the System of Library Information at the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, where she was received by librarian Eliana Taborda, who together with the other systems managers offered an explanation of the system, its products and services. A cocktail was offered at the end of the visit.

3. São Paulo

On 1 October the President of the IFLA, accompanied by the Regional Manager and Secretary Marly Solér, travelled to São Paulo, where she was received by Ivone Tálamo, member of the SC of the IFLA/LAC and also Secretary of the Regional Office. On 2 October she visited the University of São Paulo, where the

President of the IFLA was received by the representatives of the professional associations:

- a) The President of the Federal Council of Librarianship, librarian Fernando Modesto;
- b) The Directorate of the Technical Department and Supervising Council of the Integrated Library System of the University of São Paulo (SIBi/USP);
- c) The Department of Librarianship of the School of Communications of the USP and DBD/USP;
- d) The Co-ordinating Office of the System of Libraries of UNESP and UNICAMP;
- e) Representatives of associations (CRB-8, APB, Trade Union, FEBAB).

The meeting was programmed as follows:

1. Opening of the working session
 - Teresinha das Graças Coletta - DT/SIBi-USP
2. Presentation of the Integrated Library System of the USP-SIBi/USP
 - Inês Maria de Morais Imperatriz - DT/SIBi-USP
3. Presentation of the consortium work developed by the Library Systems of the three São Paulo universities (USP/UNESP/UNICAMP - The CRUESP Consortium)
 - Mariangela Spotti Lopes Fujita - CGB/UNESP
4. Educating professional librarians in Brazil
 - Johana Wilhelmina Smit - Head of the Department of Library Science of the ECA/USP

After the presentations, Mme. Deschamps spoke about "IFLA and the possibility of co-operation between Brazil and the international community".

On that same afternoon the President of IFLA visited the Mário de Andrade Public Library, where she was received by the Director, Marlene Martinez Hirata, and her staff. Her visit to the library allowed her to meet the team of librarians and to know about the work being developed.

On 3 October she visited the Official Press of the State of São Paulo, where she was received by the Vice-President, Dr. Carlos Conde, Dr. Carlos Haddad and librarian Ivone Tálamo. This visit was an opportunity for Mme. Deschamps to know the whole print-shop complex.

After this visit the President of the IFLA lunched with librarian Miriam Nascimento, former President of the FEBAB.

Following lunch, she visited the Painting Collection of the State of São Paulo, where the Advisor to the President received the group and Mme. Deschamps had the opportunity to appreciate a little of the Brazilian art.

The librarians of Brazil feel most honoured to have received the visit of the President of the IFLA and are sure that this exchange of experiences will be of great benefit to the development of Library Science in the region.

CUBA

Do not hesitate: participate !

Get an answer to poor healthcare, ignorance, injustice, prejudice: "Health Equity" is the main theme of the V Regional Congress on Health Sciences Information.

(see at: <http://www.bireme.br/crics5/I/homepage.htm>)

Is knowledge a privilege? What does a knowledge society mean to you? How do you apply knowledge and information for health equity? Are you lost with Internet information or do you already filter it? How to reach the public with health information?

Answers will be found, more doubts will arise, and practical approaches will be appointed, by twenty of the most prominent experts on Health Science Information from all over the world, representing some of the most significant institutions on this field.

Do not hesitate, come to Havana, Cuba, April 25-27 2001 to participate at the V Regional Congress on Health Science Information.

You cannot miss Pierre Lévy's key address on Cyberdemocracy and the following panels:

- Knowledge society and health equity
- Knowledge management in different instances of society
- Information, knowledge and health decision-making
- Scientific knowledge production and development
- Building capacity in health
- Information technologies and knowledge management

The Virtual Health Library and health knowledge in Latin America and the Caribbean are themes of most importance for all health science information professionals in the Region and will be discussed at the Congress.

Join us and improve your understanding on knowledge for health equity! Bring your contribution to the declaration of la habana on "[knowledge to change: information and knowledge for health equity!](#)"

For further information on registration, travel assistance, etc. visit CRICS V at <http://www.bireme.br/crics5/I/homepage.htm>
I look forward to greeting you in Cuba.
(Organizing Committee, CRICS V)

CHILE

Meeting of the Southern Cone: Tools for professional development of library workers in the era of the information society.

The Meeting of the Southern Cone - Project 342 IFLA-ALP - was held in Viña del Mar and Valparaíso (Chile) from 17-21 July. Three delegates from each region attended: Peru, Bolivia, Argentina, Uruguay and Chile, representing national and public libraries and the Legislative Power. A total of 16 people took part, including Elizabet de Carvalho, Manager of the Regional Office of the IFLA/LAC and representative of ALP.

The seminar was organised by the Directorate of Libraries, Archives and Museums of Chile, intensifying the theme developed at the workshop organised by the ALP in Martinique in 1997, "Tools for Librarian Development". The aim was to make a diagnosis of the library and librarians situation in the Southern Cone by analysing the needs and proposing guidelines for regional co-operation.

The Meeting received USD 15.000,00 from ALP. This money came from SIDA (Sweden Agency of Cooperation for International Development).

The methodology used was the following: presentation of national information, group work to reach an agreement as to the needs of the countries in the region, and regional conclusions to formulate suggestions for the types of participating libraries with a view to setting up co-operative projects.

The second day was focused on the workshop "Building new ways to face his task: the professional work in the information era", conducted by Julio Cubillo, Director of the Latin American Center of Economics and Social documentation (CLADES), branch of the (Economics Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (CEPAL).

The group work and the plenary session at the end of the day allowed to see the Latin-american library worker as the key person to offer to people, most of which live in poverty, the access to the new technologies of information and to the Internet. It was also stressed that the library workers of the region need training not only to learn how to employ the technology and how to organize information, but also to learn how to employ the tools that contribute for the development of more participating citizens.

The works of the third day took place in the Library of Congress of Chile, in Valparaíso. The regional analysis and the recommendations were finished and a formal agreement was signed. In this day it was performed an audio conference with Roberto Saeacco, from CSELT, Italy telecom, "From Alexandria to Babel: the wealth of knowledge" The conference approached themes related to the impact of technology and information and the changing profile of the work of the library professionals.

Evaluation

The evaluation of the seminar was very positive. The workshop of Julio Cubillo and the text he delivered for study were very well received as was the opportunity to work with small mixed groups. The audio conference of Roberto Saracco was not interactive but stimulated vivid discussions about the libraries of the future and the services they will offer.

Some participants considered the seminar was very short to deal with the subjects approached and others said that they would like to have received the country reports before.

Press coverage

The seminar was covered by the press from Santiago and Valparaiso. An interview with Elizabet de Carvalho was published by "El Mercurio", the main Chilean newspaper.

Follow-up

In returning to Uruguay, the participants from that country, with the support of the Uruguayan Librarians Association, organized a conference about the seminar and the state of the libraries in the region, as part of the 23 International Book Fair of Montevideo.

Interaction among the participants are under way through e-mail and the works will result in a series of projects for ALP, as the Seminar of Shared Management of Public Libraries, the implementation of border libraries between the different countries and the guidelines for conservation and standards for the national libraries.

Finances

The seminar resulted in a surplus of USD 4209,77. This surplus came from the representative of Bolivia who declined to participate when it was not possible to search a substitute, the exchange rate and the offer of ALP to publish the final report, what was an item of the initial budget.

The following sectoral conclusions were drawn:

For libraries of the Legislative Power:

- Exchange of experiences, information and publications;
- Develop and make the sites of these institutions accessible and ensure mutual access to information available on line;
- Mutual support in developing activities pertinent to the parliamentary libraries, policies to develop collections, co-operative cataloguing, technical processes, automation of libraries, and so on;
- Develop a common standardised language on law and legislation.

For public libraries:

- A regional meeting to exchange experiences as regards
- participative management and innovative projects, creating a manual for exchanging experiences;

- Create a project to implement border libraries in the Southern Cone;
- Promote the UNESCO Manifesto on Public Libraries.

For national libraries

- Hold a seminar-workshop on conservation and preservation of funds to exchange experiences and formulate specific projects to present to the UNESCO as part of the Memory of the World project;
- Share experiences in the process of automation of national libraries;
- Formulate policies of conservation and preservation of national libraries.

Inauguration - Gateway of the National Library of Chile in the Miguel de Cervantes Virtual Library

As a result of a co-operation agreement, the National Library of Chile inaugurated a gateway in the Miguel de Cervantes Virtual Library, the most important of its kind in the Spanish language, with a first phase designed to digitise 30,000 Ibero-American works. The aim is to expand the diffusion of the Spanish and Chilean bibliographical assets and to optimise the use of digitised collections, thereby offering more efficient access to bibliographical resources. This initiative was stimulated by the University of Alicante and financed by the Banco Santander Central Hispanico.

The University of Alicante has already established agreements with national libraries and academic institutions of various countries and communities, among them the National Library of Spain and that of Catalonia, the College of Mexico and the Universities of Harvard, Stanford and Berkeley in the United States.

This type of effort will enable broad sectors to have access to material that generally remains inaccessible because of its rare nature or precarious state of conservation, thus bringing national treasures to the network and contributing towards strengthening the presence of the Spanish language. By gathering together such an important heritage - so often physically dispersed - a contribution is also made towards cultural investigation, formation and diffusion, as well as conservation of the national heritage.

The Gateway of the National Library of Chile offers the visitor a selection of its most valuable collections. Among these can be mentioned the José Toribio Medina American Library, which brings together a set of American works, manuscripts and first editions of great importance to students of the colonial period and the processes of independence throughout the continent. Among the works selected is an important part of the writings of Medina, the outstanding "Atlas of the Physical and Political History of Chile", by Claudio Gay, the "Historical report of the kingdom of Chile", by Alonso Ovalle, and the newspaper "The Voice of America", edited by Benjamín Vicuña Mackenna in New York.

Also included is a set of works, manuscripts, critical references, photographs and recordings of renowned Chilean writers such as Pablo Neruda, Gabriela Mistral and Vicente Huidobro. Special mention should be made of the set of material on Rubén Darío, which includes manuscripts, photographs and the electronic edition of the first edition of "Azul", printed in Valparaíso in 1888.

A series of documents was selected from the so-called "string (cordel) literature" that circulated during the second half of the 19th century, illustrated with an abundance of varied images, including reproductions made of different etchings and engravings of the popular authors themselves, who always illustrated frightening and extraordinary facts which at the same time represent a valuable fragment of the social and cultural life of Chile.

Besides the historical works and documents, the Gateway of the National Library is also to include contemporary publications. At present the digital versions of two major journals are available: "Mapocho" and "Patrimônio Cultural", currently edited by the National Library and the DIBAM, respectively.

Bill Gates in Chile: a network of public libraries for the new millennium

The Government of Chile, through the Directorate of Public Libraries, Archives and Museums (DIBAM) and the Sub-directorate of Public Libraries, co-ordinates a network of public libraries that spreads from Putre as far as Porto Williams, including Easter Island. Most of these libraries are municipal, holding agreements with the DIBAM (delivery of material, skill-building and network co-ordination).

Seventy-six percent of the communities in the country have libraries connected to this network, while 10% have libraries without such an agreement with the DIBAM, and 14% are lacking in libraries. The institution is eager to achieve integration with the network, in the middle term, of all the communities in the country so that each community has at least one library.

During the last ten years the DIBAM, through the Sub-directorate of Public Libraries, has made a sustained effort to incorporate all the communities in the country to the network that it co-ordinates, based on a definition of the public library as a space for the community to find culture, education, information and recreation. In this sense, and in keeping with the basic principles set down by UNESCO, the public library is converted into one of the pillars of the community's development and contributes towards creating conditions for greater equality, freedom, participation and democratisation of Chilean society.

The "Network of Public Libraries for the New Millennium" project, which enjoys the contribution of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, will further the concept of the library as a space for encounter, develop with the very tools of the new

technologies of information and communications spaces for all the country's inhabitants to engage in virtual encounters without any distinction between "age, race, sex, religion, nationality, language or social status", according to the UNESCO Manifesto on Public Libraries.

This initiative will be made possible thanks to a contribution by the Gates Foundation equivalent to 5 million dollars, and to a donation by the Microsoft Chile of 1.2 million dollars.

The success of this project depends to a great extent on the pledge of various agencies to collaborate, among them the regional and local governments, and above all the citizens themselves, since they are the ones called to lend sense and continuity to the efforts made by the DIBAM, and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation for equipping all the libraries with the modern technological tools that are part of the new reality faced by culture, information, education and leisure.

Statistical information on public libraries and the project

- Number of public libraries on the DIBAM Network: 287
- Number of peripheral libraries (local libraries associated to public libraries): 25
- Number of libraries with services for the blind: 8
- Number of libraries in penitentiaries: 13
- Number of libraries in hospitals: 17
- Number of "Bibliometro" modules (Santiago): 7
- Number of "bibliobuses": 11
- Number of cultural buses: 4
- Number of "bibliboat" services: 3
- Number of lending kiosks (Valparaíso): 3

MEXICO

Post-graduate programme in Librarianship and Information Studies

The Faculty of Philosophy and Arts and the University Center for Librarianship Investigations, entities of the Autonomous National University of Mexico, inaugurated the post-graduate programme in Librarianship and Information Studies. This program is designed to train high-level professionals in those aspects related to the study of information, documents, the diffusion of knowledge, reading, classification and organisation of collections of documents, archives and information services, as well as the study of institutions responsible for preserving and spreading information and knowledge by forming document collections through the use of technology.

For further information, consult:

<http://dgep.posgrado.unam.mx/~posgffyl/programa/biblio.htm>

Co-ordinator of the program:

Dr. Elsa Barberena

E-mail: elsa@servidor.unam.mx;

Ebb218@yahoo.com

The General Directorate of Libraries at UNAM

In March, Silvia González Marín was appointed General Director of Libraries at the Autonomous National University of Mexico, succeeding Dr. José Adolfo Rodríguez Gallardo.

The Latin American Meeting on Library Service to Indian Communities

The University Center of Librarianship Investigation at UNAM, with the support of LAC Section of IFLA and ALP, organised the Latin American Meeting on Library Service to Indian Communities in Mexico City from 15-17 November of this year.

The Meeting aimed chiefly at an exchange of experiences, projects and proposals for library services to this important social sector of the sub-continent.

Papers were presented by representatives from different countries in the region, among which: "Word and memory: reflections on the historical conscious of the Latin American Indian peoples in the context of linguistic and cultural identity", by Andrés Medina Hernández, of the Institute of Anthropological Investigation (UNAM); "Latin American antecedents in attending to the problem of library services in Indian communities", by María Elena Zapata, of the Venezuela Book Bank (IFLA/ALP); "Indian schools and intercultural libraries in Brazil: books build libraries", by José R. Bessa Freire, of the Programme for Studies on Indian Peoples (Rio de Janeiro State University), Brazil; "Creating books and cultivating reading in Indian communities: the case of the network of rural libraries and the Country Encyclopaedia project at Cajamarca, Peru," by Alfredo Mires Ortiz, of the Network of Rural Libraries at Cajamarca; "Where to investigate the memory of Latin American Indian ethnic groups?", by Alice Miranda Arguedas, of the School of Librarianship of the National University of Costa Rica); "Moments and tendencies in Indian editorial production", by José E. Juncosa, of the Abya Yala Publishing House, Ecuador.

8TH MEETING ON ACADEMIC AND INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALS

(Latin American journals: diffusion and access via databases)

On 16-17 November 2000 the General Directorate of Libraries at UNAM held this meeting dedicated to scientific and database journals edited in Latin America. With the participation of both national and foreign specialists, the event focused on the following themes:

- Access and diffusion of Latin American journals via data bases;
- Latin American journals and co-operative work;
- Latin American journals from the point of view of evaluation;
- Latin American journals: a look at the future.

The meeting brought together editors of data bases specialised in diffusing Latin American material, as well as specialists who

collaborated in registering and controlling Latin American publications of a scientific nature and professionals in forming and applying criteria for evaluating and selecting Latin American journals.

GENERAL NEWS OF INTEREST TO THE REGION

IFLA 2001 - Fellowship Program - IFLA Congress Boston, Massachussets, EUA, August 16-25 2001

The Organizing Committee will support the participation of some delegates of developing countries. The fellowship will pay for the flight, hosting, food and registration. Priority will be given to young professionals with at least five years of librarianship experience and that are not regular IFLA's conference attendees.

Deadline date is March 1 2001.

The requirements must be reach the Organizing Committee by this date to be considered.

Please send requirement to:

IFLA 2001 Fellowship Program

50 E. Huron Street

Chicago, Illinois 60611 USA

Fax +312 280-3256

You can send your questions by e-mail intl@ala.org or by phone + 312 280-3201

Reconstruction of Libraries in Kosovo

Initiatives to begin the reconstruction of public libraries in the war-torn province of Kosovo were agreed at a recent meeting in The Hague.

Representatives of key players agreed a plan of action, which would establish a network of mobile libraries throughout the country. 65 library buildings had been destroyed or severely damaged during the recent conflict. Following the recommendations of a recent report on libraries in Kosovo, it was agreed that the quickest and most effective way to serve the needs of people, in the greatest number of communities, would be a mobile library and information service. The OpenSociety Institute in Kosovo, 'KFOS', has already ordered one vehicle. Two others are expected to be funded by donors, and sources for several more are currently being sought. All vehicles will provide Internet access. The United Nations' civil administration in Kosovo, UNMIK, has agreed to provide security for the service and to ensure its continuation after completion of the initial projects.

Other initiatives agreed were:

- To establish a Kosovo Libraries Consortium, consisting of key players, to act as the focal point, linking international interests with interests in Kosovo
- To take steps to establish an effective library infrastructure in Kosovo, including a Kosovo Library Council, which would give advice, and make recommendations to relevant bodies, on library and information services and on projects and expenditure
- To develop the role of the National and University Library, to enable it to provide central technical services and a range of services to support libraries at the regional and local level
- To develop a network of regional resource centres, supporting all types of libraries in their districts
- To hold seminars and workshops to disseminate best practice.

It was agreed to hold the next meeting of the group in Prishtina, and to plan a general conference of library staff in Kosovo and a training workshop on the same occasion.

Ross Shimmon, Secretary General of IFLA, who chaired the meeting, said: "Libraries are a vital tool for reconstruction and the establishment of democracy. That is why we need to rebuild the library network in Kosovo, where people lack truly basic necessities such as houses, heating, and electricity." He stressed that the meeting was determined that the thought-provoking, yet practical, report Libraries in Kosovo/Kosovo should not, like so many others, be left to gather dust on the shelves. "I believe that the key international agencies, working closely with librarians and local communities can help make a difference to people's lives", he said.

Further information from:

Ross Shimmon or Sjoerd Koopman

IFLA HQ

Tel: +31 70 31 40884

Fax: +31 70 3834827

Email: ifla@ifla.org

FAIFE

The International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) has implemented an initiative, FAIFE, to defend and promote intellectual freedom as defined in Article 19 of the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The initiative is based on a resolution adopted at the IFLA Council meeting in Copenhagen 1997.

In March last year IFLA adopted a general statement on Libraries and Intellectual Freedom. This statement has so far been translated into 30 languages and is to be found on the FAIFE web-site: <http://www.faiife.dk/policy/iflastat/iflastat.htm>.

FAIFE (Free Access to Information and Freedom of Expression) consists of both a Committee and an Office. The Committee has 29 members nominated by national library associations from almost all parts of the world. The Committee is supported by the IFLA / FAIFE Office located in Copenhagen, Denmark.

Through the FAIFE initiative IFLA furthers intellectual freedom in all aspects, directly or indirectly, related to libraries and librarianship. FAIFE monitors the state of intellectual freedom within the library community worldwide, supports IFLA policy development, co-operates with other international human rights organisations, and responds to violations of free access to information and freedom of expression. The overall objective of FAIFE is to raise awareness of the essential correlation between the library concept and the values of intellectual freedom.

World report

One of the first steps of FAIFE is to provide documentation of the actual situation concerning libraries, librarianship and intellectual freedom around the world. To this end FAIFE is now collecting country reports, documents and other contributions from library associations, institutions and various other resources. The information will be used to produce a global report on the state of Intellectual Freedom in the library world for release by IFLA.

You can find more information on FAIFE and IFLA through our web-site on the Internet: <http://www.faiife.dk>. We have already publicised 38 country reports, which you may find at <http://www.faiife.dk/report/intro.htm>

Carsten Frederiksen
Acting director IFLA / FAIFE Office
Islands Brygge 37
DK-2300 Copenhagen
Denmark
Phone: +45 3366 4627
Fax: +45 3366 7064
E-mail: carsten.frederiksen@ifla.org

CLEARINGHOUSE - PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED

THE CLEARINGHOUSE MAINTAINS SETS OF CONFERENCE PAPERS AND OTHER IFLA PUBLICATIONS. ALL PAPERS LISTED BELOW ARE AVAILABLE FOR COPIES AT THE REGIONAL OFFICE CLEARINGHOUSE. PLEASE NOTE THE NEWS BELOW EACH REFERENCE, THEY MIGHT INTEREST YOU.

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INTERNATIONAL CALENDAR

2001

June

14 - 21 - ALA Annual Conference, San francisco, USA

August

19 - 26 - IFLA General Conference, Boston , Massachusets, USA

2002

June

13 -19 - ALA Annual Conference, Atlanta, USA

August

18 - 24 - 68th IFLA General Conference, Glasgow, Scotland, UK

2003

August

1 - 3 - 69th IFLA General Conference, berlin, Germany

2004

70th IFLA General Conference, Buenos Aires, Argentina

2006

72nd IFLA General Conference, Seoul, Korea

