



NEWSLETER

Latin América and The Caribbean Section (IFLA/LAC)

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**THE COUNTDOWN FOR THE
LIBRARIAN COMMUNITY MEETING IN
BUENOS AIRES HAS ALREADY STARTED!**

TEATRO COLÓN



CASA ROSADA



CAMINITO



PUERTO MADERO



EL OBELISCO – AV. 9 DE JULIO

**WORLD LIBRARY AND INFORMATION CONGRESS
IFLA 2004
AUGUST 22 – 27**

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.

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EDITORIAL

We are just a few days from the World Libraries and Information Congress (WLIC) to be held in Buenos Aires. This is going to be a great opportunity for professionals from the whole Latin America and the Caribbean to exchange experiences and enjoy one of the best cities in the world. This issue of Newsletter brings many news about the Congress, e.g., the main speakers, sightseeing, libraries, etc. You can't miss this matchlessly enjoyable professional and friendly environment, and still visit a beautiful city!

Find in this issue's General News of the Region Section the list of all grants available for IFLA Conference in Buenos Aires.

I highlight the letter by IFLA's President following this Editorial. In her letter, she outlines IFLA's priorities for the two-year period (2003-2005) and strongly urges all the members to commit themselves to help building the Information Society we long for, which will imply in hard convincing work before our governments, with an eye to the scheduled Tunis' 2005 round of negotiations.

This issue also brings, among much other news, IFLA's Declaration on Academic Literature and Research Documentation adopted by the Governing Board in December 2003, to which we emphatically call your attention.

Please do pay attention to the news about IFLA's Association-Affiliation Revision. All interested parties should make sure to cast their votes so that each one's point of view can be taken into due account. The revision of quota payment to the Federation by all Librarians Associations is a long-standing goal IFLA is now endeavoring to meet.

We must now say "farewell" and express our gratitude to former Secretary-General Ross Shimmon, whose farewell letter is also published herewith. Ross knew how to win the respect and the friendship of all of us, and we wish him and his wife plenty happiness in this new stage of their lives.

Our warmest welcome to the new Secretary-General Rama Ramachandran with our wishes of happiness in his new office, adding that we'll make all efforts to make his burden lighter.

Buenos Aires is in the wait. You can't miss it! This is a unique opportunity to attend IFLA Congress!

ElizabetMaria Ramos de Carvalho
IFLA/LAC RO Manager

HEADQUARTERS, CORE ACTIVITIES, COMMITTEES, DIVISIONS, SECTIONS

IFLA HQ

Message from the President



Kay Raseroka

Dear IFLA Member,

I am delighted to be able to send this letter of greetings as President to IFLA Members, to you who are the heart of our great Federation.

The cross-cutting issues that we selected as areas of focus during 2003-2005, based on the outcomes of the consultative process with you, the IFLA members, are:

Advocacy as a process that empowers librarians to advance the full realisation of the belief in IFLA Core Values at local, national, regional and international levels of library and information service operations.

Development of partnerships with stakeholders who share our values and enhancement of continuing education of librarians. Both of these empower librarians to cope with dynamic change reflected in the emerging areas of opportunity: the Information Society.

During 2003 IFLA focused its advocacy efforts on the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS). IFLA members influenced the content of the WSIS Declaration of Principles and Action Plan which form the basis for emerging information and knowledge society. The experiences gained at the IFLA Pre World Summit Conference: Libraries at the Heart of the Information Society, has demonstrated beyond any doubt that this goal is attainable. IFLA members from 70 countries participated 'as powerful advocates for the potential for libraries in the rapidly developing information society' in bilateral discussions with representatives of the national delegations to the WSIS on the importance of libraries in the emerging Information Society.

Participants agree that the experience was exhilarating and rewarding both professionally and politically. It opened

unprecedented communication on libraries with levels of governments that are rarely accessible to or accessed by librarians. We also firmly agree that it is imperative for us to sustain the gains made. Therefore we urge and encourage all Library Associations and pertinent national institutions to follow up on discussions with representatives of national governments. Where Library Associations missed this opportunity they are urged to embark on their own local initiatives.

IFLA members are requested to plan and devise strategic actions, at the local, national and regional levels, to explore innovative, creative ways and means of facilitating the emergence of inclusive information and communication societies, despite:

- disabilities in reading and in other literacies that provide for skilled exploitation of information;
- paucity of appropriate infrastructure and
- physical disabilities.

This is an auspicious time for librarians to seize an unprecedented opportunity to respond appropriately to and support diverse human needs for information. Librarians' expertise in management of information, their skilled support for users in the exploitation of information tools and the convergence of information communication technologies in facilitating access to information across time, space and through various media are enablers for the fulfilment of the IFLA core values.

However, time is not our side. By mid 2005, IFLA membership needs to have completed advocacy efforts at local, national and regional levels. Communication of nationally or regionally agreed and viable short/long term activities that implement the WSIS Action Plans, would be helpful for coordinated approaches, sustaining concerted influence and activities for negotiation in WSIS 2005 in Tunis.

I urge IFLA members to share their local experiences through <http://www.ifla.org/III/wsis/wsis-rm.html> site. The Proceedings of the IFLA Pre-World Summit Conference: *Libraries @ the Heart of the Information Society* have been published and provide an excellent resource for sustained advocacy at the local and national levels.

The success of this coordinated advocacy activity proves, beyond doubt that we have the commitment, capacity and capability, as Librarians, to operate at strategic levels and use our influence with Governments effectively, in support of the principle on freedom of access to information, for the public good. I urge us all to envision success that is an outcome of these beliefs, of our hard work and courage of our convictions. It is important for us to recognise the significance of effective and efficient Library Associations at the national levels, if IFLA is to be truly representative of the global voice of Librarians. Continuing education for

librarians must include the development of political savvy and effective negotiation skills as librarians accept that they have a significant role to play as members of Civil Society. We have to seek and work out partnership agreements with other stakeholders, such as telecentres and community technology centres, who are providers of information services within diversity of communities we serve.

Congratulations to all of us! Let us be buoyed up by this success and build on it for the attainment of the reality of human-needs-based library and information services at the heart Information Society.

I wish to express our sincere gratitude and indebtedness to all who contributed to the sustained IFLA presence in the entire WSIS process: Library Associations, parent institutions and other donors for their financial support. Colleagues from all the regions of the World, the Swiss Colleagues and future Librarians (Swiss library science students) harnessed their combined intellectual capital, tenacity, good will and unflagging spirit of volunteerism for the good of our profession. Last, but not least, I wish to pay tribute to the IFLA Headquarters Team, under the able leadership of Ross Shimmon, for the extraordinary effort and success, despite human resource constraints.

Participation of IFLA in advocacy, at the WSIS, was an opportunity that we had to take; however it was possible to allocate only a very small budget for it. The total costs, in human resources, time and money, of the advocacy activities are thus yet to be calculated. The Governing Board, as part of its strategic planning activities, will consider the financial and human resource implications of IFLA's commitment to advocacy, based on this experience. The issue of financing IFLA activities, in general, is one that demands serious consideration by all members, so that IFLA may capitalize on shared expertise, diversity of experience and traditions in this area, when offered. The IFLA Treasurer, Ingrid Parent, will make a full report to Council in August 2004, and your suggestions are always welcome.

May I take this opportunity to express our appreciation for the efforts that the National Association Membership fees Working Group, have made in addressing issues on membership dues. Library Associations (LA) represent a key component of IFLA membership. We thus encourage LA members to assist the Working Group by providing the data that is requested, so that efforts made towards establishing an equitable and affordable fee structure will yield results at the earliest possible time. A satisfactory solution in this area will empower IFLA, in its diversity, to develop ongoing programmes for library association membership development at national and regional levels.

I offer our sincere thanks to Divisions and Sections for their efforts at incorporating into strategic plans and in the call for conference papers, the theme: *Libraries for Lifelong*

Literacy, during this rather difficult, transition stage. We look forward to a rich intellectual feast at the forthcoming World Library and Information Congress in Buenos Aires.

Our South American Colleagues will have the opportunity of a lifetime, to experience the vibrancy of the meeting of minds, as well as the forging of communities of practice across time zones, distance and linguistic barriers. I wish you exciting times as you stretch professional expertise, explore different contexts and experience, to discover innovative ways of bridging the digital divide in all aspects of IFLA's professional priorities.



Ross Shimmon

Ross Shimmon, our Secretary General, retires at the end of March. He has managed both the restructuring and the adaptation of IFLA to the new Statutes expertly. His experience and expertise in formulation of Statutes, has guided IFLA members smoothly across what could easily have been turbulent waters. We thank Ross for his leadership, and personal warmth to all who seek his guidance and expert support.

Beside Ross, of course, there is Pat, his partner in life, whose loving support for Ross extended to IFLA, in special ways. Governing Board and IFLA Staff have benefited immensely from her generosity of spirit, warmth and cheerfulness. We thank them both for the contributions they made to IFLA, professionally and through their own personalities. We wish them good health, joy in retirement and the excitement of seeing the world in a new light, without the L (library) word! Except, of course, reading all the books they have always wanted to read, but lacked the time. We assure Ross that all those library cards he received in Berlin were a token of his welcome to borrow books from all IFLA member libraries.

Let us welcome, warmly, Secretary General **Rama Ramachandran**, who has been entrusted with the IFLA helm from April 2004. We pledge our support and wish him and Mrs. Ramachandran an exciting and rewarding period in IFLA. We look forward to sharing with him the opportunities that are on offer to IFLA, as the global voice of librarians, at this propitious time: the emergence of the Information Society.



Rama Ramachandran

2004 already promises to be an exciting and productive year for all IFLA members!

Kay Raseroka
President

Farewell message from Ross Shimmon

Dear Friends and Colleagues;

Incredibly, this is my last hour as Secretary General IFLA.

I would like to thank so many people for being such good colleagues; President Kay Raseroka, immediate Past President Christine Deschamps, present and past members of the Governing Board and its predecessors, members of our Sections, past and present Core Activities Directors and hosts, our Regional Managers, members of the conference organising committees, colleagues in our sister organisations in the International Committee of the Blue Shield, in Unesco and in the International Publishers Association and any other organisations. Not least of course, our small team at Headquarters who have been such good colleagues.

Between us all, I think, we have built on the achievements of our predecessors and made progress towards our ambition to be a truly international organisation and, as we claim, the global voice of libraries, librarians and their users.

I have enjoyed my five years at the helm of the good ship IFLA and I think it is in good shape as Rama takes over ready for the challenges ahead. I believe that libraries are needed more than ever as technology advances and terrorism threatens. We need to hold our nerve and defend our principles so that people have free access to information, ideas and works of imagination so that they can make sense of the world around them and take control of their lives.

In a few days Pat and I will return to our home in Faversham. We hope that some of you will find your way there. You will certainly be very welcome. To whet your appetite you might like to check <http://www.faversham.org/> Some of you know that my magnificent retirement gift was life membership of Kent County Cricket Club. If you would like to see where I

shall be spending some of my new-found leisure, check <http://www.kentccc.com/> If I am not watching cricket, I am quite likely to be at the Kent and East Sussex Railway

So, farewell, thanks and good luck!
Ross Shimmon

Revisions to the Association Membership category

Postal Ballots - to all Voting Members of IFLA

The Governing Board has decided seek the approval of Council by postal ballot for proposals to revise the Association Membership category. These are set out in Proposal A. If passed they will require an amendment to the Statutes to establish a new category of membership. This is set out in Proposal B.

Proposal A:

This proposal would introduce a new, fairer, more transparent system for calculating the membership fees for National Association Members, based on their own operating expenses rather than on the UNESCO scales used at present. In countries where there is more than one national association they could all join independently; the current 'veto' available to existing National Association members would be abolished and there would be no need for associations within a country to share votes and fees. It would introduce a new category of 'Other Associations' for sub-national (e.g. provincial or state) associations. It would introduce a new, simpler system of allocating votes and 'free' Section membership entitlements. It would provide for a transition period of three years for members which face substantial increases or decreases in their membership fees. It would introduce a development programme for association members with the lowest operating expenses, whereby partnerships could be established between such associations and associations with greater resources.

If you are in favour of this proposal, write 'X' in the Yes column under Proposal A on the enclosed ballot paper. If you are against this proposal, write 'X' in the No column.

Proposal B:

This proposal is required because, in order to implement Proposal A, we need to amend the Statutes. This new Statute would create a category for 'Other Associations'. At present there is no such category. Any sub-national (e.g. state or provincial) associations which wish to join currently have to be enrolled as Institutional Members.

If you are in favour of this proposal, write 'X' in the Yes column under Proposal B on the enclosed ballot paper. If you are against this proposal, write 'X' in the No column.

Please note: You may vote in this ballot only if you are the authorised representative of a voting member of IFLA that has paid the membership fees for 2003 in full and is not in arrears, or that has joined and paid for 2004.

The closing date for this ballot is Friday 6th August 2004. No ballot papers can be accepted after this date.

The result of Proposal A will be reported to Council at its meeting on 23rd August 2004 in Buenos Aires. It requires a simple majority of the votes cast to be approved.

The result of Proposal B will also be reported to Council at its meeting on 23rd August 2004 in Buenos Aires. It requires a simple majority of the votes cast to be approved. But because it is a proposed amendment to the Statutes it will then require final approval by Council at that meeting in accordance with Article 30.4 of the Statutes. A two-thirds majority of the Members voting will be required at that meeting for final approval.

All voting members of IFLA are entitled to vote in this ballot. It is not restricted to Association members.

Further background information on these proposals (see forms) (www.ifla.org/III/members/pb-nam04i-e.htm)

Ramachandran Rasu
Secretary General

IFLA Statement on Open Access to Scholarly Literature and Research Documentation

IFLA (the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions) is committed to ensuring the widest possible access to information for all peoples in accordance with the principles expressed in the Glasgow Declaration on Libraries, Information Services and Intellectual Freedom.

IFLA acknowledges that the discovery, contention, elaboration and application of research in all fields will enhance progress, sustainability and human well being. Peer reviewed scholarly literature is a vital element in the processes of research and scholarship. It is supported by a range of research documentation, which includes pre-prints, technical reports and records of research data.

IFLA declares that the world-wide network of library and information services provides access to past, present and future scholarly literature and research documentation; ensures its preservation; assists users in discovery and use; and offers educational programs to enable users to develop lifelong literacies.

IFLA affirms that comprehensive open access to scholarly literature and research documentation is vital to the understanding of our world and to the identification of

solutions to global challenges and particularly the reduction of information inequality.

Open access guarantees the integrity of the system of scholarly communication by ensuring that all research and scholarship will be available in perpetuity for unrestricted examination and, where relevant, elaboration or refutation.

IFLA recognises the important roles played by all involved in the recording and dissemination of research, including authors, editors, publishers, libraries and institutions, and advocates the adoption of the following open access principles in order to ensure the widest possible availability of scholarly literature and research documentation:

- Acknowledgement and defence of the moral rights of authors, especially the rights of attribution and integrity.
- Adoption of effective peer review processes to assure the quality of scholarly literature irrespective of mode of publication.
- Resolute opposition to governmental, commercial or institutional censorship of the publications deriving from research and scholarship.
- Succession to the public domain of all scholarly literature and research documentation at the expiration of the limited period of copyright protection provided by law, which period should be limited to a reasonable time, and the exercise of fair use provisions, unhindered by technological or other constraints, to ensure ready access by researchers and the general public during the period of protection.
- Implementation of measures to overcome information inequality by enabling both publication of quality assured scholarly literature and research documentation by researchers and scholars who may be disadvantaged, and also ensuring effective and affordable access for the peoples of developing nations and all who experience disadvantage including the disabled.
- Support for collaborative initiatives to develop sustainable open access* publishing models and facilities including encouragement, such as the removal of contractual obstacles, for authors to make scholarly literature and research documentation available without charge.
- Implementation of legal, contractual and technical mechanisms to ensure the preservation and perpetual availability, usability and authenticity of all scholarly literature and research documentation.

This statement was adopted by the Governing Board of IFLA at its meeting in The Hague on 5th December 2003.

Definition of open access publication:

An open access publication is one that meets the following two conditions:

1. The author(s) and copyright holder(s) grant(s) to all users a free, irrevocable, world-wide, perpetual (for the lifetime of the applicable copyright) right of access to, and a licence to copy, use, distribute, perform and display the work publicly and to make and distribute derivative works in any digital medium for any reasonable purpose, subject to proper attribution of authorship, as well as the right to make small numbers of printed copies for their personal use.
2. A complete version of the work and all supplemental materials, including a copy of the permission as stated above, in a suitable standard electronic format is deposited immediately upon initial publication in at least one online repository that is supported by an academic institution, scholarly society, government agency, or other well-established organisation that seeks to enable open access, unrestricted distribution, interoperability, and long-term archiving.

An open access publication is a property of individual works, not necessarily of journals or of publishers.

Community standards, rather than copyright law, will continue to provide the mechanism for enforcement of proper attribution and responsible use of the published work, as they do now.

This definition of open access publication has been taken from [A Position statement by the Wellcome Trust in support of open access publishing](#) and was based on the definition arrived at by delegates who attended a meeting on open access publishing convened by the Howard Hughes Medical Institute in July 2003.

Associated documents:

Press Release: IFLA supports Open Access movement (www.ifla.org/V/press/oa240204.html)

Glasgow Declaration on Libraries, Information Services and Intellectual Freedom

(www.ifla.org/faife/policy/iflastat/gldeclar-e.html)

Position statement by the Wellcome Trust in support of open access publishing

(www.wellcome.ac.uk/en/1/awtvispolpub.html)

IFLA supports Open Access movement

The IFLA Governing Board has adopted a statement on "Open Access to Scholarly Literature and Research documentation"

Welcoming the IFLA statement, President-elect Alex Byrne noted IFLA's long commitment to open access to information, especially its concern for access to scholarly literature in the developing world.

He said: "IFLA recognises that achieving affordable, global access to scholarly information and research documentation will require a great deal of commitment and a variety of strategies. IFLA strongly supports the Open Access movement and welcomes the launch of many OA compliant publications. IFLA also acknowledges the need to address the challenge on a number of fronts and in partnership with many stakeholders."

One of the principal concerns identified by Alex Byrne was to support and defend the moral rights of creators, while simultaneously seeking balance in copyright legislation to protect and extend the public domain and public interest in access to information. "This is fundamental to many areas including health, education, development and culture", he added.

Further information:

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(IFLA HQ Press Release)

Language issues related to the upcoming World Library and Information Congress (WLIC) in Buenos Aires

To: IFLA Section Officers

Dear Colleagues,

Herewith I would like to ask your attention for some language issues related to our upcoming World Library and Information Congress (WLIC) in Buenos Aires (August 2004).

We really hope to attract large numbers of non-English-speaking delegates to the conference, and can hopefully welcome more Spanish and Portuguese speaking colleagues than ever before. Naturally this puts an extra challenge upon all of us in providing interpretation facilities and making translations available.

Recently Josche Neven has reported to you that this year, more than in other years, there have been many requests for

Simultaneous Interpretation (SI). Due to our limited budget, only 2 sessions per time-slot can have this extra service.

In view of this situation - not all requests for SI could be honoured - it becomes even more important for the Sections to make sure that translations of their papers be made available. I urge you to try and get hold of translations of all papers in your programme - especially those into English and Spanish.

In general the best translations are the ones by native speakers of the "target" language and therefore you are encouraged to try and find translators within the professional networks of your sections in the first place. We feel that this way, the specialist language, technical terms, "jargon" can be addressed in the best way.

In those cases that it would really be impossible to find colleagues who can provide the required translations on a voluntary basis and at no cost, IFLA's Professional Committee has decided to make a limited amount available to meet the cost of such translations. If this is your situation, please contact me, specifying the size of the translation (number of words) and the estimated cost involved. I will then see if we can meet these expenses.

With best wishes,
Sjoerd Koopman
Coordinator of Professional Activities

New IFLA Publication: Knowledge Management. Libraries and Librarians Taking Up the Challenge

This is a compilation of 17 papers given at various recent IFLA and some other conferences. A special Knowledge Management Discussion Group existed during these years and held meetings during the annual IFLA conferences. Apart from a "Prelude" article, a reprint of the classic "Blow Up the Corporate Library" from the 1990s, the papers are grouped into 3 sections: Political and ethical implications, Issues and instruments and Case studies.

Knowledge Management. Libraries and Librarians Taking Up the Challenge

Edited by: Hans-Christoph Hobohm

München: Saur, 2004, 220 p.

(IFLA Publications; 108)

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[Knowledge Management Section](http://www.ifla.org/VII/s47/km.htm)

(www.ifla.org/VII/s47/km.htm)

New IFLA Publication: Newspapers in International Librarianship

This is a compilation of 35 papers given during the IFLA conferences during the 1990s. This is the period that the IFLA Round Table on Newspapers has been active in promoting awareness of newspaper collections in libraries, providing access to these collections and preserving them. An index of newspapers was added to facilitate access to the rich data in this book

Newspapers in International Librarianship
Papers presented by the Newspapers Section at IFLA General Conferences.

Edited by: Hartmut Walravens and Edmund King München:

Saur, 2003, 260 p.

(IFLA Publications; 107)

ISBN 3-598-21837-0

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New IFLA Publication: Women's Issues at IFLA: Equality, Gender and Information on Agenda

This is a compilation of approximately 30 papers given during the IFLA conferences during the 1990s. The articles have in common that they focus on the position of women in (international) librarianship and in the federation that IFLA is, since the first meeting of the Women's Interests Group in Stockholm, Sweden in 1990. Many of the authors have published extensively on the theme and are now authorities on international librarianship

Women's Issues at IFLA: Equality, Gender and Information on Agenda

Papers from the Programs of the Round Table on Women's Issues at IFLA Annual Conferences 1993 - 2002.

Edited by: Leena Siitonen. München: Saur, 2003, 256 p.

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CORE ACTIVITIES

ACTION FOR DEVELOPMENT THROUGH LIBRARIES PROGRAMME (ALP)

Name change of ALP

It has been decided by the Governing Board that the name be changed to: Action for Development through Libraries Programme (ALP) which will better reflect what it aims to do.

An Advisory Board for the IFLA/ALP Core Activity has also been established. Peter Lor, Professor, Department of Information Science, University of Pretoria has been appointed to chair the Advisory Board

The other members are:

Jacinta Were, chair of Division 8 and member of the Governing Board

Winnie Vitzansky, Secretary General, Danish Library Association

Ulf Göranson, Chief Librarian, Uppsala University, the host institution

Gunnar Sahlin, National Librarian, the Royal Library of Sweden

Gary Gorman, chair IFLA RSCAO, Professor of Library and Information Management, Victoria University of Wellington

Adolfo Rodríguez, Researcher, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, UNAM

(Gunilla Natvig IFLA ALP)

PRESERVATION AND CONSERVATION PROGRAMME (PAC)

Workshop on Earthquakes, Mexico, 16-17 October, 2003

As a follow-up of the Open Session (Glasgow 2002) on the Blue Shield and of the Pre-Seminar on disasters (Berlin 2003), IFLA Core Activity on Preservation and Conservation (PAC) has decided to organise a series of workshops on the subject in the Latin American and Caribbean area.

The first workshop took place in Mexico City, October 16-17, 2003 and was co-organised by PAC and the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM) with the support of CLIR (Council on Library and Information Resources). The workshop dealt with earthquakes. Around 100 Mexican participants from the cultural arena (libraries, archives, museums) and from the civil society and rescue services attended the four sessions in which case studies about recent earthquakes were presented. Speakers came from Mexico, France, Venezuela and the United States.

Lectures on the assessment of the risks threatening Mexico as well as recommendations and advice on the preventive measures already taken or to be taken to mitigate the damages completed the programme. The participation of speakers from the civil society and of an architect, a seismologist and a psychologist was certainly a plus, very much appreciated by the audience. The workshop was considered by all participants as a success and will serve as a model for future workshops. The next one will take place in Trinidad & Tobago, on May 21-22, 2004 and will focus on natural disasters in general. It is co-organised by PAC, the National Library of Trinidad & Tobago and the Association of Caribbean University, Research and Institutional Libraries (ACURIL).

More information will be available later, on the IFLA website and in "International Preservation News".
(Marie-Thérèse Varlamoff, - IFLA-PAC Director)

Translations

"IFLA Principles for the Care and Handling of Library Material" have been translated into Japanese, Portuguese and Arabic.

For more information about the Portuguese version:
mlcabral@bn.pt

DIVISIONS AND SECTIONS

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN SECTION

Minutes of the Standing Committee Meeting of the Latin America and the Caribbean Section, San Salvador, 1st April 2004

1. Opening

President Roberto Servidio initiated the opening session welcoming all present and distributing the meeting's agenda. He referred to how he was impressed by the Seminar "First Central American Meeting of Library Associations – Enrichment and Creation of Library Associations in Central America" which took place prior to the meeting of the Standing Committee, as this was the first time he had the opportunity to participate fully in an event prior to the Standing Committee's Meeting. He then thanked Victor Torres for his active contribution in working with the participation of representatives from all of the Spanish-speaking countries of Central America, and whose principal objective was the creation of a Federation of Library Associations of the Region.

Elizabet Carvalho in turn highlighted the importance of Victor's participation as a member of the Committee, and

that the Regional Office of IFLA for LAC has also sourced more resources to support this Seminar, and counted on the presence of the Standing Committee members not only at the Committee Meeting but also in their participation as lecturers on the Seminar's Program.

2. Attendance of the members of the Standing Committee and of the Regional Office of IFLAC for LAC

The following members of the Standing Committee were present: Roberto Servidio (Argentina), President; María Isabel Cabral da Franca (Brazil), Secretary; Elizabet María Ramos de Carvalho (Brazil), IFLA/LAC Regional Office Manager; Stella Maris Fernández, Special Advisor for the IFLA/LAC Regional Office, Gloria María Rodríguez Santamaría (Colombia); Marcia Rosetto (Brazil), Sueli Angélica do Amaral (Brazil), Víctor Federico Torres (Puerto Rico), Alicia Ocaso (Uruguay), Elsa Ramírez Leyva (Mexico), Blanca Hodge (St. Maarten), Pamela Benson (Trinidad & Tobago), César Castro (Peru).

3. Attendance of the corresponding members

Estela Morales (Mexico)

4. Attendance of the assistant director of the ALP program

Gunilla Natvig (Sweden) was also present at the Meeting.

5. Justified absentees

The following Committee members sent regrets: Loly D' Elia (Venezuela), Claudia Rodríguez (Argentina), María Conceição da Gama Santos (Brazil), Celia Ribeiro Zaher (Brazil), Ludmila Mayrink da Costa (Brazil), Ana Cecilia Torres (Costa Rica), Elizabeth Watson (Barbados), Marie-Françoise Bernabé (Martinique), Adolfo Rodríguez (Mexico), Clara Budnik (Chile) and Marta Terry (Cuba) who, on arrival at El Salvador was unable to enter the country due to a visa problem; and from the following corresponding members: María Elena Zapata (Venezuela) and Ivone Tálamo (Brazil).

6. Other attendants

Olinda Estela Gómez Morán of the El Salvador Association of Librarians, Coordinator of the Organizing Committee of the "First Central American Meeting of Library Associations – Enrichment and creation of Library Associations in Central America" who was selected at the meeting as a corresponding member for the Standing Committee of IFLA/LAC (ogomez@rree.gob.sv).

7. Approval of the agenda and of the minutes from Berlin

The agenda was approved with some additions and also the minutes from Berlin after some minor amendments.

8. Presentation of the reports from the President and the Regional Manager, and others

Roberto Servidio explained the absence of a detailed report of his activities since his return from Berlin to his duties as Vice President of the Organizing Committee for the Conference in Buenos Aires.

Elizabet Carvalho presented a detailed report of the activities carried out during the period September 2003 – March 2004, highlighting the achievements in Brazil with Library Institutions and Authorities of Government Organisms with the aim to coordinate actions relative to the Information Society and to the importance of the libraries in that context, in accordance with the recommendations of IFLA, about which some information was already published in the Newsletter of the Section (n° 43, Dec. 2003).

She informed about her participation as representative of IFLA/LAC at various events in Brazil (Dec. 2003 and March 2004). She also pointed out an important event which took place in Brazil (Dec. 2003) in a ceremony whereby, together with UNESCO and with the presence of Aziz Abid, Coordinator of the Memory of the World Program, it was agreed to include in this important world register the Collection of Photographs of the Emperor D. Pedro II, belonging to the National Library Foundation of Brazil.

She also informed about the distribution of news about IFLA and of interest from the Region via the LAC listing. She reminded the Committee members of the importance of using the “Power Point informative about IFLA” made by the LAC Section in 2003, to disseminate it throughout the Region wherever its presentation is possible. She also stated that it is important that the websites of Library Institutions have a link to IFLANET with a prior presentation about IFLA.

Estela Morales emphasized the importance of members positioning themselves in their countries in order to publicize the activities of IFLA.

Elizabeth pointed out the importance of the LAC Section and of the Regional Office for the work in the region: because one cannot exist without the other and both are mutually reinforced. Likewise by keeping abreast with the activities of the other Divisions and Sections of IFLA. She ended her report stating that the Clearinghouse as always attends to requests for publications, especially about Public and School Libraries, Digital Libraries, Conservation and Preservation of Collections and Project Presentations. She thanked the Brazilian Librarians, principally Elisete Melo and Marly Solèr for their voluntary help at the Regional Office owing to the great number of activities, reports and correspondence needing attention, and to Stella Maris Fernández (Argentina) for the translation to Spanish of the Newsletter and documents of interest for the Office. She also mentioned the

effort expended to administrate the funds sent by IFLA/HQ to cover the expenses of travel, studies, etc.

Elsa referred to the importance of accurate and shared communications to strengthen the Section. Roberto informed that he has received a request directly from the President Kay Raseroka, to increase relations with similar institutions in the Region like ABINIA (Association of National Libraries of Ibero America).

With relation with the topic of Communications, Elizabet asked the members of the Standing Committee who belong to other sections of IFLA, to try to communicate with the LAC Section to find out the position of its members before making a decision on the name of the Region. Roberto Servidio asked Alicia Ocaso to explain about the letters sent to the Section of Management of Librarians Associations (MLAS) and to the Executive Board of IFLA about an upcoming parallel event in Buenos Aires in the same week as IFLA 2004. Alicia explained that she had sent that letter to all members listed in the Management of Librarians Associations Section to inform them, concerned about the parallel event that would take place in Buenos Aires, since it was being referred to in various discussion lists. Roberto Servidio expressed that this concern was also felt by the chief members of the Executive Board of IFLA as well as by the Organizers of IFLA 2004, causing some expectations. Estela Morales concluded that this matter was brought up precisely because of the lack of appropriate communication, and that matters such as these, should be sorted out among members of the Region so as to be treated adequately. She explained also that in this case of the parallel event “Social Forum: Information, Documentation, Libraries” taking place in Buenos Aires from August 26 to 28, their organizers are professionals from Mexico and from Argentina who have always had a political posture of opposition to the activities of IFLA in their countries and should not be regarded as a threat against the realization of IFLA 2004.

9. Report from ALP

Gunilla presented first a Briefing from IFLA/HQ of Feb. 2004 sent by Koopman that was copied for all the members present. The relevant points in it are:

- The composition of all the Committees of the Government Board is being changed. At present the most important are: Professional Committee, Membership Development Committee, Conference Planning Committee and Publications Committee.
- A new Section was recently approved: Knowledge Management Section. Another Section changed the approved name: Serial Publications and other Continuing Resources.

- During the Dec. 2003 meeting, the Professional Committee approved the majority of the Strategic Planning presented by the Sections and by the Core Activities of IFLA. These are in the process of editing and preparation to be divulged in IFLANET, which continues to be the most important platform of communication for the world library community.

- IFLA intervened in the preparation (2002-2003) of the WSIS (World Summit on the Information Society) that was held in Dec. 2003. www.ifla.org/III/wsis.html It is important that the Associations of Librarians in all countries know the commitment documents of the Governments of their countries, like the Declaration of Principles and the Plan of Action for the Information Society, accompany their actions and can inform IFLA. The next phase of WSIS will be in November 2005, in Tunisia.

- IFLA expects to receive replies from the Associations regarding the value of the annual fees established for 2004 by the study group of the Management of Library Associations Section. It was decided that the Associations from Latin America and the Caribbean could become affiliates this year with the new yearly fee established at EUR 200, according to the development index of the United Nations for the Region. Contact must be made with Kelly Moore:
kelly.moore@ifla.org

- The Regional Sections of Division VIII can present requests for financing of new projects through the IFLA's Professional Programme and should not be limited only to financing of Projects through ALP. This source of financing does not have many resources, but the projects become more visible and that is a form of improved integration of the Div. VIII with the other Divisions I – VII.

- Koopman informed about the facilities of IFLA-L, and the possibility of being widely used in the Region. The address is: www.ifla.org/II/iflalists.html#IFLA-L.

Gunilla presented the list with the projects already executed and those presently in execution, distributing copies of the new projects presented and the ALP 2003 report. She informed that the Governing Board the week before at its meeting in the Hague had decided that the name Advancement of Librarianship Programme should be changed to "Action for development through Libraries Programme", which means that we can keep the acronym ALP. It is meant that the new name better describes the programme - more action oriented and emphasizing 'development'. She also talked about the finances of ALP. According to their contract with SIDA, ALP was granted 260.000 USD for 2004. In February they were informed by SIDA that the contract must be renegotiated, since all SIDA departments have to make cuts in their budgets because of emergency relief to Iraq and Iran. ALP has received half the sum, but how much more they will get they still don't know.

She began her report expressing that the Project 351 "Interactive didactic unit about processes of documental information on electronic media" from Costa Rica must receive information about the creation of the new Federation of Librarians Associations of Central America, in order to publicize it to the entire Region as a form of sharing.

Project 353 "Read to live" - informed that it remains pending due to the political situation of the country, but must conclude in May 2004, according to the report by Maria Elena Zapata for Elizabet and Gloria.

Project 354 "Infobila: Digital Library for Latin America and the Caribbean" from Mexico - Elsa presented a brief report on behalf of Filiberto Martínez, Director of CUIB. He explained that Infobila already contains 16,108 entries and the possibility to fully access the documents and also contains a Thesaurus in 3 languages. Filiberto Martínez, personally, is determined to develop the Project, because he received the financing from ALP since 2003. The new cooperation that he receives from other Institutions in the Region has contributed to enrich the Project. Elizabet asked Elsa to promote Infobila even more and also to send information for the Newsletter, and suggested that a Seminar be held in Mexico for this purpose. Roberto Servidio suggested the exhibition of the material promoting Infobila at Buenos Aires 2004. Elizabet added that it would be interesting to designate a space in the Section of Posters. Pamela reported that there is a Digital Library Project by "UNESCO/INFOLAC" with this same name and that it would be important for Infobila to include in the title of its Project the word "Infobila" before Digital Libraries.

Project 357 "Caribbean Seminar on IFLA/UNESCO's Public and School Library Manifestos" held in 2003 in Trinidad & Tobago - Pamela Benson informed that the Final Report will only be published after the next meeting of ACURIL in May 2004.

Project 361 "Strengthening and creation of library associations in Central America" - The Seminar was held successfully the days prior to the meeting of the Standing Committee in San Salvador, from March 28th to 31st, 2004, under the responsibility of Mrs. Olinda Estela Gómez Morán. It was agreed that Víctor Torres continue his orientation about how to make the presentation of the Final Report of this Seminar for its elevation to ALP and its publication. Elizabet also informed that the results of the Seminar would be made known during the IFLA Congress in Buenos Aires / 2004, and published in the Newsletter.

Project 363 "Network of Quichua Rural Libraries: Access to Information Services" - César Castro commented that the activities are in progress and they are already working with two indigenous tribes.

Project 364 “Book-lending points at local fairs and in markets in Latin America” under the responsibility of Gonzalo Oyarzún of the DIBAM of Chile - ALP will request more detailed information about the financial role that corresponds to each country involved in the Project.

Project 365 “Program for the formation of library personnel for the attention of indigenous communities in the Latin American Region” - Elizabet communicated that Filiberto Martínez has already initiated the Project promoting the training for the librarians. César added information about the progress of the Project referring not only to the introduction of an adequate methodology but also about the content for the creation of a Distance-Learning Course. Its continuity would be very important throughout all the communities that were present at the Meeting in Puerto Vayarda, Mexico. The CUIB has already developed the digital platform including a wealth of material in indigenous languages. This includes books in 33 indigenous languages. Victor expressed interest because this Project could also extend to the indigenous communities of Central America.

10. Development of the Strategic Plan for the Section 2004-2005

In accordance with the joint revision performed, the necessary modifications made are stated in the new version of the plan. In the Planning Strategy there will be an increase in the promotion of actions, together with the Governments of the countries of the Region, aiming to sensitize them about the importance of the Libraries in the Information Society, in order to achieve the presence of the Librarians in the government delegations for the WSIS meeting in Tunisia in 2005.

11. IFLA-LAC activities programmed for Buenos Aires 2004

11.1 Grants for Buenos Aires

11.1.1 Gunilla informed that for the DANIDA Travel Grants, 467 participants applied for selection for 20 Grants from all the Sections of the Div. VIII, communicating that the possibility still exists for 37 additional Grants to cover the registrations that will be awarded to participants from the Region, especially from Mercosur and for the Telecenters. In addition, there are 9 Grants for Lecturers, 3 for each Section, that will be awarded to those who present papers and to participants of the workshops, for Latin-American professionals under 45 years of age, designated by the Section. Elizabet commented that the Grants are being awarded taking into account those who need the most help financially.

11.1.2 Roberto Servidio informed that UNESCO offered 12 Grants to cover the registration in Buenos Aires, but that 6 of them will be given to persons involved with UNESCO

programs, the other 6 will be given to professionals from countries of the Mercosur.

11.1.3 In relation to the Grants from ALA, 40 individual Grants were distributed among all the countries of the Region.

Elizabet and Roberto commented that for Buenos Aires 2004 they received a significant number of Grants, never before obtained, signifying a great achievement because it allows a larger number of colleagues from the Region to participate in the Conference, the grand event of IFLA.

11.2 Workshop of the Division 8

Roberto Servidio informed about the organization of the Workshop programmed together with the Social Sciences Section. They are expecting Lecturers from the 3 Regional Sections. The LAC Section will have 2 Lecturers: Norma Palomino from Argentina and Lynne Rudasill from the University of Illinois.

11.3 Open Forum of the LAC Section

The central topic will be “Do Libraries improve the quality of life?” and in Spanish “Las bibliotecas mejoran la calidad de vida?”

They are expecting the following Lecturers: José Adolfo Rodríguez Gallardo (member of the Standing Committee – Mexico) and a representative of the Book Bank who will speak about the program “Read to Live”, winner of the Von Wesemael prize from IFLA in 2003. There is also a dissertation from Mr. Cláudio Menezes, coordinator of the UNESCO Regional Office of Science for Latin America and the Caribbean, who will speak about “The contribution of UNESCO to the access of information in the countries of the Mercosur”.

Elizabeth Watson (member of the Standing Committee – Barbados) requested of Víctor Torres the presentation of 2 topics that she wishes to include in the Open Forum Program at the IFLA/LAC Section. They are: “Developing video collections – an Anglophone Caribbean experience” and “Popular music collections in an academic setting – a Bajan perspective”. It was asked to Victor to talk to Elizabeth in order to adjust her paper “Popular music collections in an academic setting – a Bajan perspective” to the LAC Open Forum central topic.

The report from the “First Central American Encounter of Librarians Associations” held in El Salvador should be presented in the meeting of the Standing Committee as part of the Agenda, so as to save time during the LAC Open Forum.

Elizabet Carvalho, owing to the number of participants, withdrew her presentation in order to meet the program's time limit.

11.4 Meetings of the Standing Committee

Roberto informed that in Buenos Aires the meetings of the Committee would be held on two days. It will be more convenient that the first one is open and the second closed, with participation for members only.

Gloria proposed that the first meeting be planned with information to the LAC participants about the actions of IFLA/LAC, in order to inform them about the activities, actions, projects approved and developed that are happening in the Region. Elizabet will present the Section and other members will speak about their Projects.

Estela Morales suggested that the Agenda of the first Meeting be very objective and rigorous, to give the opportunity to all of the members involved in Projects to present their proposals and that they could do so in a minimum amount of time.

10.5 Joint Open Forum with Information Literacy and Multicultural Populations Sections

Roberto Servidio informed that six (6) hours would be allowed for the presentation of these Forums.

The President also informed that Portuguese would be included for the first time in the simultaneous translation.

The meeting concluded at 5.00 pm.

Minutes of the Standing Committee Meeting of the Latin America and the Caribbean Section, San Salvador, 2nd April 2004

1. Opening

The meeting began with the continuation of the topics of the Agenda that had been interrupted in the "activities of IFLA-LAC programmed for Buenos Aires / 2004"

2. Attendance of the members of the Standing Committee

The following members of the Standing Committee were present: Roberto Servidio (Argentina), president; María Isabel Cabral da Franca (Brazil), secretary; Elizabet María Ramos de Carvalho (Brazil), Manager of the Regional Office of IFLA for LAC; Stella Maris Fernández, special adviser of the Regional Office of IFLA for LAC; Gloria María Rodríguez Santamaría (Colombia); Marcia Rosetto (Brazil), Sueli Angélica do Amaral (Brazil), Víctor Federico Torres (Puerto Rico), Alicia Ocaso (Uruguay), Elsa Ramírez Leyva (Mexico), Blanca Hodge (St.

Maarten), Pamela Benson (Trinidad & Tobago), César Castro (Peru).

3. Attendance of the Corresponding Members

Estela Morales (Mexico).

4. Attendance of the Assistant Director of the ALP Program

Gunilla Natvig (Sweden).

5. Justified absentees

The following members of the Committee sent regrets: Loly D'Elia (Venezuela), Claudia Rodríguez (Argentina), María Conceição da Gama Santos (Brazil), Celia Ribeiro Zaher (Brazil), Ludmila Mayrink da Costa (Brazil), Ana Cecilia Torres (Costa Rica), Elizabeth Watson (Barbados), Marie-Françoise Bernabé (Martinique), Adolfo Rodríguez (Mexico), Clara Budnik (Chile) and Marta Terry (Cuba) and from the corresponding members: María Elena Zapata (Venezuela) and Ivone Tálamo (Brazil).

6. Other attendants

Mrs. Carmen Salinas, president of the Librarians Association of El Salvador, to present the Final Report of the "First Central American Meeting of Library Associations – Enrichment and Creation of Library Associations in Central America".

7. IFLA-LAC activities programmed for Buenos Aires / 2004

7.1 Caucus

Roberto informed that the Organizing Committee for Buenos Aires 2004 has not yet defined how they will organize the meetings in different languages, as in the case of the Div. 8. The Spanish language Caucus is coordinated in Spain; it would be interesting to contact them to prepare the agenda. Alicia, who participated in the meeting of this Caucus in Berlin, commented that the translation of technical works in IFLA could be better defined if these meetings included this topic in its agenda.

Marcia Rosetto coordinated the Portuguese language Caucus in Berlin and she informed that she is in contact with the Portuguese colleagues in order to better define the meeting in Buenos Aires.

The LAC Section will request that IFLA/HQ consider the possibility that the Division 8 Caucus be held at a different time from the rest. Blanca reminded us that in case this was not possible, we should do what was done the year before, when the members of the Standing Committee were divided throughout all the Caucus so that the Section could participate in all of the Caucuses.

7.2 Posters Session

Elizabeth informed that, once again, this year each Section of the Division 8 will have its own space and asked the members of the Standing Committee to supply material to exhibit in this space.

Blanca reported that she is trying to have a space to present the Caribbean activities.

7.3 Telecentres – Workshop

Elizabeth stated that this topic was included in the Program of Buenos Aires 2004 at the request of IFLA's president, Kay Raseroka, who is placing great emphasis on the Telecenters that offer remote access to the Library Services worldwide, seeking to emphasize the importance of the Libraries in the Information Society. Elizabeth contacted all of the members of the Standing Committee to find out if this type of service existed in their Regions and she obtained excellent replies of services functioning in Peru, Mexico, Uruguay and Brazil. Five participants will be selected for this workshop with Grants for their registration.

7.4 IFLA Pre-Conference of the Management and Marketing Section in São Paulo, from August 18th to 20th, 2004

Theme "The Virtual Client: a new paradigm to improve the relationship between Clients, Information Services and the Library".

Marcia Rosetto informed about this event to be held at the University of São Paulo, a promotion of the Library Management Department of ECA and SIBI/USP, Management and Marketing Section / IFLA and the University of Montreal. Over 70 works have already been received. Sueli Amaral is part of the group selecting the works presented by the Brazilian professionals. Marcia informed that they are organizing three-day tourist packages for those interested in participating.

8. Report from the study group evaluating the annual fees of the associations through the Management of Libraries Associations Section (MLAS)

Alicia reported on the formation of this work group, of which she forms part since Berlin as president of the National Librarian Association of Uruguay, with the objective of reaching a consensus about the annual fees paid to IFLA by the Association of Professional Librarians and commented that it is a lengthy endeavor. The world's most important Associations form part of the Standing Committee of the Management of Library Associations Section – MLAS. The major aspect of the decisions of this group was to have decided to calculate the annual rates of each country, using as a reference the growth indexes established by the UN, in order to find the fairest value for their contributions. Alicia distributed copies of a document about the work performed. She stated it was difficult to reach a

consensus because the strongest National Associations have greater interests and voting rights in IFLA. She added that in some countries there are even Associations that can be considered National even though they are only groups of specialized Librarians. She reported that in order to be affiliated to IFLA they could do so in conjunction with another Association that can facilitate a new affiliation of new Associations.

Elizabeth commented that the LAC Section and the Regional Office always try to intermediate in the contacts with Regional Associations interested in affiliation with IFLA. The realization of the IFLA Conference in Buenos Aires constitutes a special occasion for the Regional Associations to receive a differential attention. Elizabeth thanked Alicia for her work in this MLAS group.

9. World Summit on the Information Society

Alicia and María Isabel reported on their participation in IFLA's Conference en Geneva, November 3rd and 4th, 2003, which was already well publicized via the notices on the list of discussions, on the websites and in the Newsletter. They emphasized the importance of sensitizing the Governments of each country to integrate the Librarians into the delegations in the WSIS Conference in Tunisia in 2005.

10. Evaluation of new projects

Two (2) new project proposals were evaluated, having been previously distributed among those present, in order to obtain, even more rapidly, the following results:

360 Expand the range of literacy in an informative and bibliographic procedure for the Information network of Guatemala - The objectives and goals require major precision. Elizabeth will discuss it with Guatemalan representatives. Elizabeth will guide new proposal for 2005.

366 Regional policies of development of library and information services in Latin America: "Carte Blanche" for development in the new Information Society - César will oversee. Accepted for 2005. Elizabeth asked César Castro to be IFLA-LAC's intermediary in the development of Project 366, for which María Lohman is responsible, having gained vast experience in this subject. Estela Morales pointed out that this Project involves 3 countries working with indigenous tribes.

Marcia Rosetto will present a Project for School and Public Libraries in Latin America with a Seminar on IFLA/UNESCO Manifestos and Outlines for School and Public Libraries, similar to the one held in Trinidad & Tobago for the Caribbean in 2003.

Gunilla suggested the elaboration of an ALP-funded Project for Central America with professionals of diverse levels from

countries with more developed Library services, with Programs to Promote Reading, like the one in Medellin, Colombia, and the one used in Asia, since ten years.

Blanca informed the meeting about the progress of CARIBAL EDIST, and gave the web address <http://malavoi.martinique.univ-ag.fr/caribal-edist/> she also made mention that for the time being the home page is only in French, but in the not too distant future it will also be available in the other regional languages.

With respect to the Inter-Regional Project 401, Elizabet pointed out that it is a joint Project of the offices of LAC and Africa, made possible by the attribution of FEBAB, BAD and other Associations in the Portuguese-speaking countries of Africa. Marcia informed that this Meeting could be held in Brazil, which has recently inaugurated a Portuguese Language Center in São Paulo.

11. PAC creation of new regional centers

Elizabet and Pamela reported that the contracts have already been officially signed with the National Institutes of those countries in which the new PAC Regional Centers have been installed: Trinidad & Tobago, Chile and Brazil. Pamela commented that Workshops are being held with orientation from PAC.

12. Other topics

Elizabet informed about the correspondence remitted by Virginia Bettencourt in relation to the chaotic situation in the bibliographic archives of Venezuela, accompanied by a postdated letter signed by Venezuelan librarians, informing about the lack of criteria in occupying technical posts in the Institutions responsible for Libraries and Archives in that country.

Roberto read the letter from the president of the Librarians Association of Colombia, Carlos Alberto Zapata, informing about the bomb that was placed in the Medellin Public Library on March 17th, 2004. Gloria pointed out that the probable motive for the attack was that there were 10 persons, former guerrilla fighters, working as volunteers in that Library.

It was decided that the Standing Committee would send letters of solidarity to the Medellin Library, to FAIFE and to the Association of Librarians in Colombia.

Victor informed about the edition of the IFLA Journal, which will be dedicated to Latin America, and explained how the works were selected. Elizabet commented that she was invited to present an article with the history of the Section.

Elsa Ramirez informed that the Director of the CUIB has made an offer to host the first meeting of the Standing

Committee in 2005, in Mexico, which was approved by the Members present in this meeting .

Gunilla reported that for the IFLA Conference in Norway in 2005, NORAD will give 50 Grants to the two countries who receive cooperation from them: Guatemala and Nicaragua.

Doris Ivon Samanez Alzamora (samanezalzamora@hotmail.com) from Bolivia, was selected in the meeting as a corresponding member of the Standing Committee of IFLA/LAC.

13. Final report of the "First Central-American encounter of Librarians Associations"

The president of the Librarians Association of El Salvador, Mrs. Carmen Salinas, presented the final report of the "First Central-American encounter of Librarians Associations – enrichment and creation of Librarians Associations in Central- America" with the participation of 45 professionals from countries of the Region. Two important conclusions arose from this Encounter:

- 1.The creation of the Central-American Federation of Librarians Associations, FECEALB;
2. The constitution of the Secretariat, which was created to coordinate the Federation, formed by representatives from different countries in Central America.

Other decisions:

- Inquire if the country of Belize also wishes to join the new Federation.
- Devise a plan to improve awareness of the training of the Librarian, to attract a greater number of persons interested in the profession.
- Develop a better level of investigation in the Information Science in all of the countries involved.
- Create a specialized publication.

All of the countries that sent participants have already delivered messages of gratitude for the opportunity to participate in this Event and for the important standard that it represented for their professions.

14. Conclusion

Roberto Servidio gave thanks to the exposition by Carmen Salinas, expressing the enormous satisfaction felt by all of the members of the Standing Committee of IFLA/LAC to have contributed to the development of the Library-Culture in Central America. Elizabet completed this expression saying that the members of the new Federation have already

had their orientation regarding the presentation of Project proposals for the Region.

The Meeting ended with the dispatch of a letter of thanks to Ross Shimon, who is leaving the post of Secretary General and a welcome to Mr. Ramachadan, who assumes the position of the new Secretary General of IFLA.

The Meeting concluded at 5.00 pm.

Latin America and The Caribbean Librarians programme in WLIS Buenos Aires 2004

Sunday August 22 2004

18.00-19.00 - Caucus

- 61. Caucus: Portuguese language participants
- 66. Caucus: Africa, Asia and Oceania, and América Latina and The Caribbean (Division 8)
- 67. Caucus: Spanish language participants

Monday August 23 2004

14.00-16.00

80. SC I. – Latin America and The Caribbean Section Standing Committee meeting

Tuesday-Wednesday August 24-25 2004

12.00-14.00

94. Posters Session

Thursday August 26 2004

10.45-12.45

Latin America and The Caribbean Section Open Forum

Do libraries improve the quality of life?

The UNESCO contribution to information access in the MERCOSUR countries (La contribución de la Unesco al acceso a la información en los países del MERCOSUR). Claudio Menezes (Unesco, Regional Office for Latin America, Montevideo, Uruguay)

Books to heal, books to build (Libros para curar, libros para construir) Reading promotion projects to support social development (Proyectos de promoción de la lectura para apoyar el desarrollo social. Paula Cardenas (Banco del Libro, Caracas, Venezuela)

Popular music collections in academia: how do they improve the quality of life? (Colecciones de musica popular en la academia: como ellas mejoran la calidad de vida?). Elizabeth Watson (Learning Resource Centre, The University of the West Indies, Bridgetown, Barbados)

Reading and libraies improving the quality of life (La lectura y las bibliotecas mejoran la calidad de vida). José Adolfo

Rodriguez Gallardo (Universidad Autónoma de México, Mexico, D.F., México)

Commutation Bibliographic Programme – COMUT (Programa de commutación bibliográfica – COMUT). Ricardo Rodríguez (Instituto Brasileiro de Informação em Ciência e Tecnologia, Brasilia, D.F., Brasil)

Friday August 27 2004

08.30-10.30

154. @ your library

The Campaign for the World's Libraries/La Campaña para las Bibliotecas del Mundo

Brazil's promotional activities - Actividades promocionales de Brasil.

MÁRCIA ROSETTO (Brazilian Federation of Library Associations, Information Scientists and Institutions)

Saturday August 28 2004

14.30-17.20

213. SC II Latin America and The Caribbean Section Standing Committee meeting

METROPOLITAN LIBRARIES SECTION

New IFLA Section

The Section is based on the former International Association of Metropolitan Libraries (INTAMEL, a Round Table of IFLA), and is located within the Division of Libraries Serving the General Public. Founded in 1968, INTAMEL became a Round Table of IFLA in 1976. Recently there have been about seventy members from twenty-eight countries across five continents.

INTAMEL developed a thriving network for the exchange of information and experience, primarily between public libraries of cities serving populations of 400,000 and above. Libraries serving more diverse geographical areas, with similar or larger populations, and capital cities or major conurbations with smaller populations, have also been welcomed into the organisation and have played a key part in its activities. Overall, the membership embraces the public libraries of regional, provincial and state capital cities, conurbations and metropolitan areas, core cities and city regions, commercial centres, federal states, and a sovereign city state.

Membership of INTAMEL was mostly institutional, plus a small number of personal members, and participants have usually been the Directors or senior colleagues from the city libraries represented. We now look forward to welcoming new members from other major city libraries, as well as colleagues with related interests from across the IFLA family.

From 1968 INTAMEL held very successful annual Conferences, giving members the opportunity to meet in host cities around the world and to share the challenges of meeting new needs for library service in large metropolitan areas. This year's conference is being hosted by the National Library Board of Singapore, from 26 September through 1 October. The theme is 'The Library as a Fusion Space: Possibilities and Opportunities'. The programme includes visits to Singapore libraries and services and presentations by several members of the Section.

INTAMEL's open session at last year's IFLA Conference in Berlin will be followed up by this year's programme in Buenos Aires, where the Section's theme will be 'Metropolitan Libraries: Engines for Learning', with a focus on services to Hispanic communities in the Americas and Europe.

The main channel for communication within the Section is the Iflanet listserv INTLIB, for which the Section's Information Coordinator is the list owner. The Section's web pages are at <<http://www.ifla.org/VII/s46/metro.htm>>. They carry the Singapore Conference Programme and Registration form, papers and presentations given to the 2003 and 2002 Conferences, officers' contact addresses, statistics, and other material.

The Section's current officers are:

Frans Meijer, President (Rotterdam); Aline Girard-Billon, Secretary (Paris); Ai Cheng Tay, Treasurer (Singapore); and Stuart BrewER, Information Coordinator (Newcastle upon Tyne).

Recruitment of membership to the Metropolitan Libraries Section is now in progress; application forms are available at [http://www/ifla.org/III/members/index.htm](http://www.ifla.org/III/members/index.htm). (Metropolitan Libraries is no. 46 in the list of IFLA Sections.)

We look forward to developing our activities within IFLA, to working with other Sections and Divisions, and to meeting you at WLIC Buenos Aires and/or at our Conference in Singapore.

If you have any questions about the Metropolitan Libraries Section, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Best regards

Stuart Brewer

Information Coordinator Metropolitan Libraries Section of IFLA

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Tel and fax: +44 (0)191 226 8540

stuart@wressell.demon.co.uk

Metropolitan Libraries Section of IFLA (formerly International Association of Metropolitan Libraries - INTAMEL)

<http://www.ifla.org/VII/s46/metro.htm>

NEWS OF THE REGION

ARGENTINA

Very Good News!!!!

Until the moment, there are 1.764 early bird registered delegates to attend to IFLA 2004 Conference!!

They belong to the following countries: Aghanistan, Germany, Algeria, Dutch Antilles, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Barbados, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of Korea, Ivory Coast, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Denmark, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, United States, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, The Philippines, Finland, France, Gabon, Great Britain, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, India, Iran, Ireland, Iceland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lesotho, Lithuania, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Morocco, Mauritius, Mexico, Moldova, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, New Caledonia, Oman, Palestinian State, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Puerto Rico, Czech Republic, Romania, Russia, The Netherlands, Senegal, Serbia and Montenegro, Singapur, Sri Lanka, South Africa, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Taiwan, Tanzania, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, Uganda, Uruguay, Vatican City (Holy See), Venezuela, Vietnam, Zimbabwe.

Almost all IFLA member countries as well as non-member ones will attend 2004 Conference!! WE ARE VERY HAPPY TO RECEIVE THEM ALL!!

Currently the most numerous delegations are: from: Argentina: 119; Brazil: 60; Canada: 53; Chile: 52; Colombia: 44; Denmark: 78; France: 55; Germany: 46; Great Britain: 62; Korea: 65; Norway: 46; Russian Federation: 88; Spain: 46; Sweden: 72; United States: 30

We do believe this is GOOD NEWS!!

If you still didn't register, then we recommend you not to miss IFLA 2004 Buenos Aires Conference!!

THERE ARE STILL MORE GOOD NEWS!!

At the moment, we count on 567 Newcomer registrations!! (first time participants in an IFLA Conference). The Newcomers Session will be held on Tuesday, August 24 and is being sponsored by Thomson Gale and K.G. Saur Verlag. There many more new members joining the IFLA family!!!

The Poster Session counts on 80 participants (available at IFLA Website, please see IFLA 2004 Programme) and is being sponsored by Ovid Technologies.

Do not miss IFLA 2004 Buenos Aires Conference!!!
(Analía Avila - Comité Organizador Nacional IFLA 2004)

The countdown for the Librarian Community Meeting in Buenos Aires has already started!

Being the proud hosts of WLIC 2004, we are preparing everything in order to receive all of you warmly. We hope you will arrive eager to work, but also ready to enjoy our lively city and our amazing country!!

On the conference web site (<http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla70/index.htm>) you will find the updated Conference Programme. Keep consulting it during the next 60 days. You will be find the latest news! (Remember that Conference Programme can be modified without notice)

VERY IMPORTANT

Take into account that the Registration Area will open on Saturday, August 21 from 14.00 to 19.00 at the Hilton Hotel. On Sunday, August 22 it will work from 10.00 to 19.00 and from Monday, August 23 to Friday, August 27 from 8.30 to 18.00.

Will you please lend us a hand??

This year the Opening Session will take place off-site, at the fabulous Colon Theatre. Because of the timing it is very likely that many of you have not picked up their Registration Package with the conference badge etc. Please make sure that you bring your confirmation letter to the Colon Theatre to make sure that security at the door will let you enter.

According to fire regulations all delegates will need to be seated at the numbered seat designated to them. The number for your seat will be handed out at the door. We understand that this is different from other years, but we kindly ask your cooperation in this situation.

So please, do not forget your confirmation letters when you come to the Opening Session at the Colon Theatre!

Keynote speaker and plenary speakers at IFLA 2004

TOMÁS ELOY MARTÍNEZ - Key Note Speaker at Opening Session

Date of the conference: Monday, August 23

Opening Session. Time: 09.00 to 10.30

Title: *The book in Globalization times*

Mr. Eloy Martínez was born in Tucuman in the north of Argentina. It was there that he graduated in Literature, later going on to Paris where he completed his doctorate, writing

his thesis on Borges. His intense and committed journalistic activity has obliged him to spend various periods in exile. Currently he is the director of Latin American studies at Rutgers University, New Jersey, USA. In his novels one can appreciate, apart from his literary talent, his capacity for obtaining and organising historical documents carefully guarded by all the sectors that have played a role in the Argentine drama of recent years. This is particularly true for his books *La Novela de Peron* and *Santa Evita*. (See more about him at: http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla70/os-Eloy_Martinez-e.htm)

HÉCTOR GROS ESPIELL

Date of the conference: Monday, August 23. Time: 12.45 to 13.45

Plenary Session I.

Title: *The right to know, the right to remember- and libraries*

Born in Montevideo, Uruguay. Former Foreign Affairs Minister from Uruguay. Former member of numerous Human Rights Committee missions. Ph. D in Laws and Social Sciences. Professor of Constitutional Law. Emeritus Professor at the Laws Faculty. Professor of International Laws. Professor of Human Rights. Distinguished Professor (Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México). Honoris Causa Professor (Universidad de Concepción, Chile). Was twice Professor at the International Laws Academy (The Hague, Netherlands). Gave courses in different universities from Latin America and overseas: Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay, Chile, Peru, Ecuador, Colombia, Venezuela, Bolivia, Panama, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Honduras, El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico, Spain, Italy, Germany, Switzerland, Japan, Egypt, etc. Member of the History and Geography Institute from Uruguay. Member of the National Literature Academy from Uruguay. Member of Scientific and Juridical associations related to Politics and Human Rights in Brazil, Chile, Peru, Paraguay, Bolivia, Ecuador, Venezuela, Mexico, France, Belgium, etc. Member of Institut de Droit International. Member of the American Spanish-Portuguese Human Right Institut. President of ALDHU (Human Rights Latin American Association). President of the UNESCO so called Consulting Committee for the Teaching of Human Rights, Democracy, Tolerance and Peace. Member of the Academic Committee for UNESCO Chair on Human Rights (Universidad de la República, Uruguay). Board Member of the Istituto Internazionale de Studi sui Diritti del Uomo (Trieste, Italy).

ISMAIL SERAGELDIN

Date of the conference: Tuesday, August 24. Time: 12.45 to 13.45

Plenary Session II.

Title: *Bibliotheca Alexandrina, Past, Present and Future*

Ismail Serageldin is Egyptian, born in Guiza. He is trilingual: Arabic, French and English. Received education in Cairo University. (B. Sc. 1964, First Class Honors) and

Harvard University (M.R.P.1968, With Distinction and Ph.D, 1972). Currently, Mr. Serageldin is the Director of Bibliotheca Alexandrina. He is Distinguished University Professor, Wageningen University, the Netherlands. Also serves as chair and member of a number of advisory committees for academic, research, scientific and international institutions and civil society efforts. Among others, he has the following honorary degrees: Doctor of Sociology, University of Bucharest, Romania; Doctor of International Affairs, American University, Washington, DC, USA; Doctor of Science, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore, India and Doctor of Economics and Management, CNAM, Paris, France) Worked in a number of capacities at the World Bank since joining in 1972. Economist in education and human resources; Division Chief for Technical Assistance and Special Studies, and for Urban Projects in Europe, the Middle East and North Africa; Director for Programs in West Africa, Country Director for Central and Occidental Africa, Technical Director for all Sub-Saharan Africa, and Vice-President for Environmentally and Socially Sustainable Development. In addition, he was active in promoting NGO-Bank relations, and served as Co-Chairman of the NGO-Bank Committee. Prior to joining the World Bank, worked as a consultant in city and regional planning, and taught at Cairo University and Harvard University. Over 50 books and monographs (edited or authored) and 200 articles, book chapters, and technical papers on various topics, including: *Nurturing Development, Sustainability and the Wealth of Nations, Architecture of Empowerment, Rural Well-Being: From Vision to Action* (with David Steeds), *The Modernity of Shakespeare, Biotechnology and Biosafety* (with Wanda Collins), *Very Special Places* and *Promethean Science* (with G. Persley). (See more about him at: <http://www.serageldin.org/framea.htm>)

MEMPO GIARDINELLI

Date of the conference: Wednesday, August 25. Time: 12.45 to 13.45

Plenary Session III.

Title: *The library in the life of a writer*

Argentine writer, born in Resistencia, Chaco, where he lives at the present time. He lived in exile in Mexico between 1976 and 1984. He was the founder and director of the magazine *Puro Cuento*. His literary work has been translated into 20 languages and has won several literary awards, including the Rómulo Gallegos Prize in 1993. Giardinelli is the author of the following novels: *La revolución en bicicleta*, *El cielo con las manos*, *Luna caliente*, *Qué solos se quedan los muertos*, *Santo Oficio de la Memoria*, *Imposible Equilibrio*, *El Décimo Infierno*, *Cuestiones Interiores*. His most recent piece of work is *Visita después de hora*. His several storybooks include *Vidas ejemplares*, *El castigo de Dios*, and his latest piece of literary work for children *Cuentos con mi papá*. In addition to novels, he has written essays (*El género negro* y *El País de las Maravillas*, among others). In

September 2000, he was awarded in Spain the Great Travellers prize for his novel *Final de novela en Patagonia*. He usually collaborates in Argentine and Latin American newspapers and magazines, and has published articles and short stories nearly all round the world. His articles regularly appear in newspapers from Argentina and other countries such as Spain, Paraguay, Mexico, Chile and Uruguay. He taught at the Iberoamerican University in Mexico; was a professor in the Faculty of Journalism and Social Communications of the National University of La Plata and for 20 years, has been a visiting professor at several universities in the United States, especially at the University of Virginia. Besides, he is Professor Honoris Causa at the Universidad Nacional del Nordeste (UNNE) and the Universidad del Norte in Asunción. He is a member of the Advisory Council of the Memory Provincial Committee of the Province of Buenos Aires. In 1996, he donated his own personal library comprised of 10,000 volumes, for the establishment of a foundation, located in Chaco, devoted to the promotion of books and reading and the teaching and research of the pedagogy of reading. In the provinces of the North East of Argentina, dozens of libraries have been set up by the Giardinelli Foundation, which is in charge of supporting them and of carrying out different activities every year: www.fundamgiardinelli.org.ar

EMILIA FERREIRO

Date of the conference: Thursday, August 26. Time: 12.45 to 13.45

Plenary Session IV.

Title: *Computer, digital or multi-media literacy (in school settings, particularly in Latin American countries)*

Argentine researcher, who lives in Mexico, specialized in literacy processes. She earned her doctorate degree from the University of Geneva, and was guided by Jean Piaget on her thesis. She has received six Doctor Honoris Causa (from the University of Athens, Greece; from the Rio de Janeiro State University, Brazil; and four, from National Universities of Argentina, including the University of Buenos Aires and the University of Córdoba). She has been awarded the Order of Educational Merit by the Government of Brazil, and the Order of Andrés Bello by the Government of Venezuela. Currently she is tenure professor at the Educational Research Department of the Center of Research and Advanced Studies (Centro de Investigaciones y Estudios Avanzados – CINESTAV) at the National Polytechnic Institute (Instituto Politécnico Nacional – IPN), Mexico City (highest rank). The publication of *Los sistemas de escritura en el desarrollo del niño*, signalled the beginning of a series of constant publications documenting her research on the psychogenesis of written language. The book, co-written with Ana Teberosky, was translated into English, Italian and Portuguese; and it became significantly important in the academic and educational fields almost immediately. In 1999, several celebrations were held in her honor in Mexico City, Buenos Aires, Rosario and Córdoba (Argentina) and

Porto Alegre (Brazil), on occasion of the 20th. Anniversary of the publication of her book, which has been constantly in print. The conclusions drawn from her research work have been published as articles in specialized journals in Spanish, French, English, Italian and Portuguese. She is a member of the Editorial Board of several specialized magazines published in U.S.A, England, Italy, Spain, France and Argentina.

MARGARITA VANNINI

DATE OF THE CONFERENCE: FRIDAY, AUGUST 27.

TIME: 12.45 TO 13.45

Plenary Session V

Title: *UNESCO Memory of the World Programme in Latin America*

Margarita Vannini was born in Nicaragua. She graduated from the University of Costa Rica and earned a masters degree in Central American History. She has a bachelor's degree in Education and earned mention in Social Sciences. UNAN – Managua. Since 1990 she has been the Managing Director of the Nicaragua and Central America History Institute (IHNCA), a branch of the Central American University (UCA). She was a professor of Nicaraguan History and coordinator of the Research and Development Council from the Social Sciences department at the National Autonomous University of Nicaragua (UNAN). Besides, she was a member of the coordinating team of the Oral History Project *Historic rescue of the popular participation in the fight against the Somoza dictatorship* (UNAN) – National Literacy Campaign – Ministry of Culture. She is the author of *Semblanza de Nicaragua en el Siglo XX*, published by the Instituto de Historia de Nicaragua y Centroamérica and, and co-author of *Apuntes de Historia de Nicaragua* and *La Insurrección Popular Sandinista en el Departamento de Masaya*. She has also written several papers and articles; her latest work includes Memory of the World Program (MOW) from the UNESCO and its development in the Region, presented in the V Meeting of Archive Directors of the MERCOSUR, Asunción Paraguay, May 2003, and the establishment of the guidelines for the Memory of the World Program, presented in the MERCOSUR Seminar on Human Rights Archives, Chile, September 2003. As an editor, it is worth mentioning the journal *Revista de Historia*, Special Issue; *La Geografía Histórica como Ciencia Social: Metodologías interdisciplinarias en el análisis del espacio mesoamericano*, Managua, IPGH – IHNCA, 2002; the general coordination of the Nicaraguan Encyclopedia, and the Memorias del Seminario Sociedad, Política y Cultura en Centroamérica, (co-editor), IHNCA, Managua. She has made an outstanding contribution to international organizations: as president of the “Teaching of History” Committee, IPGH (2001-2004), and as a member of the Regional Committee for Latin America and the Caribbean of the Memory of the World Program from the UNESCO. She was awarded the title of the “Knight of Arts and Letters” by the government of France in February 2001.

*The Opening Session and all Plenary Sessions will be equipped with Simultaneous Interpretation

Honourary Committee – WLIC 2004

President of Argentina: Dr. Néstor Carlos Kirchner
Mayor of the City of Buenos Aires: Dr. Aníbal Ibarra
Minister of Education, Science and Technology: Lic. Daniel Filmus
Secretary of Culture from the National Presidency: Dr. Torcuato Di Tella
National Director of Federal Cultural Action and Cultural Industries: Lic. Elvio Vitali
Secretary of Culture from the City of Buenos Aires: Lic. Gustavo López
Director of the General Direction of Libraries from the Province of Buenos Aires: Lic. Daniel Ríos
Director General Coordinator of the National Congress Library: Sr. David Tobías Alazdraki
Director of the National Library : To be announced
Director of the Teachers National Library: Lic. Graciela Perrone
President of the National Committee Protector of Popular Libraries: Lic. María del Carmen Bianchi

Exhibition

The Exhibition will take place at Atlántico and Pacífico Halls (located at Hilton Hotel Basement). We are pleased to inform you that more than 80% of the space has been already booked (and we keep on receiving Space Application Forms). Companies and organisations from all over the world have confirmed their participation. There will be 3 Internet centres, a Poster Session with 80 posters, two Product Presentation Rooms, an Exhibitor's Lounge, a Message Board and cafeterias in the Exhibition Area.

The Exhibition will be open from August 23 to 26 as follows:

The Exhibition Opening will take place on Monday, August 23 at 16.00 and will include a reception with drinks and canapés.

Monday, August 23: from 16.00 to 18.00

Tuesday, August 24: from 09.00 to 18.00

Wednesday, August 25: from 09.00 to 18.00

Thursday, August 26: from 09.00 to 16.00

All the information about the Exhibition is available at www.ifla.org/IV/ifla70/

For further information and bookings please contact:

Mr. Jorge Gutiérrez Brianza

Fundación El Libro

Tel.: 00 54 11 4374-3288

Fax: 00 54 11 4375-0268

e-mail: jorgegutierrez@el-libro.com.ar

(Claudia Rodríguez – SC IFLA/LAC)

How to make the most of your first IFLA conference

IFLA will hold a meeting to welcome Newcomers to the IFLA conference – the Newcomers Session on Tuesday 24 August, from 10.45-12.45 at Buen Ayre Room (Hilton Hotel). The session will feature a variety of contributions from IFLA Officers and a visual presentation. Simultaneous Interpretation in all IFLA working languages (English, French, German, Russian and Spanish) will be provided and there will be ample opportunity for questions and answers. While the session is designated for first-time participants and new IFLA Members, every participant who is curious to learn more about the organisation of IFLA's international network of Information Professionals is welcome to participate in it. Be sure to come by to pick up your Newcomers package and the special First Timer badge!

A Newcomers Welcome Reception will follow, generously sponsored by KG Saur Verlag.

Tips for Newcomers

As soon as you have the programme use a highlighter pen to mark all those session, workshops and visits which particularly interest you. Newcomers will be able to identify each other by their special badges. Try to meet up with them, and share the experience of your first IFLA Conference.

For answers to the most frequently ask questions about IFLA conferences, please visit the conference website at www.ifla.org

(Claudia Rodriguez – SC IFLA/LAC)

IFLA Headquarters at WLIC 2004

IFLA Staff and IFLA Officers will be available to provide a wide range of information on site at WLIC 2004. The schedule of when officers will be present at the booth will be published in IFLA Express throughout the conference week. IFLA's President, Kay Raseroka, IFLA's President-elect Alex Byrne, the Secretary General, R. Ramachandran and the Coordinator for Professional Activities, Sjoerd Koopman will also take turns staffing the booth and are ready and willing to answer questions.

IFLA VOTING OFFICE

Voting delegates can obtain the necessary voting papers at the IFLA Voting Office located in the Secretariat offices in the International Congress Centre. Please note that the voting office will not be in the registration area this year. Voting papers will be distributed only to those delegates who are in possession of the IFLA Voting Card 2004, duly signed by the appropriate authority. The IFLA Voting Card has been mailed to all members which duly paid their membership fees for 2004. Late payment may be accepted during the

conference at the Voting office, in which case, the Voting Cards may be collected at the same time.

The Voting Office will be open in the IFLA Secretariat on Saturday 21 and Sunday 22 August, 09.00-18.00 and on Friday the 27 of August from 09.00-13.45.

The voting booth will also be open in the Colon Theatre, site of the Opening Session and Council I, on Monday 23 August, 08.30-10.30.

(Claudia Rodriguez – SC IFLA/LAC)

Registration for off-site sessions

The off-site sessions require pre-registration.

There will be registration lists for all off-site events at the IFLA Headquarters Secretariat in the Hilton Convention Centre. Please make sure you register for the sessions on time as the lists are handled with a 'first come-first served' policy

(Claudia Rodriguez – SC IFLA/LAC)

Fees for flying and day visitors

Flying visitors

The Flying Visitor registration at USD 125 provides access to the full programme of meetings, the exhibition and social events for a 30 hour period from 12.00 on Day 1 to 18.00 on Day 2.

Day visitors

A One Day only admission (Day ticket) is offered at USD 75 which provides access to the full programme of meetings, the exhibition and social events of that specific day.

(Discounts for IFLA Members do not apply for Flying Visitor or Day Visitor Registrations.)

(Claudia Rodriguez – SC IFLA/LAC)

Getting to Argentina

Visas to Argentina: besides the Websites mentioned in IFLA Express Nr. 1, giving information about visas to Argentina, there is a new one that allows you to find out where the closest Argentine representation to your country is, please see <http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla70/embassy-e.html>

*Official invitations: if you still need one, please contact Ms. Paz Carpani at ifla2004info@el-libro.com.ar

All airlines flying to Argentina arrive at Ministro Pistarini (Ezeiza) International Airport, which is 35 Km away from the City of Buenos Aires. You can reach the city by Teniente General Ricchieri freeway.

Company Manuel Tienda León (Tel. 00 54 11 4314-3636, 0810-888-5366, www.tiendaleon.com) and Transfer Express (Tel. 00 54 11 4852-6776, 0800-4444-872) offer a bus service from Ezeiza Airport to the city. The trip takes

approximately 40 minutes. There are also taxis and chauffeur-driven rented cars. **FOR YOUR OWN SECURITY:** please only use taxis from the authorized stands located inside the airport and do NOT accept offers from drivers that come up to you either inside or outside the airport .

Remember that if you arrive to Ezeiza International Airport on Saturday, August 21 or on Sunday, August 22, there will be free bus transportation available to hotels located within downtown area.

How to get to the Hilton and the Sheraton hotels and how to travel around Buenos Aires

There are several bus lines (known as “colectivos”) that stop a few metres away from both hotels. Bus lines are identified with numbers. These are the bus lines that bring you to Hilton and Sheraton Hotels: 5, 6, 7, 9, 15, 23, 26, 28, 45, 61, 62, 92, 75, 93, 99, 100, 106, 108, 109, 115, 126, 129, 130, 152, 140, 146.

The service is available 24 hours a day. The fixed fare is 0,80 Argentine Pesos. Tickets are paid with coins on site. There will be a permanent free shuttle between Hilton and Sheraton hotels (the 2 conference venues) during Conference working hours.

Travelling through Buenos Aires is very easy. Its five subway lines (commonly known as “subtes”) converge upon downtown, the main touristic and hotel area. The subway is the fastest means of transport making it the choice for the “porteños” (Buenos Aires citizens). It is connected with the main avenues and railway and bus stations.

There are two subway (underground) lines that are a 10 minute walk away from Hilton Hotel - if you want to stretch your legs a bit - (A Line: Plaza de Mayo Station and B Line: Leandro N. Alem Station).

There is one subway (underground) line that is located 100 meters away from Sheraton Hotel (C Line: Retiro Station) The schedule is from Monday to Saturday, from 6 am to 11 pm and on Sundays from 8 am to 10 pm. The fare is flat (0.70 pesos argentinos) and payable at the ticket offices located in the different stations. Each ticket may be used to go to any point of the city, even for long trips combining several lines.

Keep in mind that all delegates and Accompanying persons will receive a special pass for free subway transportation, valid from Sunday August 22 to Friday August 27.

Taxis are another good option to go through the City of Buenos Aires, with a fleet of more than 32.000 cars. The fare is composed of an initial price and an additional value charged according to the distance covered and time elapsed.

The fare is viewed on the taximeter that displays 1.28 Argentine Peso (\$) when the trip begins and adds \$ 0.16 every two hundred meters (about two blocks). Taxis in Buenos Aires are painted in yellow and black.
(Claudia Rodriguez – SC IFLA/LAC)

Popular libraries

The CONABIP is a national organization dependent on the Secretariat of Culture of the Nation. Its main objective is the support, promotion and development of popular libraries. There are more than 2,000 Popular Libraries throughout all the country, 32 mobile libraries and one boat library.

The Popular Library is an autonomous and independent organization, which offers information and consulting services. It is a place devoted to cultural expansion and promotion, and is in charge of developing initiatives such as related activities, recreational programmes, sociocultural performances, and the promotion of reading and popular education.

It is their aim to rescue the popular culture, to facilitate access to information, to restore solidarity bonds and to ensure that people participate more fully. It is open to all sectors of the community without any kind of discrimination.

Participation in IFLA 2004

The National Commission for the Protection of Popular Libraries (Comisión Nacional Protectora de Bibliotecas Populares – CONABIP) will take part in the IFLA World Library and Information Congress 2004, for which it has planned a series of activities:

Two Popular Libraries will be visited; they have been included in the Library Visits programme. Transportation will be provided.

In the Computer Forum to be held during the Conference, the CONABIP will make a presentation on the proposed topic: “Overcoming the Digital Gap in Latin America” (in the section of Public Libraries of the IFLA).

In the “Area for Popular Culture” in front of the Hilton Hotel.

The Popular Libraries will be represented at the stands of their own provinces, grouped by regions, where daily activities will be held: demonstrations on the methodology of the animation of reading, tango-lessons workshops, literary cafés, artistic and cultural programmes characteristic of each region, conferences (where simultaneous translation is included), informal talks and round tables.

In addition, every stand will display a variety of touristic and cultural options according to each region: music, handicrafts, gastronomy, tourist information, etc. All workshops will

require prior enrollment as well as attendance to some of the artistic activities. The programme of activities will be handed out to the delegates together with the information on the Congress.

(Claudia Rodriguez – SC IFLA/LAC)

National Argentine Library of Congress

During WLIC 2004, the National Argentine Library of Congress will carry out the following activities:

Tuesday 24: During the space dedicated to the section Library and Research Services for Parliaments, Mrs. Cristina Sushek (Deputy Director of Foreign Documentation and Information-Legislative Reference Direction) will present *The parliamentary library facing society*. The subject will refer to services this library also offers to general public.

Tuesday 24 and Wednesday 25: The Mobile Library will be installed near the Hilton Hotel. WLIC 2004 participants will be able to visit it. This library will participate in the Poster Session.

Thursday 25: *Parliamentary Libraries Seminar* at the National Argentine Congress Library. There will be a guided visit to the National Congress (English-Spanish). 9.30 to 10.30: Round table in charge of Senators. 11.00 to 12.00: Round table in charge of Diputees. Presentations: 13.30 to 13.45: Technical Procedures Direction. 13.45 to 14.00: General Reference Direction. 14.00 to 14.15: Planning and Modernization Direction. 14.15 to 14.30: Culture Direction. 14.30 to 14.45: Legislative Reference Direction. 14.45 to 15.00: Video. 15.00 to 15.15: Deputees debate

MORE LIBRARY VISITS

24. The Library and Popular Museum “Juan N. Madero” (Biblioteca y Museo Popular Juan N. Madero) – Constitución 662 (1646) San Fernando, Province of Buenos Aires. www.conabip.gov.ar It was founded in 1873, its beautiful building was specially constructed to house a library in 1911. It has been open without interruption for 131 years and was mentioned by Sarmiento in his Complete Works by recognizing Juan Nepomuceno Madero to have set an example as a librarian. Currently, the library is comprised of 90,000 volumes and it is declared Provincial and Municipal Historical Monument. There will be transport facilities available for those who are interested in visiting the library.

25. The Popular Library “Sarmiento” (Biblioteca Popular Sarmiento) - Juan D. Perón Avenue 3065, Valentín Alsina, Province of Buenos Aires. www.bsarmiento.com.ar It was founded in 1918. It is an entity which has its roots in the community tradition, supported by its own means and visited by a significant number of readers: 6,000 per month. It has an astronomic observatory and a micro cinema with a capacity of 100 people. Besides, the Board for Historical Studies “Valentín Alsina” (Junta de Estudios Históricos de Valentín

Alsina) meets there. It is placed within a community made up of 300,000 inhabitants and it is currently comprised of a total of 30,000 books. There will be transport facilities available for those who are interested in visiting the library.

(Claudia Rodriguez – SC IFLA/LAC)

Social activities

Take into account that all participants are invited to the social activities programmed. Have you already scheduled them?

In case you still didn't, we remind you of them:

Monday, August 23

8.30: Opening Session at Colon Theatre. Afterwards Council I will take place. There will be buses to take participants from Hilton Hotel to Colon Theatre, and back to the Hilton after the Opening Session.

16.00: Exhibition Opening. It will be held at Hilton Hotel's Basement (Pacífico and Atlantico Halls). You will be offered soft drinks, wine, cheese....and other appetizers! Besides an additional surprise!!...

Tuesday, August 24

12.00: Poster Session Opening (Pacífico Hall's Foyer, at Hilton Hotel's Basement).

10:45 to 12:45: Newcomers Session (Buen Ayre Room, Hilton Hotel)

19.00: Opening Party at Parque Norte's *Golden Center*. You will enjoy a delicious variety of cuisine (for almost all tastes!!). There will be music, shows and dancing. Buses will take you from Hilton Hotel to the *Golden Center*...and will take you back to the Hilton whenever you are ready to leave!

Wednesday, August 25

18.30: Cultural Evening at Gran Rex Theatre (located downtown, a few blocks away from Hilton Hotel). You will enjoy a performance of music, dance and singing. Do not miss it!

Thursday, August 26

Receptions organized by Embassies to delegates from their countries. Each Embassy will directly handle invitations with delegates and will fix the hour for the meeting.

Friday, August 27

14.00-15.50: Closing Session at Pacífico Hall (Hilton Hotel's Basement). Afterwards Council II will take place.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

20.a. Goethe and Borges Invite...

On the occasion of the IFLA-congress the Goethe-Institut Buenos Aires will present a film-series of screen-adaptations of works of literature.

On three evenings a theatre-adaptation of Jorge Luis Borges *La Biblioteca de Babel* (director: Rubén Szuchmacher) will

be staged at the Miguel Cané Library in which Borges worked for several years and which was the source of inspiration for his text (address: Biblioteca Miguel Cané, Carlos Calvo 4319/21).

Let's find out who is the winner of USD 1 million!!!

Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation Access to Learning Award 2004 Announcement Tuesday, August 24, 5:00-6:30 p.m., Fine Arts Pavilion, Argentine Catholic University, Alicia M. de Justo 1300 (a few meters from the Hilton Hotel Convention Centre), Puerto Madero, Buenos Aires.

All delegates are invited to the official announcement and presentation of the Access to Learning Award for 2004. The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation announces the recipient of the Award for 2004. The international award, which is managed by the Council on Library and Information Resources, is given annually to a public library or similar organization outside the United States that has been innovative in providing free public access to information. The USD 1 million award helps the recipient develop new initiatives and expand outreach. Previous award recipients include Argentina's Biblioteca del Congreso, Colombia's Biblorred, Guatemala's Probigua, Finland's Helsinki City Library, and South Africa's Smart Cape Access Project. The announcement ceremony is open to all IFLA attendees; refreshments will be served. Please RSVP and/or direct any questions to abishop@clir.org

YMCA at IFLA 2004

The YMCA is offering its premises free of charge (located right downtown, in Reconquista St. 439) to all participants of WLIC 2004 Conference, during its length. Those who are interested will be able to practise gym, aerobics, water gym, swimming, yoga, soccer, basketball, volleyball. Sauna is also included. Each delegate will find a special pass and a timetable of activities in the bag received during registration.

BUT THERE IS MORE GOOD NEWS!

On Sunday 29 (during the morning) there will be a marathon in Puerto Madero neighbourhood (next to Hilton Hotel). Be prepared to enjoy these healthy extra benefits!

A SPECIAL KIND OF TOURISM ...

IFLA and the The Secretariat of Tourism of the autonomous city of Buenos Aires have jointly organized a programme of guided tours which are directly related to the history, and the cultural and literary tradition of Buenos Aires. All of these walking tours, intended for participants and accompanying visitors, are free and are conducted by trained tourist guides that speak Spanish and English. They last about an hour and have different meeting points shown in each case together with the time of departure. In case you need further information, please contact fernandavela@el-libro.com.ar

Abasto: melody and the suburbs

Friday 20 and Monday 23. Leaving from Corrientes Avenue and Anchorena Street at 15:00 (03.00 pm). Itinerary: from Corrientes Avenue and Anchorena Street sightseeing different sites related to the life and work of the tango singer Carlos Gardel, and to the tango spirit and identity characteristic of the Abasto neighborhood. Sites of Interest: Abasto Shopping (formerly Abasto Central Market); Carlos Gardel Corner (formerly "Chanta Cuatro"); Carlos Gardel Passage; Carlos Gardel Monument; Zelaya Passage and the Museum "Casa de Carlos Gardel" (Gardel's House).

San Telmo: memory of patios, wells and street lights

Saturday 21. Leaving from San Juan Avenue and Defensa Street at 15:00 (03.00 pm). Itinerary: on this ride we will try to revive the old Buenos Aires, discovering its cobbled streets and visiting the big mansions of the late 19th Century, with its patios and art galleries. Sites of Interest: Dorrego Square ("Plaza Dorrego"); Church of "Nuestra Señora de Belén" – Parish of "San Pedro González Telmo"; Antonio Ballve Penitentiary Museum; Dr. Guillermo Rawson's School – (Board of Physicians); Gallery "La Defensa"; Museum of Modern Art; Cinema Museum "Pablo Ducros"; Gallery of the Old Hotel; Juan Carlos Castagnino's House; old "Tasca de Cuchilleros" (old brawlers' gambling house); studio of the "fileteador" Jorge Muscia (handicraft consisting of drawing ornamental lines); Esteban de Luca's House; Defensa Street; Gallery "El Solar de French".

Plaza de Mayo: the birth and history of a city

Sunday 22. Leaving from de Mayo Avenue and Bolívar Street at 11: 00 (11.00 am). Itinerary: Plaza de Mayo and its surroundings. You will learn about the origins of Buenos Aires and how it developed into a city, discovering its first buildings, its history and its main characters. Sites of Interest: Plaza de Mayo; monument known as the May Pyramid ("Pirámide de Mayo"); State House ("Casa Rosada"); statue of General Manuel Belgrano; old site of the National Congress Chambers; Banco Nación; Metropolitan Cathedral; site of the Government of the City; the "Cabildo" –original seat of the government in colonial times– and its Museum, called "Museo del Cabildo y de la Revolución de Mayo"; City Council.

La Boca: the port and the colour of the artist Benito Quinquela Martin

Tuesday 24 and Saturday 28. Leaving from Pedro de Mendoza Avenue and Almirante Brown Avenue at 15.00 (03.00 pm). Itinerary: Strolling along the pier till we get to Vuelta de Rocha, the Street-Museum "Caminito" and the "Plazoleta de los Bomberos Voluntarios" (Volunteer Firemen Square). You will learn about the origins of the neighborhood, the Italian immigrants and their relationship to the port. You will also learn about a plastic artist whose work has been significant to the growth of this picturesque place: Benito Quinquela Martin. Sites of Interest: Old Iron Bridge; the "Riachuelo", the Pier, La Ribera Theatre; Pedro

de Mendoza School – Museum of Fine Arts “Benito Quinquela Martín”; Wax Museum; Vuelta de Rocha; La Perla Bar; “Caminito” Street – Exhibition Centre “Caminito”; Proa Foundation; “Plazoleta de Bomberos Voluntarios” (Volunteer Firemen Square).

Recoleta: art and scenery

Wednesday 25. Leaving from Del Libertador Avenue and Austria Street at 15:00 (03.00 pm). Itinerary: We will visit one of the most aristocratic places in Buenos Aires, getting to know its ample parks with prominent monuments, and the complex of buildings of great historical and architectural value, which gave birth to the name of the neighborhood. Sites of Interest: National Library; Evita’s Monument (Eva Duarte de Perón); Plaza Francia; monument “France to Argentina”; Palace de Glace; General Carlos María de Alvear Monument; Torcuato de Alvear Monument; Recoleta Cultural Centre; Basílica “Nuestra Señora del Pilar”.

Puerto Madero: mirror-like surfaces of water and sky

Thursday 26. Leaving from Alicia Moreau de Justo Avenue and Azucena Villaflor at 15:00 (03.00 pm). Itinerary: We will go for a walk along the pier, strolling along the waterfront and the different docks. During the tour, we will learn about the history and the evolution of the port of Buenos Aires and the current development of the area as a gastronomic and recreational centre. Sites of Interest: new office building promenade; “porteños” Mills; Dock 3 Río de la Plata Mills; Ex silo belonging to the National Grain Board; Frigate Sarmiento; Hilton Hotel; Puerto Madero Station; Dock 4; Yacht Club Puerto Madero.

Palermo: parks and lakes

Friday 27. Leaving from Sarmiento and Libertador Avenues at 15:00 (03.00 pm). Itinerary: A stroll along the Rose Garden –“Rosedal”- takes you through the Andalusian Patio –“Patio Andaluz”-, and to the Poets’ Garden –“Jardín de los Poetas”-, crossing the Bridge of Sighs till you get to the Museum of Plastic Arts “Eduardo Sívori”, enjoying the outing in the major and most popular green area of the city, and the beauty of its valuable monuments and sculptures. Sites of Interest: Domingo Faustino Sarmiento Monument; Magna Carta and the Four Argentine Regions Monument; rests of the old mansion of Brigadier General Juan Manuel de Rosas; “Retoño del Aromo del Perdón” (the sprout of an aromo tree); underground pedestrian crossing (tunnel); Juan Manuel de Rosas Monument; Zoological Garden; Poets’ Garden ; Rose Garden (“Rosedal”); Museum of Plastic Arts “Eduardo Sívori”

INTERESTING MISCELLANEOUS!

*Good news! Numerous delegations from many countries (some of them very far away from us) confirmed their participation in WLIC 2004: Australia, 18; Canada, 39; China, 132; Denmark: 54; Finland, 24; France, 39; Germany, 38; Holland, 24; Iceland, 24; Norway, 39; Russia, 55; South

Africa, 13; Sweden, 60; Republic of Korea, 53; United Kingdom, 45; United States of America, 219. We give them our warmest welcome!

*We are organising Tango dancing lessons during your Conference activities break. As soon as it is fully organised we will publish the information in www.ifla.org/IV/ifla70/

*For Classical music and ballet lovers we recommend a visit to Colon Theatre’s Website (available in Spanish only): <http://www.teatrocolon.org.ar/inicio.htm>

*There exists in Buenos Aires a well known bookstore (the biggest in Latin America) called Ateneo Grand Splendid. It is very attractive and quiet different from others: its building belongs to a former, beautiful theatre from the early 1900’s. We are organizing a visit whose date and hour will be available at www.ifla.org/IV/ifla70/

*Do you remember that in IFLA Express Nr. 1 we promised to give you more useful and exciting information about Buenos Aires? Well, according to this we suggest you to visit <http://www.buenosaires.gov.ar/areas/turismo/?idioma=en>

CONTACTS

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(Claudia Rodríguez – SC IFLA/LAC)

The Argentine librarianship will be introduced to the world in a special issue of the journal “Referencias”

The National Association of Graduate Librarians of the Republic of Argentina (Asociación de Bibliotecarios Graduados de la República Argentina –ABGRA), jointly

with outstanding librarians of different regions of the country, have worked, under the supervision of Prof. Susana Romanos, Director of the Instituto de Investigaciones Bibliotecológicas from the University of Buenos Aires, on the preparation of a special issue of the official publication of the Association, Journal "Referencias".

This special issue will include an overview on Argentine libraries and will focus on the actual situation of education, on the research studies in the field of librarianship, and on the Argentine association movement. It will be published in English and Spanish and will be handed out to all participants of IFLA 2004.

(Claudia Rodriguez – SC IFLA/LAC)

ISBN agencies international meeting

Due to an initiative developed by the International ISBN Agency with headquarters in Berlin, the Argentine Publisher Association (Cámara Argentina del Libro), and the Regional Centre for Book Development in Latin America and the Caribbean (Centro Regional para el Fomento del Libro en América Latina y el Caribe –CERLALC), the ISBN Agencies Annual Meeting will be held between August 19-21 in the city of Buenos Aires, Argentina, as one of the activities to take place before the commencement of the World Library and Information Congress: 70th IFLA General Conference and Council.

Representatives of the 20 Iberoamerican member states are expected to attend the Meeting, where, together with the Director of the International Agency, Dr. Hartmut Walravens, several issues will be discussed: the ISBN System, new technologies, and special emphasis will be placed on the application and impact of the new standard ISO 2108, which will be enforced as from the year 2007.

(Claudia Rodriguez – SC IFLA/LAC)

Iberoamerican National Librarians Associations Seminar

Buenos Aires, Argentina, August 20-22, 2004

Organised by: ABGRA (Argentine Graduated Librarians Association) and FESABID (Spanish Confederation of Archives, Biblioteconomy, Documentation and Museums Associations)

Coordinator: Mr. Julio Cubillo (Chile)

Targets: To encourage Librarian Associations authorities to promote the growth and development of each association in IberoAmerica; To strengthen nets as well as experience and cooperation exchange agreements among professional associations from the region; To define a common strategy of work during 2004-2006.

For further information and registration, please contact: Asociación de Bibliotecarios Graduados de la República Argentina (ABGRA)

Tucumán 1424, Piso 8, Dpto. C1050 AAB-Buenos Aires, Argentina. Tel.: 00 54 11 4371-5269 / 4373-0571 / e-mail: secretaria@abgra.org.ar / Website: http://www.abgra.org.ar (Claudia Rodriguez – SC IFLA/LAC)

Librarianship and Documentation Professional Journeys

From 13 to 16 April 2004, the Association of Argentine Graduated Librarians (ABGRA) sponsored the most important academic activities in the year, namely the *Librarianship and Documentation Professional Journeys*, which took place at the headquarters of the 30th International Buenos Aires Book Fair.

These meetings for professional improvement were guided to libraries: school, agriculture and veterinary, academical, health, law and juridical sciences and, for the first time, to science and technology libraries, giving rise, in view of the variety of contents, an exchange of ideas and experiences between specialists from different fields.

In this setting six journeys were carried out, which discussed themes related to their fields of expertise, but always impregnated in a society of constant changes. During this period, specialists from our country and from overseas presented their point of view through conferences, round tables and workshops.

The 11th School Libraries Meeting put emphasis on providing the librarians with a new information highway, positioning them as user makers and offering them the tools to develop new abilities and artfulness.

The 11th Agriculture and Veterinary Sciences Libraries Journey addressed the new concepts in agricultural information provided a workshop on knowledge management and suggested the development of integrated systems in documentation centers and libraries.

The 9th Meeting of Academical Libraries offered a space for reflection, updating and exchange of experiences related to the treatment and organization of information in virtual environment. In this field, the production of knowledge on the Internet and intellectual property were discussed.

To 5th Journey of Health and Environment Libraries addressed such theme as intelligent libraries in intelligent organizations in a workshop that provided the participants with an opportunity to face the challenge of teamwork.

To 5th Journey of Law and Juridical Sciences Libraries put emphasis in the users of juridical sciences libraries in the virtual world, taking into account the profiles of interest in the search for information. The journey culmination was a workshop on the analysis and practice of thesaurus in the law area.

The 1st Journey of Science and Technology Libraries emerged as a new trigger to stir and encourage the librarians working in this area. It provided a space for exchange and integration at a national and international level, aimed to face the challenges of the Information Society. The journey ended with a workshop aimed to qualifying the attendees to use the services available in the electronic library of the National General Office for Science, Technology and Productivity.

As in previous events, ABGRA provided local and overseas librarians and documentarists with a space that hopefully has contributed to their professional updating.
(Claudia Rodriguez – SC IFLA/LAC)

Argentina Book Chamber launched Libros.ar

The gateway Libros.ar is the most important project we have ever accomplished because, besides the intrinsical technical value, it will be a fundamental tool for book development in Argentina and abroad. Besides, our intention, and we believe this to be an extremely important value, is make it an absolutely democratic instrument capable to equal the opportunities for all actors in the book environment (publishers, booksellers, distributors, librarians and readers)," said Hugo Levin, President of Argentina Book Chamber during the launching of Libros.ar (www.librosar.com.ar), a virtual gateway aimed at disseminating the information disclosed by the ISBN System, the only Argentinean book database that gathers all information on the Argentinean book production (since 1982) as well as the updated data about the publishing houses.

Libros.ar is available since mid May and allows free of cost access to more than 170 thousand titles available in the ISBN Argentina Agency's database, to which approximately 17 thousand new titles are added every year. Furthermore, given that the access is free of charge, this gateway enables the dissemination and the search for library-related information by students, teachers, researchers, librarians, booksellers, distributors, publishers, and readers in general: everybody can have access to the titles available in the bookstores, libraries and educational centers in Argentina besides finding editions that are missing in the shop windows, and professionals can take advantage of this space to generate on-line businesses and to register new titles with the ISBN system.

With regard to the search options, the most important are: keywords, subjects, titles, publishers, authors and collaborators. Therefore, Libros.ar is a tool especially useful for the librarians because it allows them to carry out bibliographical searches on a database that provides complete information about the titles available in Argentina, seeing that it facilitates the on-line selection and acquisition of bibliographical material, as well as the consequent increment of libraries funds. Likewise, this gateway makes it possible to

retrieve bibliographical information and incorporate them in real time to the databases of libraries.

Finally, it is to be highlighted that during the launching, during to 30th International Buenos Aires Book Fair, Elvio Vitali, National Director of Federal Action and Cultural Enterprises of the National General Office for Culture, stated that with Libros.ar "the ISBN phenomenon, which was a phenomenon of book identity and management, becomes dynamic," and he agreed with Levin because "the act of provided such world of vast information and being able to access it makes the book business to be more democratic, seeing that in the 90's it went through a very strong concentration that generated a huge disparity between, for instance, small booksellers and big chains, or between small publishers and big international groups."

Information: Argentina Book Chamber info@librosar.com.ar

Participants institutions:

Secretaría de Cultura de Presidencia de la Nación; Comisión Nacional Protectora de Bibliotecas Populares; Biblioteca del Congreso de la Nación; Biblioteca Nacional; Biblioteca Nacional de Maestros; Secretaría de Cultura del GCBA; Dirección General del Libro y Promoción de la Lectura del GCBA; Dirección de Bibliotecas de la Provincia de Buenos Aires; Fundación El Libro; Cámara Argentina de Papelerías, Librerías y Afines; Asociación de Bibliotecarios Graduados de la República Argentina; Centro Argentino de Información Científica y Tecnológica y Programa SIU.

(Claudia Rodriguez – SC IFLA/LAC)

BRAZIL

IFLA PRE-CONFERENCE M&M 2004 São Paulo, from 18 to 20 August 2004

Registrations to the IFLA pre-conference Marketing & Management Section 2004 will be accepted up to May 30 (discount fee), or up to July 15 (full fee).

Theme of the event: The Virtual Customer: a new paradigm to improve the relationship between customers and information services and libraries. Joint Promotion: University of São Paulo; Management and Marketing Section / IFLA and Université de Montreal.

No registrations at event venue. Number of seats: 250

Further information:

updated about the event, full program, lodging in São Paulo and package to Buenos Aires - www.eca.usp.br/iflamkt.
(IFLA PRE-CONFERENCE M&M 2004 Organizing Committee)

Reading, readers and libraries - First French-Brazilian Librarianship Meeting in Rio de Janeiro 23-25 June 2004

Organized by the Embassy of France and the "Aliança Francesa". Supported by the Regional Council of Librarianship of Rio de Janeiro, the Culture Secretariat of the Rio de Janeiro State, the Secretariat of Cultures of the Rio de Janeiro Municipality and "Academia Brasileira de Letras".

Conferences:

Roger Chartier: "Languages, readings, libraries in the 21st Century". Moderator: Celia Zaher, Director of the National Library - Martine Poulain: "The French Libraries: conquests and interrogations". Moderator: Ana Lígia Medeiros, Director of the State of Rio de Janeiro Public Library - Alain Duperrier: "The municipality libraries with a regional vocation: for a local ambitious cultural politics! The example of Limoges" Moderator: Ana Maria de Andrade Rodrigues, Director of the Libraries Directory of Rio de Janeiro Municipality. Moderator of the working meeting and reporter of the closing round table: Elizabet Maria Ramos de Carvalho, IFLA Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean Manager.

Taking inspiration in Monteiro Lobato's famous epigram, "a country is made with men and books," we could say that a democracy is made with readers and libraries. But, what do we mean by "library" when we are in the middle of the Internet era, whose expansion is such that the whole world becomes a gigantic "multiconnected village?" Is this information "world-wisely" motion, which has been presented as an emancipation and progress factor, really a synonym to communication? Under which circumstances can it generate a better understanding of the Neighbor and of the world? This is where libraries come in, provided that we construe them as an organized group of mind works: rather than a source of information, a cultural proposal. The library is the decantation site for knowledge. Just like a *sommelier*, the librarian chooses, sorts, waits on the pertinent suggestion: because, in the Internet era, it is more and more difficult to determine the information that is pertinent, to have available the information that is valuable and validated at a time. The very idea of a universal library, where all books could be found, is not a dream, but rather a utopia. This way, every library is a choice. By making such choice, the librarian is, doubtlessly, the first author in his/her library.

The library also reflects the attention that is bestowed upon it by the community; it is the fruit of a historical-geographical and cultural context. It can't survive dictatorships, but it feeds democracy. It is a machine that changes faith into knowledge, credulity into knowledge. She opposes to the doctrinal, only, exclusive, infallible truth. Its collections make up a sort of collective truth based on documents that

are merely private truths, that is to say, lonesome mistakes. The library builds on the conviction that truth, if there is one, can only be shared and contingent. Otherwise, one only book would be enough, as it has been the case sometimes. In this sense, the library is a political project.

Twenty years ago, France, thanks to a voluntary and joint action taken by both the State and the territorial communities, was populated with public libraries, in architecturally remarkable buildings in Montpellier, Marseille, Toulouse, Limoges... The success of public libraries is due both to the quality of their spaces and to the richness of their collections. Because if libraries' vocation is to provide a dwelling place to world's knowledge, this means also it is expected to use such dwelling place as a harbor and meeting place, a place for bonds.

This first French-Brazilian Librarianship meeting falls into this exchange logic, which is inherent to the operation of a library. The confrontation of realities and different experiences will enable a reflection about the need of the State to provide a libraries policy in the 21st century, about the way such policy is to be steered in the globalization era, and about the role of public libraries in a information-oriented society.

(Hervé Peltier - Coordinator of French Media Centers in Brazil, French General Consulate in Rio de Janeiro)

Passion for Reading

The campaign Passion for Reading, inspired in the French "fureur de lire", started in 1982 by the then French Minister for Culture, Jacques Lang, encourages a closer contact of writers, authors, publishers, booksellers and librarians with the readers.

As the biggest campaign ever launched in Brazil to support reading, the Passion for Reading, started 12 years ago by the City Hall of Rio de Janeiro through the Secretariat for Cultures, and supported ever since, pays homage in 2004 to the great author Rachel de Queiroz (1910-2003), who was acclaimed in life as "The First Lady of the Brazilian Literature". Since she wrote and got published, before she was 20 years old, "O Quinze" (The Fifteen) - the novel that started the "Northeast Fiction" cycle - Rachel has always been a presence in the culture of our country, with a work of weighty impact that voices our feelings and represents that which in ourselves is the most legitimate Brazilian uniqueness.

During this year's Passion for Reading week, from 5 to 12 November, cultural actions will take place not only in all of the Rio de Janeiro's 25 popular and moving libraries, but also in all culture centers, theaters, and appropriate rooms, in auditoriums and circuses, museums and universities, including a series of storytelling presentations, choirs and musical sessions, readings of selected texts, series of lectures

on reading and the highly positive influence of reading on a person's life.

The Passion for Reading is supported by institutions of all sorts: Banco do Brasil, Caixa Econômica Federal, Embassies and Consulates of several countries, autarchies, religious and banking institutions, in an action that is tuned with a sentence that Rachel de Queiroz bestowed to us and is worthy to be remembered: "**He who reads is never alone.**"

Your support to the Passion for Reading campaign will be of highest importance for this promotion which, from 5 to 12 November, 2004, will coordinate aimed to bring prestige to and encourage reading.

(Antonio Olinto - Director of the General Department of Documentation and Cultural Information, Rio de Janeiro Municipality)

São Paulo Subway will have a library network

By the end of this half-year, the Subway will have a library at Paraíso Station provided with about 3,000 novel, fiction and biography books. That will be the first of ten libraries to be installed by the Subway company inside their stations by the end of the year. In order to be able to use the system, the users will be requested to fill a file card and then they will be allowed up to 15 days to keep the books.

Paraíso station's library will be built on the connection platform between Blue Line, direction to Tucuruvi, and the Green Line. "This will be the largest of the libraries and, based on people's response, we will define the format and the contents of the following ones," said Flávia Cutolo, head of the Subway company marketing department. The initial target is that 10% of the 200,000 people that walk across Paraíso Station everyday will use the new service. According to Flávia, the project - which is currently undergoing negotiations with a private sponsor - is a Subway cultural sector long-standing dream. "Literature has always been left out of our artistic manifestations. This project will finally allow us to offer it to our users," she says.

The idea of such libraries was inspired in the literary activities carried out by Santiago's subways, in Chile, and Mexico City's, in Mexico. Besides the borrowing of books, the Brazilian subway project will also offer literary soirées, chats with authors and contests. Paraíso Station's collection is already virtually complete and São Paulo City's publishers donated part of it. "The target is to provide a set that will please all users, including from comic books to bibliographical consultation books," Flávia adds.

Any citizen will be allowed to use the service, although it will be located beyond the gears. "At least 85% of the subway users pass through the stations three times a week. This way, the returning of the books will be natural," she says. For Cláudio Silbeberg, 60, who uses the subway three

times a week, a space where people can browse the books is still missing. "Tables and chairs for the reader to sit down while he/she choose their book would be ideal."

(Da Agência Estado)

School library brings children in during break time

The interest for books is so big among the 400 students, from the preschool to the 4th grade, in Colégio Termomecânica, in São Bernardo do Campo (SP), that they dispute passwords to use the library during break time. "We allow five passwords to each of the 13 classes, but I always let in some who don't have a password," says infoeducator Cláudia Guedes. "Free to move around the wide, colorful, well-provided and beautiful room, which besides offer a high-quality collection and the possibility of choosing what to do with it, the children choose to change the playground and the sports courts by the library."

Cláudia Guedes training to facilitate children access to information was acquired in the library of another São Bernardo do Campo's municipal school, where 60 rooms similar to Termomecânica's library are already operating. "With the amount of information we can provide now, the problem is not the access to information any more," says Edmir Perrotti, teacher at the São Paulo University Communications and Arts Department's Librarianship and Documentation School, and member of the National Committee for the program *Leituração (Reading Action)*, sponsored by the National Extraordinary Office for Eradication of Illiteracy (Seea), Education Department. "The question is the competence to select, interpret and establish relationships between them, which the infoeducator helps develop."

Perrotti explains that the exposition to varied information and languages - oral, audiovisual, written/printed, digital - develops the necessary cognitive competences for the learning process in the users. With an arena for theater, television, video, computers, sound apparatus with ear phone, tables and comfortable chairs, shelves with books and other materials, the library motivates the student to come in. Those who come in become assiduous visitor and learn with autonomy.

From reading to production - The school teachers talk regularly with Cláudia about how to integrate classrooms and library. In the two weekly "library classes," the students make experiments with both the teacher and the infoeducator, and then develop projects with both of them. Cláudia wishes they have more free time, for the children also need to do what they feel like to.

Color boxes around the room exhibit books and the students can choose from them. The infoeducator assesses them in order to adequate the books to the age group, sorts out the

collection and sets up the sites for researches, helps the children and tells histories. "There are no rules here, because rules are rather annoying. I enter agreements with the children on what can and what cannot be done," she says.

The electronic book *Parlendas*, created in 2003 by Termomecânica preschool students is an example of that reading and writing encouraging method. A teacher developed this theme in the classroom for four months, and the research, on the Internet and using other materials, was supported by the infoeducator. Cláudia developed an electronic book as a means to take the work done by the children to the library. "The students learned how to use the scanner, how to record their voices, and they typed the texts". If you visit the library you'll get to know the final product, which is available on the computers.

Knowledge Station – "Providing a beautiful space and then stop is not enough, and appealing to the passion for books may help, but is not enough," says Edmir Perrotti. "One has to change that into a support and acceptance structure to shelter people's interests and train infoeducators." Experiences oriented by the specialist have proved that it is possible to encourage reading if one applies the appropriate methodology. They serve to other institutions, as day cares, public libraries, community libraries and moving-around collections. This is what Perrotti refers to as "knowledge station" - a type of cultural center for disseminating the information produced in the classrooms. "The mere school exercise becomes knowledge because is language-rich enough to circulate among the users until it runs into public domain," he says.

The "knowledge stations" are being implemented as school libraries in all 140 municipal schools of São Bernardo do Campo, 71 of Diadem, and 12 of Jaguariúna, in São Paulo state. In the capital city, the city hall plans to implant the model in the libraries and reading rooms of all 1,503 municipal schools and in all 313 day cares. In total, 2,039 teaching institutions will have their own "knowledge station" fit to the target public and to the financial resources available in the institution.

(Repórter: Adriana Maricato- Assessoria de Comunicação Social Ministério da Educação)

II Rio de Janeiro International Librarianship Congress

The II Rio de Janeiro International Librarianship Congress was held on May 28-29 2004, under the main theme: Libraries: new millennium! And now, what? Many librarians, not only from Rio de Janeiro, but also from nearly all Brazilian states, attended the meeting, besides guest delegates from Spain and Uruguay.

Two international lectures, five national lectures, ten round tables, six mini-courses and a number of free-topic

exhibitions and posters were provided. Under Ligia Passion's general coordination, the congress relied on the presence and contribution of prominent Librarianship professionals from Brazil, namely, Elizabeth Maria Ramos de Carvalho, Ana Pavani, Maria Isabel Franca, Maria de Fátima Pereira Raposo, Elda Mulholand, Mariza Russo, Maria Imaculada Sampaio, José Renato Oliveira, Sérgio Costa, Paula Mello.

As a foreign guest, I would like to express my gratitude for the famous Carioca hospitality, and also for having attended an event of high academic and participation level. Such nice circumstances help strengthening the exchange of experiences and knowledge in both professional and human fields, decisively supporting the enrichment of our profession.

(Lic. Esther Pailos Vázquez – Directora, Biblioteca y Centro de Documentación, Universidad de Montevideo)

COLOMBIA

Colombia's 2003-2006 National Reading and Libraries Plan

The Colombia's National Reading and Libraries Plan (PNLB) is framed in the 2002-2006 National Development Plan and in the 2001-2010 10-Year Culture Plan, within the guideline named *Culture to build the nation* undertaken by the Colombian government aimed to fostering "the warranty to democracy, social equity, and the educational revolution."

The plan is coordinated by the Culture and Education Ministry, sponsored by Banco da República and by a number of institutions related to reading and libraries.

The main purpose of the plan is to improve the culture and writing levels, to strengthen and improve the services provided by Colombian public and school libraries, enabling the access of the population to information, knowledge and entertainment.

Average reading in Colombia today is 2.4 books a year (the international average is 10 to 12), the reading habits reaches 1.74 reading hours a week and 0.48 hours in the weekends. On the other hand, 45% of the hard-working population is habitual reader and 70% of the habitual readers concentrate in Bogota, Medellín and Cáli. Besides, 313 (26%) municipal districts do not have libraries, in 126 (11%) municipal districts collections include less than 500 books, and the number of books per inhabitant is 0.1 (4.2 million books in 1184 libraries).

Libraries in general are concentrated in the larger cities. Another problem in the libraries is the poor training of their human resources.

The improvement of this situation would imply, firstly, in an inter-institutional work including the administrations of

departments and municipal districts so that they would formulate and co-finance reading and library plans as part of a government strategy. As part of such co-financing, territorial entities should undertake the responsibility of providing and fitting an appropriate space, guaranteeing its operation and maintenance and the permanent implementation of complementary services capable to meet the needs of the populations. As a counterpart, the government will supply Colombia's public libraries with individual collections of at least 3,000 books and will supply complementary audiovisual resources.

In addition, actions aimed at institutionally strengthening the actors involved in the development of libraries were accelerated with the purpose of getting the consolidation of the National Public Libraries Network and its interface with Banco da República's, Family Compensation Fund's, and schools' Libraries Network. Literacy, reading and writing promotion and encouragement activities will be implemented, and an attempt will be made seeking to foster the production of solid circulation and low price collections. Likewise, significant efforts will be guided up to the configuration of an information system capable to set up the base line for the continuation and evaluation of PNLB.

An effort will be made to develop a computerized support infrastructure capable to facilitate the exchange of information and the interface between the different members of the existing networks. Especially, actions will be fostered so that through the Connectivity Agenda program, coordinated by the Ministry of Communications, a network may be consolidated between the libraries in the country.

A project bank will be set up to identify, guide and impel the development of initiatives from territorial entities and from different actors, enabling the interface within the guidelines and the strategies referred to above.

In the quadrennium 2003-2006, the National Reading and Libraries Plan intends to benefit 45% of the Colombian population by providing library services and reading rooms; to strengthen and provide, through the National Libraries Network, 500 public and private libraries, besides increasing the reading average to 3.5 books a year.

The cost to fit a 3,000-book library is estimated in 58,400 \$. Additionally, the costs of computers and audiovisual resources must be included, that is, some 3,500 \$. These two components, added to the investments made in the project, plus the start-up of a support computer network, would make up the national federal administration's main contributions as for as resources are concerned. Local governments should take up the costs to adapt the infrastructure, as well as the costs related to the promotion of services and reading and writing fomentation activities.

According to the data provided by the Federal Administration's State News Agency, the Reading and

Libraries National Plan's target for 2003 was doubled. The previous target of 100 public libraries included in the Plan, both for support and for fitting, was doubled to 200, 165 out of which were fitted with new bibliographical collections through NRLP, and the remaining 35, through the contest "Colombia Grows through Reading."

(Correo Bibliotecario n70 noviembre 2003)

CUBA

Librarian's Day in Cuba

June 7 is a very significant date for the Professional Librarian Community's work in Cuba. On this day homage is paid to Cuban philologist and bibliographer Antonio Bachiller y Morales, who is regarded as the Father of the Cuban Bibliography, and whose work was very marked with the development and the evolution of literature in the country.

His "Notes for the History of Literature and Public Education in the Island of Cuba," (Apuntes para la Historia de las Letras y de la Instrucción Publica en la Isla de Cuba) published in Havana in the period between 1859 and 1861, includes two catalogs, one is about periodic publications and the other is about books and leaflets, describing the documents printed from the introduction of press in Cuba up to 1840. His work as the compiler of Cuban bibliography started both the Cuban National bibliography and the bibliographical work in the country.

During this journey, both ASCUBI and SOCICT carried out different activities in each of their territorial delegations, besides the awarding of the Commemorative Seal Antonio Bachiller y Morales to prominent information and documentation professionals, whose merits and results achieved in the field of Librarianship and in the process of the Literature and culture in Cuba were acknowledged. (Marta Terry – SC IFLA/LAC).

INFO'2004 Memories

The eighth edition of the International Congress of Information -"INFO'2004" was held from 12 to 16 April, under the theme *Multidisciplinary, social, and technological Integration: questions and answers*, at the Convention Hall, sponsored by the Institute of Scientific and Technological Information (IDICT). The event was attended by delegates from such countries as Germany, Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Chile, Spain, United States, Netherlands, Mexico, Peru, Portugal, Dominican Republic, Russia, El Salvador and Venezuela.

INFO Congresses started in 1988 and are held bi-annually. In 1990, the event coincided with the celebration in Cuba of the 45th Congress and Conference of the International Federation of Information and Documentation, FID.

Every year INFO incorporated both a more significant offer in the professional market and different participation modalities, such as: grand lectures, free paper and posters presentation sessions, round tables, panels and workshops on highly relevant themes for the activity and fundamentally for the professionals in Latin-America, thereby managing to foster an information exchange and enabling collaboration links between information institutions, universities, organizations, associations and producing or trading companies linked to the information and libraries field to be established, always framed in the main topic of the Congress at every event.

The main themes addressed during the five-day Congress were:

- Multidisciplinary convergence in information processes.
- Quality evaluation and certification in the contents industry.
- Technological innovation within the framework of the information.
- Collaborative alliances in a borderless world.
- Publishing trends, commercialization and intellectual property.
- Moving towards a sustainable equalitarian society based on information economy
- Evolution of information needs: products availability and demand.
- From information management to talent building.

Conference attendees included, besides delegates and lecturers, a number of librarianship students, future Information Society prominences, which provided a representative sample of the academic strictness in the field of Librarianship and Information Sciences at University of Havana's Communications School.

Attendees emphasized that the specialist professional's fundamental purpose in information, either a librarian, an archivist, a documentarist, an information manager, a consultant or an information scientist, is to develop a work steered to the solution of user/client's information problems and needs, and steered also to the dissemination of culture and knowledge.

On April 14, during the Congress, School Librarian's Day was created in honor to the birthdate of the prominent librarian Ms. Olinta Ariosa (1921-1999), and to pay homage to her meritorious pioneer work heading the School Libraries National System. Doctor Marta Terry González, former president of ASCUBI and a member of the FAIFE Committee, was in charge of delivering the acknowledgements. Relatives, members of the School Libraries System Board, from the Ministry of Education, the current President of ASCUBI, Ms. Margarita Bellas Vilaríño, the President of SOCIT, Mr. Enrique Suárez Zarabozo, and

professional members of ASCUBI and SOCIT attended the ceremony.

(Marta Terry – SC IFLA/LAC)

Librarianship and Information Sciences as part of the universalization of education

The careers pertaining to Librarianship and Information Sciences (BCI) offered by the University of Havana's Communication School were included as part of the University Education Municipalization Program currently being implemented in Cuba, since the year 2002.

Many municipal districts included in greater City of Havana, besides other provinces in the country, have already taken up to adopt this new Education modality, and concurrently other Seats are being prepared for the next course.

Graduated librarians who are experienced in the practice of librarianship and who are appointed after a strict educational qualification process form a significant part of the faculty.

This program also promotes an increase in the quality and number of titles, texts and other specialized teaching aids developed by proven professionals in educational and professional trajectory. This work is done oriented by BCI lecturers from the University of Havana.

(Marta Terry – SC IFLA/LAC)

EL SALVADOR

First Meeting of Central American Librarian Associations

The El Salvador Librarian Association-ABES, designed a project that was named: “Invigoration and Creation of Librarian Associations in Central America”, (Fortalecimiento y Creación de Asociaciones de Bibliotecarios en Centroamérica) which was submitted to IFLA/ALP in the month of July 2003. The project was discussed and approved in August 2003, during the 69th IFLA Conference held in Berlin, Germany. Subsequently, the “First Meeting of Central American Librarian Associations,” “Invigoration and Creation of Librarian Associations in Central America” was held in San Salvador City, from 27 to 31 March, 2004, sponsored by IFLA/ALP.

Among the main targets propelling the event the following ones stand out:

- To strengthen the exchange among the Associations in the Area, always seeking to support the development of both organizations and Cooperation projects, as well as to set forth the commitment to set up the Central American Federation of Librarian Associations, FECEAB.

- To foster a meeting including representatives from associations and organisms related to the librarian career in Central America.
- To discuss the general guidelines for the professional associations developed by IFLA.
- To discuss convergences and divergences among the associations in the area, as well as their strengths and weaknesses.
- To establish a twining relationship among the associations in the area capable to allow the development of cooperation projects.

For the first time in the history of the Librarianship in El Salvador, we were pleased to receive 13 IFLA/LAC and IFLA/ALP representatives, besides 26 representatives from the following countries: Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama and El Salvador. The representatives attended all of the scheduled activities.

On March 29, 2004, the day began with the lecture "What is IFLA?" delivered by Ms. Elizabet Maria Ramos de Carvalho (Brazil); Manager of IFLA Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean; followed by the First Grand Lecture on "Approach of Associations," delivered by Ms. Glória Maria Rodríguez Santamaría, member of IFLA/LAC Standing Committee, (Colombia). In the sequence, each President from the various Librarian Associations made their presentation.

In the following days, several lectures were delivered, including: "Guidelines for the operation of Librarian Associations," led by Ms. Alicia Ocaso, member of IFLA/LAC Standing Committee (Uruguay); "A History of Libraries in the United States of America" by Ms. Janet Wright IRO for Mexico and Central America. "Lecture on Latin America Associations" (Conferencia sobre las Asociaciones de América Latina) by Ms. Márcia Rosseto. Member of IFLA/LAC Standing Committee (Brazil); "Mexican Librarian Associations" (Asociaciones Mexicanas de Bibliotecarios) by Ms. Estela Morales, Member of IFLA/LAC Standing Committee, (México); Associations of Associative Movements to add Value to Library Services, an experience in Brazil, (Asociaciones del Movimiento Asociativo para dar Valor a los Servicios Bibliotecarios, una experiencia brasileña) by Ms. Sueli Amaral. Member of IFLA/LAC Standing Committee (Brazil); "The Experience of Peru Librarian School," (Experiencia del Colegio de Bibliotecólogos del Perú) by Lic. César Augusto Castro Aliaga, Member of IFLA/LAC Standing Committee (Peru); and the Second Grand Lecture on "Library Ethics," (Ética Bibliotecaria) delivered by Lic. Roberto Jorge Servidio, IFLA/LAC President, (Argentina); his experience and expertise contributed positively to the development of the event and, in addition, gave a Latin-American touch to the

meeting. He also imparted information about the Libraries and Information World Congress, to be held in Buenos Aires, Argentina, from 22 to 27 August, 2004.

All such interventions provided the baselines for discussions in the workshops. As a result, the need of a commitment to work hard to reach the Central American Integration of Associations became evident, with the aim of benefiting and developing Librarianship at a Regional level.

13 members of IFLA Section's Standing Committee for Latin America and the Caribbean from the following countries attended the meeting: Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Mexico, Porto Rico, St.Maarten, Peru, Uruguay, as observers in the implementation of the project named "Invigoration and Creation of Librarian Associations in Central America."

In this context, and convinced that union makes strength, they unanimously agreed to start the Central American Federation of Library Associations and School, FECEAB; with the purpose of fostering the development of libraries in the area by implementing shared actions, committing to disseminate their targets in the library community of each country, and implementing pertinent actions. Consequently, the six presidents of Central America Librarian Associations, together with IFLA/LAC/ALP representatives, as observers, entered this agreement by signing the Minutes of Constitution of the Federation.

The conclusions and recommendations include a description of FECEAB action lines, as well as the common problems identified in all of the associations, grouping them in four areas: Communications, Researches, Academic, and Professional Status, and for each one of such problems the corresponding recommendations are provided.

For this purpose, a Provisional Committee was set up formed by the six Central American presidents who signed the Minutes of Constitution of the Federation. Likewise, a support Secretariat was created to provide the appropriate guidelines for the outlined work. This secretariat is formed by: Ms. Nitzia Barrantes, on behalf of Panama, Ms. Olinda Estela Gómez Morán, and Mr. Pedro Pineda, on behalf of El Salvador.

Strengths and weaknesses of Central America Associations

WEAKNESSES:

- Lack of labor regulations in the area
- Professionals from alien sectors meddling in the sector of Librarianship
- Low self-esteem
- Transformers in the area
- Lack of Librarianship schools in two countries in the region
- Lack of market and lack of a proactive attitude
- There is no associative culture or awareness

- Lack of adequate headquarters
- Little influence of associations at government and private sector decision-making levels.
- Poor continuity of publications
- Deficient communication with members
- Lack of added values capable to motivate the members

STRENGTHS

- Existence of Associations
- Qualified human resources
- Common language
- Access to technology
- Geographical proximity
- Work plans
- Existence of a sense of mission, vision and purpose
- Openness to changes
- Effort to raise members' professionalism.
- Ethics code
- National and international management ability
- Regional Integration of Associations

Conclusions and recommendations

According to the presentations by the presidents of the various Central America Librarian Associations, regarding their own situations, it can be concluded that there are common needs, which are included in this document. Such conclusions will become lines of action for the Central American Federation of Librarian Associations and Schools- FECEAB. Problems were identified and grouped in four general areas, namely: Communications, researches, academic, and professional status.

In the researches area, conclusion was that:

In most Central American countries, there is not a culture of researches in librarianship

In the communications area, conclusion was that:

In most Central American countries there are no printed or electronic publications in the field of librarianship.

In the academic area, conclusion was that:

Most members have an education level as technicians, or they are graduated.

Consequently, the Central American Federation of Librarian Associations and Schools- FECEAB

Recommends:

In the field of researches:

To foster research on Librarianship through workshops, courses, seminars, by negotiating the cooperation of specialized institutions, such as: IFLA, CUIB, CSUCA.

In the field of communications:

The creation of a yearly printed and electronic publication.

The creation of a gateway with the purpose of keeping the Central America library community up-dated.

In the field of academics:

Fostering the academic development through the creation of the master's degree in Librarianship in the countries where such degree is still missing

To propose a continuous education work plan on various topics for the members

To support Honduras and Nicaragua in the implementation of Librarianship Schools

In the field of professional status:

To create the legal instance to set up the federation.

To create a code of ethics for the librarians.

To make an assertion, as a federation, to obtain recognition and professional dignity.

General Conclusion

A committee was set up formed by the presidents of the librarians' associations and school from the six Central America countries.

A support secretariat was created, formed by Pedro Pineda, from El Salvador; Nitzia Barrantes, Panama, and Olinda Estela Gómez Morán, El Salvador.

This result was presented before a selected audience formed by librarians from El Salvador, librarianship students, university presidents, sponsoring entities, etc. (100 people)

We are working currently on the organization of FECEAB. We will soon be disseminating the good news from our region.

(Olinda Gomez, Pedro Pineda – El Salvador)

Deed of foundation of the Central American Federation of Librarian Associations and Schools

In the City of San Salvador, Republic of El Salvador, on March 31, 2004, Representatives of the Librarians Associations of Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Panama, while meeting at the *First Central American Meeting of Librarians Associations "Invigoration and creation of Librarians Associations in Central America"*, an event sponsored and jointly attended by the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions, IFLA, as well as by ALP Program;

WHEREAS;

The librarians associations play a fundamental role in the development of Library and Information Services in the countries, thereby acting as disseminating and protecting agents for the library professionals before the different levels of Government;

The Central American Librarians Associations presenting common interests and expectations, besides sharing similar problems, could joint their efforts and desires in the accomplishment of common goals;

IFLA, through its various agencies, programs and sections already promotes the invigoration and the integration of the librarians associations as the basis for the development of library-related careers in the countries;

The current international context and the demands of the information society require a higher level of inter-institutional cooperation with the purpose of attaining a positive impact in the Community and achieving a more significant support from governments to library development plans and programs.

Unanimously agree to create, on this date, the Central American Federation of Librarians Associations and Schools, FECEAB, with the purpose of fostering the development of libraries in the region by setting shared actions in motion, committing to disseminate their objectives through the library community in each country, and implementing all and any necessary actions.

As a sign of agreement with the objectives set forth herein, the Presidents and the members of the Librarian Associations Steering Committees, as well as the members of the various library entities present to the Deed, jointly sign this document:

On behalf of the Central American Librarian Associations and Schools

EL SALVADOR

President: Carmen Salinas de Salinas

GUATEMALA .

President: Jorge Estrada

NICARAGUA

President: Rosa Argentina Aguilar

PANAMA.

President: Héctor Gerardo Muñoz Bazan

COSTA RICA

President: Álvaro Pérez

HONDURAS

President: Nítida Carranza

On behalf of IFLA and Latin America and The Caribbean institutions acting as observers:

Roberto Servidio, President IFLA LAC - Argentina

Elizabet Carvalho, IFLA Regional Manager - Brazil

Gunilla Natvig, ALP - Sweden

César Augusto Castro – Peru, Victor Federico Torres -

Puerto Rico, Marcia Rosseto – Brazil, Estela Morales -

México, Alicia Ocaso – Uruguay, Gloria Maria Rodriguez –

Colombia, Stella Maris Fernández – Argentina, Blanca Hodge - St Maarten, Netherlands Antilles.

This result was presented before a select public of El Salvador Librarianship students, University Deans, sponsor entities, etc. (a hundred people)

(Pedro Pineda – El Salvador)

Visits to libraries in El Salvador

The Standing Committee members accompanied by the IFLA Regional Office Manager visited the following libraries as the First Meeting of Central American Librarians unfolded:

March 29

The National Library - a visit guided by Mrs. Ana Marta Ramirez, library's Preservation Area deputy director, Mrs. Gladis Corina Duran de Rendón, Mrs. Carolina de Lopez Technical Area,, and Salvadoran Room, by Mrs. Marta Martinez de Gutierrez.

Francisco Gavia University's Library - the explanation about the services provided by the library was assigned to Eng. Sonia Amaya, director of the Library, visit guided by Eng. Carlos Newton Díaz Ferrara, Technology and Communications director, in the new intelligent building.

March 30

Armed Forces General Library - visit guided by Lic. Maria Daysi Mijango Bernal, Library deputy director. Visits were paid to El Salvador Librarians Association - ABES offices, which are located in that same site, at a building belonging to El Salvador Armed Forces.

Santiago Texacuango Public Library - the explanation about the library was assigned to Mrs. María Fidelina Fernández de Miranda, Library director. The Mayoress, Mrs. Aida Mendoza Estupiñán was present during the visit, accompanied by Mr. Alejandro Bustillo, who spoke about the history of Santiago Texacuango.

(Olinda Estela Gómez Morán – Directora de la Biblioteca Dr. José Guatavo Guerrero, El Salvador)

GUATEMALA

IFLA Representatives in visit to Guatemala

On April 8-9 this year, two prominent professionals, namely Elizabet Maria Ramos de Carvalho, (IFLA Regional Manager for Latin America and the Caribbean), and María Isabel Cabral da Franca (the Secretary of IFLA Section for Latin America and the Caribbean), paid a visit to Guatemala to gather information about relevant aspects of operating libraries, projects developed by Guatemala Librarianship Association, community development projects, and to speak about IFLA action lines. The following Guatemalan

professionals welcomed the two IFLA representatives: Rosidalia García, Regina Romero de De la Vega, Valentina Santa Cruz and Jorge Estrada.

They first visited Banco de Guatemala's Library. The bank implemented, and sponsors and supervises 65 public libraries around the country, according to information provided by director Ms. Mayra Mejía de Quiñónez.

Then they went to Guatemala's National Library, where the Library director, Mr. Francis Polo Sifontes, provided valuable information about how the library operates, as well as about the project designed to detach the National Library from the Public Library, since they currently operate in the same building. The crowning bit of the visit was the opportunity to see the library's jewels, which include, among other things, the incunabula, the Bible in four languages (foreign works). The richness of this collection lies in holding historical pieces from Central America, because during the colonial time Guatemala City was the Chief Province in the Kingdom of Guatemala, and these documents require a restoration.

A project jointly sponsored by Spain and Sweden is currently being implemented to preserve this material.

A few projects currently being implemented by Guatemala Library Association-ABG were disclosed, including:

- Support to activities aimed to invigorate the Central American Federation of Librarian Associations and Schools.
- Professional benefits: Proposal for the implementation of master's degree studies.
- Constitutional recognition of Librarian career.
- Revision and implementation of a code of ethics for the profession.
- Inclusion in benefit activities for the development of rural communities through the encouragement to community libraries, joining efforts with civil society, government, NGOs and international agencies.
- Member of the Book and Reading Incentive National Council.
- 4th Guatemala Library Updating and Support National Symposium.

IFLA representatives, Elizabet de Carvalho and Maria Isabel da Franca, imparted information about the activities currently being implemented by the Federation for the benefit of Federation affiliates, (apprenticeships, consultantship, scholarships, etc.) and about the opportunities to finance library projects at community level.

They also disclosed IFLA intention to bring further benefits to the world library community. Therefore, they extended an invitation to the Guatemalan library community to join IFLA as a member.

They said IFLA's web site could be used as a virtual communication platform for those activities intended to be in public domain or to disseminate any information across the area.

They also delivered an invitation to attend the World Libraries and Information Congress, 70th. IFLA General Conference, to be held in Buenos Aires, Argentina, in August 2004.

The exchange of experiences is expected to bring benefits to Guatemalan members, seeing that information about the opportunities offered by IFLA had not been disseminated so far. Besides, it became clear that everybody could take advantage of this globalized world, thereby favoring the opportunities to work jointly and in a short timeframe. (Jorge Estrada – Guatemala)

MEXICO

Workshop in Mexico on services for reading impaired people

From 24 to 27 November, a workshop was offered at "José Vasconcelos" Library, in Mexico under the theme "Implementing and improving information services for reading impaired people at library networks," jointly sponsored by Foundation Force and CONACULTA General Direction of Libraries, including attendees from libraries and specialized information services. The General Sub-directory of Library Coordination of the Ministry of Education, Culture and Sports was represented by Ms. Carmen Madrid, Head of the Department of Bibliographical Heritage of the Andalusia Library, on behalf of Spain.

Jenny Craven, Associated Researcher from the Center for Research in Librarianship and Information Management of the Metropolitan University of Manchester; Jorge H. Fernández-Garza, Coordinator of Projects at Foundation Force (Foundation Resource Center) and David Owen, Share the Vision Executive Director (UK), led the workshop.

Workshop targets included, among other topics, the identification of how public libraries can be more accessible for sight impaired people; an overview of the projects currently being implemented at an international level, and the evidence that the new information technologies have opened new opportunities to offer such services to sight impaired people.

Those themes related to sight-impaired people's access to information services were especially interesting, both physically (libraries) and virtually (Internet), seeking a wider social integration of such people. (Correo Bibliotecario 71 diciembre 2003)

PERU

Resumed the National Library new headquarters construction works

Thanks to the forceful sensitization campaign undertaken by the current board of directors, the Peru National Library new headquarters construction works were resumed on January 26, after a paralyzation period that started in 1997 for lack of resources. If the current pace of work is sustained, the works are likely to be completed in 18 months; i.e., the end of 2005 may open the new institutional seat, an emblematic work for the national culture, guaranteeing the appropriate preservation and dissemination of the bibliographical cultural heritage of the nation

(César Castro – SC IFLA/LAC)

A public information access specialist visited Peru Catholic University

Doctor Forest Woody Horton, consultant of the United States Libraries and Information Science National Committee, visited the University by invitation of the Humanities Department's Librarianship Section, supported by the Fulbright Commission for the Educational Exchange. Doctor Horton delivered a series of lectures attended by librarians, archivists, communicators and civil servants. The speeches included the following topics: the access to information in the knowledge society; towards an informationally literate society; the access to public information as a national strategy. A panel formed by renowned Peruvian specialists debated the last lecturer. This visit was part of the academic activities in the second semester of 2003.

(César Castro – SC IFLA/LAC)

The Book Law Regulation was sanctioned

On May 18, 2004, the Regulation of the Book Democratization and Reading Fomentation Law was approved. This regulation includes a number of provisions favorable to the diffusion of the book and reading, such as:

- Tax incentives and exemptions.
- National Council for the Decentralization of Book and Reading Fomentation (Promolibro), which will, through a gradual and decentralized structure, promote the book and reading;
- Book Fund, applying resources from the Government, international cooperation and private donors;
- Record of Publishing Projects;
- Support to the Libraries National System, among others.

The community was expectant about this regulation because it will, after becoming effective, contribute in a decisive way to the fomentation of reading.

(César Castro – SC IFLA/LAC)

Information Society National Committee

A multisector and multidisciplinary committee, organized in a series of working tables and coordinated by the Ministry of Transports and Communications, was assigned to design an Action Plan for the development of the Information Society in Peru. Main working tables include:

- Informational Infrastructure
- Development of human abilities
- Development and application of TICs.
- Development of production and service sectors
- Electronic Management
- World Summits on the Information Society

An internal regulation governs the action in the different working tables. Some of them, e.g., Table 2, dealing with Development of Human Abilities, were subdivided into specific topics, such as "Development of Informational abilities", "Traditionally excluded groups", among others. The latter includes a discussion about the situation of indigenous people in relation to the Information Society. A special forum expected to take place in June, where the proposals submitted by the representatives of different peoples will be discussed, will address this topic.

The Librarians School will have a seat at the Tables, seeing that the work done by this National committee constitutes a favorable arena to support the idea-motto brought by IFLA: Library is the heart of the Information Society."

(César Castro – SC IFLA/LAC)

International Contest: "The story of my people"

The first contest took place three years ago at Colégio Jorge Basadre, in the Andean province of Chupaca, department of Junín; later it was enlarged to a national level, and soon after, namely this year, it reached an international level, just as it was announced in the official call last May 6, at Peru National Library, as the sponsoring institution for this year's version. "The Story of my People" project aims "to recover and develop students reading and writing skills" and is, therefore, part of a pedagogic innovation strategy. More than one thousand contestants applied to the latest version, submitting works in Spanish and in other Peruvian autochthonous languages, such as Quechua, Aimara, Ashaninka, Amoesha. 23 students were awarded, and Colégio Jorge Basadre's Publishing Fund, which happens to be also a result of this unique contest, published their works recently. Although the main supporter is the School Principal, Prof. Antonio Altamirano, the steering committee includes the education community, i.e., teachers, librarians and families. Reading can change not only the school, but the whole community, as it is already happening in Chupaca. As a result of this experience, the parents are committed to reading, as supporters and players. They report that all activities in the Parents Association, including general

assemblies, are mandatorily opened by a reading session. What a good example! Further information available in the following address: www.elcuentodemipueblo.cjb.net (César Castro – SC IFLA/LAC)

VENEZUELA

First Book Bank on-line reading-facilitators training course: an answer to the needs in the 21st century

Immersed in a society distracted by the miraculous communications advancements, a certain feeling of detachment, or that we are somehow misplaced among so much information is, however, no wonder; then we argue, at the same time, our impossibility to keep up-to-date with technology. But this issue may as well be pointing to something that is indeed a lot of innovation for us, although indispensable today: our capacity to read beyond the texts.

The 21st century brings back certain ancient evidences: the indispensable ability to read in a deep manner and also critically - either in a book or on a screen - but with a wider perspective. Paradoxically, reading is still regarded in not a few spheres as a simple alphabetical deciphering ability or else as a subject that is to be discussed in the school environment. This brings about the need for wholesome education initiatives capable to generate specialist readers equipped with selective tools for query, research, and creative formulation.

It is based on this perspective, and on the creative formulation of strategies tuned with the needs of the medium that the Book Bank has been working for more than forty years on experiences with processes geared to the awakening, promotion and dissemination of reading. But we consolidated two present-day fundamental work lines on the most up-to-date experience: on the one hand, the key importance of training facilitators in the art of promoting reading and designing methodologies capable to respond to our Latin-American reality, at a time so sensitive and so capricious, but, in turn, so susceptible to changes; and on the other hand, the need to recognize the new forms of reading through systematically researching the digital formats for a full integration. In view of these two work lines, training of facilitators and research of new technologies, it becomes consolidated today The First on-line reading-facilitators training course 2004.

The very experience of changing the structure of the Course from a classroom format to a virtual format took us to rethink our teaching patterns, for remote training settles down based on dialogue, on collaboration and on exchange. We can say we managed to consolidate the experience accrued by institution with the right possibilities of delivering knowledge in a manner that invites to reflection and to accomplishment. That is why the Course will be initially revolving around three axles:

- The sensitive and conversed approach to the unique experience of each facilitator with his/her environment.
- The work with a theoretical corpus to induce reflection and enable the formulation of criteria for selection, evaluation and research of reading materials.
- The systematic, creative and effective designing of reading facilitation projects capable to respond to the plurality of needs in each reality.

After three years designing and implementing classroom-based Reading-Facilitators Training Courses, the Book Bank takes the challenge of providing a Course aimed to remotely train reading facilitators, thus understanding how important it is to weave regional webs by means of an exchange focused on punctual and plural experiences in the field of the reading facilitation.

This is the time for changes, and the remote dialogue can, paradoxically, approach and help us pay off old bills with the Hispano-American regions.

For further information on this remote training initiative, we encourage you to visit our webpage www.bancodellibro.org.ve and/or to attend IFLA 2004, in Buenos Aires, where Paula Cadenas will be representing the Book Bank and delivering a lecture on the experience of reading facilitation based on a sensitive, reflexive and creative exchange with the facilitator.
(Venezuela Book Bank)

GENERAL NEWS OF INTEREST TO THE REGION

Grants for Buenos Aires – WLIC 2004

American Library Association (ALA) – IFLA 2002 Organizing Committee – Fellowships for the Americas 2004

Argentina:

Gladys Mabel Contreras – Universidad Nacional de San Juan– Escuela Ing.

Soledad Teresa Esquiús - Biblioteca Depositaria de las Naciones Unidas y Hábitat

Oscar Alberto Fernandez - Universidad Nacional de Mar del Plata

Viviana Lis Gamba - Memoria Abierta

Graciela Edith Perez - Biblioteca Depositaria de las Naciones Unidas y Hábitat

Brenda Carina Ramirez - Biblioteca "Dr.Eduardo A. Barbagelata"

Norma Susana Rodríguez - Biblioteca provincial Dr. Victorino de la Plaza

Margarita Sacks - Escuela Mutualista

Liliana Edith Stivala - Biblioteca Popular de Don Bosco

Marcela Beatriz Verde - Escuela de Bibliotecología UNC

Barbados

Valerie Clarke - National Library Service

Bolivia

Jackelinne Scarlett Mejía Arias - Centro Simón I. Patino

Brasil

Cláudia Hofart Guzzo - Centro Latinoamericano y del Caribe de Información en Ciencias de la Salud BIREME/OPAS/OMS

Cristiane Maia - Camara dos Diputados

Canada

Kirsten Andersen - c/o Richmond Public Library

Jacqueline van Dyk - Vancouver Community College

Chile

Sabina Andrea Gálvez Del Valle - Centro Bibliotecario de la Corporación Municipal de Puente

María Eliana Jirón Ramírez - Colegio San Juan Evangelista-Las Condes Santiago

Colombia

Mónica Montoya Ríos - Biblioteca Pública José María Vélaz Fe y Alegría

Jose Francisco Serrato Bonilla - Rama Judicial. Consejo Superior De La Judicatura

Costa Rica

María Eugenia Briceño Meza - Universidad de Costa Rica Sistema de Bibliotecas, Documentación e Información

Cuba

Orlando Gregorio Chaviano - Instituto de Biotecnología de Las Plantas (IBP), Universidad Central de Las Villas (UCLV)

Eneida María Quindemil Torrijo - Universidad Agraria de La Habana, Dirección de Infomación Científico Técnica

Ecuador

Silvia Ximena Vallejo Tobar - Universidad Técnica del Norte

El Salvador

Aura Maricela Artiga de Jiménez - Biblioteca Colegio Externado "San José"

Guatemala

Eloisa Amelia Yoc Smith - Dirección Escuela de Bibliotecología

Guyana

Simone Bernard - University of Guyana Library

Haiti

Pierre Paul J.C. Fouche - Fondation Connaissance Et Liberte (Fokal-Open Society Institute Haiti)

Jamaica

Adele Merritt - COK Credit Union

Mexico

Saul Armendariz Sanchez - Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico, Instituto de Geofísica, Biblioteca Conjunta de Ciencias de La Tierra

Reymundo Juarez - Universidad de Monterrey - Biblioteca

Nicaragua

Daysi Del Socorro Salgado Lanuza - Colegio Centro América

Paraguay

Lidia Beatriz Duarte Contrera - Centro Cultural Paraguayo-Americano

Peru

Henry Abid Gómez Yvana - Biblioteca Pública Parroquial "Oscar Romero G."

Carlos Javier Rojas Lazaro - Biblioteca Nacional del Peru

Trinidad and Tobago

Lorraine Nero - The Main Library, The University of the West Indies,

Uruguay

Monica Bottigliero Cuenca - EUBCA (University School of Librarianship, State University, Montevideo, Uruguay)

United States

Loida Garcia-Febo - Queens Borough Public Library

Veronica L C Stevenson-Moudamane - The Danbury Library

Venezuela

Minerva D Elia Sanchez - Organizacion Panamericana de la Salud

The IFLA/LAC Section thanks ALA for its inestimable support.

IFLA travel grant

At the end of October 2003 it was announced through IFLA Listserv, other lists in the regions, Regional Newsletters, the IFLA Journal and IFLANET, the new IFLA travel grant.

In the deadline February 15 it has been received 473 valid registrations to which only 16 grants were available. The Committees decision was very difficult since there were so many well qualified candidates.

The grantees are:

Mr Volmer Geronimo, Brazil

Ms María Helena Echavarría, Colombia

Mr Louise Foster, Jamaica

Ms Isabel Giménez Garcia, Guatemala

Ms Patricia Cutí Del Giorgia, Uruguay

Mr Julio Santillan Aldana, Peru

Mr Solomon Zewdie, Etiopia

Ms Nthabiseng Taole, Lesotho

Mr Abdool Cader Nunkoo, Mauritius

Mr Chris Iweha, Nigeria

Ms Sarah Birungi - Kaddu, Uganda

Ms Suqing Liu, China

Mr J.K. Vijayakumar, India

Mr Iyad Dweikat, Palestina

Ms Elvira Lapuz, Phillipines

Ms Shivanthi Weerasinghe, Sri Lanka

Ms Patricia Mamvoto, Zimbabwe

Margaret Makenzi, Kenya

Harry Campbell Grant

This year Ms Mary Gorvie da Sierra Leone was granted

ALP Travel Grants

The travel grants manager by ALP started in 1999 with the DANIDA Travel Grant. The Danish Ministry of Foreign Relations - DANIDA, proportioned a generous amount to support the travel of librarians from development countries to the IFLA conferences. Thanks to this grant 39 librarians went to the IFLA Conference at Bangkok; 27 grantees were selected in 2000, 30 in 2001 and 31 in 2002. In 2003 IFLA ALP has had no funds for the grants.

SIDA Grants for lecturers

This is another travel grant. This year the grantees are:

Ms Dania Vázquez Matos, Cuba
Ms Paula Cadenas, Venezuela
Ms Zhang Hongxia, China
Ms Ledena Shah, India

Registration grants for IFLA 2004

It was granted:

- by IFLA HQ – 37 grants for MERCOSUR;
- by IFLA University Libraries Section - 5 grants for MERCOSUR;
- by UNESCO – 12 grants for MERCOSUR.

Iberian-American Public Libraries Directory

The General Sub-directory of Library Coordination designed an Iberian-American Public Libraries Directory abiding by the LDAP (Lightweight Directory Access Protocol) standard, in order to comply with the agreement entered during the Iberian-American Program for Cooperation in Public Libraries Issues (PICBIP) steering committee meeting held in La Antigua, Guatemala, in the year 2000.

In this first phase of the Public Libraries Directory, the database including records from Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, El Salvador, Spain, Guatemala, Panama, Peru, Portugal and Venezuela, will be kept in the General Sub-directory of Library Coordination, in the expectation of working jointly and in a successive initiation phase with other countries willing to set up their own directories, in order to build among all members, based on the LDAP structure, a sort of metadirectory including simultaneously all libraries.

One of the advantages of LDAP directories is that they can be supported by all of types of browsers, as well as by the mail systems of the most used browsers, for instance, Explorer or Netscape, or by the correspondents electronic mail services based on the SMTP standard, whose features provide the so-called directory services, for instance, the Explorer's Active Directory, which would allow the query as anonymous client of that general directory.

The intention is not merely to allow the use, since this is obvious given its capability to send an e-mail or a directory of this type or to query the directory of the libraries in the LDAP structure, but rather to develop a *web* passageway, in such a way that the structured data, accordingly to the market languages, can be used and retrieved, through the PICBIP web site, which will soon be available on the Internet.

Directories set up later can become mutually compatible. It is to be stressed that the LDAP standard foresees a series of fixed information structures that allow the interconnection of such directories, and a few others with a freer feature, more definable therefore, to which non-generic data can be incorporated, or even data that are specific to a concrete directory.

In the project discussed, the General Sub-directory of Library Coordination took into account the structure of data that is facilitated by *MARC 21* regarding *MARC for Community Data*, not generally used in Spain.

The Iberian-American public libraries directory can be queried on the Internet on the following addresses: <http://www.picbip.org/> <http://www.picbip.net/> (María Luisa Martínez-Conde. Subdirección General de Coordinación Bibliotecaria) (Correo Bibliotecario marzo 2004)

The Hague Convention on the protection of cultural property in the event of armed conflict

Second Protocol of the Hague Convention on the Protection of Cultural Property Comes Into Force.

The International Committee of the Blue Shield (ICBS) welcomes the entry into force, on 9 March 2004, of the 1999 Second Protocol to the to the 1954 Hague Convention on the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict. With the accession of Costa Rica, the 20th state to have acceded on 9 December 2003, the necessary number of states for its coming into force has now been achieved.

The Second Protocol greatly strengthens and clarifies cultural protection. It introduces new measures, including the designation of a new category of cultural property under Enhanced Protection. It also establishes an Intergovernmental Committee responsible mainly for supervising the implementation of the Convention and the Second Protocol, and an International Fund for the Protection of Cultural Heritage.

The Second Protocol completes the Hague Convention. It is not retrospective, and it does not bind those states that have not adopted it by ratification or accession. Costa Rica joins 19 States which have already ratified or acceded to the Second Protocol: Argentina, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bulgaria, Cyprus, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon,

Honduras, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Lithuania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Qatar, Serbia and Montenegro, and Spain.

For more information on the 1954 Hague Convention and 1999 Second Protocol:

http://www.unesco.org/culture/laws/hague/html_eng/protocol2.shtml

Joan van Albada
President, International Committee of the Blue Shield

Links:

Firts Protocol to the Hague Convention

The list of States Parties to the First Protocol - (The Hague, 14 May 1954)

Second Protocol to the Hague Convention

The list of States Parties to the Second Protocol

Cultural Emergency Response: First Activity of the Cultural Emergency Response for Baghdad University Library concluded

The first activity of the Cultural Emergency Response (CER) of 25,000 Euro to help refurbish the Reading Room of the Central Library of the University of Baghdad, damaged during war in Iraq, has been concluded.

The Cultural Emergency Response (CER), a joint initiative of the Prince Claus Fund of the Netherlands and the International Committee of the Blue Shield, allocated the funds. The decision to help refurbish the reading room followed a report by Jean-Marie Arnoult, Inspecteur Général des Bibliothèques, in France, on the damage to archives and libraries caused by the war and the subsequent looting. M. Arnoult, an authority on archives and libraries in Iraq, took part in the second UNESCO mission last July and made a number of recommendations for action on his return.

The money from the CER has been used to buy tables, chairs and computer equipment. Mr. Wishyar Muhammed, Library Adviser with the Coalition Provisional Administration, identified the need for refurbishment of the reading room. He also facilitated the purchase of the furniture and equipment.

Mr. Muhammed said: "Following the collapse of the Saddam's regime in Iraq last April not only government offices and public buildings were looted and burned but universities, libraries and museums were not safe from such a barbarous act. Among them was the Central Library of the University of Baghdad. We were desperate and thought that the library would never reopen. However, it was only through the help of some good friends of the Iraqi people and human culture and civilization who showed interest in helping the library, that it become possible to refurbish it once more. Among them was the Cultural Emergency

Response (CER) which made a generous donation of 25,000 Euros to be spent on the library's reading room. On behalf of myself, as a representative of this library and library adviser in the CPA in Baghdad and also on behalf of all the University's students, its staff and President of the University, I express my sincere gratitude and thanks to CER and the Dutch people."

Further information from:

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Rama Ramnchadran

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Links:

[The Cultural Emergency Response \(CER\)](#)

The Cultural Emergency Response (CER) is a joint initiative of the Prince Claus Fund and the International Committee of the Blue Shield (ICBS), established on 26 September 2003. The purpose of the CER is to provide limited emergency assistance in the event of damage to, or destruction of, cultural property arising from human action or natural disaster.

[Prince Claus Fund](#)

The Prince Claus Fund is a platform for intercultural exchange. It works jointly with individuals and organisations in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, on the realisation of activities and publications reflecting a contemporary approach to the themes of culture and development. The Prince Claus Awards form a part of this policy.

Report by: Jean-Marie Arnoult

Assessment of Iraqi cultural heritage Libraries and Archives, June 27-July 6, 2003

(IFLA HQ press release 3 March 2004)

UNESCO Calls for Nominations for Memory of the World International Register

UNESCO is inviting new nomination proposals for inscription on its Memory of the World International Register, a list of library and archives collections of world significance, which was established in 1992 to preserve and promote documentary heritage of universal value.

The proposals will be examined by an international committee, probably in June 2005.

(UNESCO, January 2004)

World Book Capital 2005 Montreal, Canada, has been chosen to be the World Book Capital for 2005.

This is the fifth time the title of World Book Capital has been awarded by UNESCO. The inaugural city was Madrid in 2001, followed by Alexandria (2002), New Delhi (2003) and Antwerp in 2004

The jury for the 2005 award was Pere Vincens, President of the International Publishers Association (who chaired the panel), Françoise Dubruille, Secretary General of the International Booksellers Federation and Ross Shimmon, Secretary General of the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions. Georges Poussins represented UNESCO on behalf of Milagros del Corral.

The programme of the World Book Capital begins each year on 23rd April and runs for a year.

It is expected that the call for nominations for World Book Capital 2006 will be issued in March 2004.

Ross Shimmon
Secretary General

CLEARING HOUSE – 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

2004

August

18-20

Pre-Conference IFLA 2004 and Stallite Meeting in São Paulo (Brazil) – IFLA Management and Marketing Section. Theme: "Improving the virtual consumer relationships in the information environment" The main concern of this seminar is to discuss the virtual consumer and his interactions with the libraries and information services

18-19

Pre-Conference IFLA 2004 and Satellite Meeting in Valparaiso (Chile) – Organized by Library services and Research for Parliaments Section, Theme "Clients, commitments and trust".

22-27

World Library and Information Congress : 70 IFLA General Conference and Council. Buenos Aires, Argentina. Theme: Libraries, Tools for Education and Development. For further information: Buenos Aires 2004, Comité Organizador Argentino, Asociación de Bibliotecarios Graduados de la República Argentina. Tucumán 1424, 8° piso Of. D, C1050AAB, Buenos Aires, Argentina. Tel/Fax: +54(11) 4371-5269 o 4373-0571. E-mail: ifla2004@abgra.org.ar.

September

01

XIV ENDOCOM – Information in Communication Sciences meeting Venue: PUC Rio Grande do Sul, Porto Alegre, Brazil. Theme: The digital library strengthening communications, the events and the "lusofano" memory in Communication Sciences

November

2-5

Conference Sophie 2004. Sophie, Bulgaria. Theme: Libraries, Globalization and Cooperation. Contact: Prof. Herbert Achleitner. E-mail: dimchev_uni@abv.bg

21-24

Asian Conference on Libraries and Information. Theme: Libraries – gateways to information and knowledge in the digital era. Bangkok, Thailand. Supported by UNESCO and IFLA. Contact: Jaffee Yee E-mail: jyee@pacific.net.th

2005

July

17 a 20

XXI CBBB – Brazilian Congress of librarianship, Documentation and Information Sciences. Organized by Paraná Librarian Association– ABPR; Venue: Pontificia Universidade Católica do Paraná – PUC-PR

August

20-26,

Oslo, Norway. Theme: Libraries – A Discovery travel. Information: IFLA 2005 Oslo Secretariat, Ann Margret Hauknes, Secretary General, Norwegian Library Association, Malerhaugveien 20, N-0661 Oslo, Norway. Tel: +47 23243430. Fax: +47 22672368. Email: IFLA2005@norskbiotekforening.no.

September

19 – 23

9th World Congreso of Libraries and Health Information– ICML, Latin-american and the Caribbean Congreso on Information of Health Sciences (CRICS7), Regional Coordination Meeting of the Virtual Library of Health (BVS4) Venue Salvador – Bahia, Brazil Organized by: BIREME/PAHO/WHO and IFLA Section of Biological and Medical Sciences Libraries (<http://www.icml.org/>)

2006

August

22-28.

World Library and Information Congress: 72 IFLA General Conference and Council. Seoul, Korea Theme: Libraries: Dynamic Engines for the Knowledge and Information Society. Information: IFLA Headquarters, POB 95312, 2509 CH, The Hague, The Netherlands. Tel. +31 70 314-0884. Fax: + 31 70 383- 4827

2007

World Library and Information Congress: 73 IFLA General Conference and Council, Durban, South Africa. Information: International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA), PO Box 95312, 2509 CH The Hague, Netherlands. Tel. +31 (70) 3140884. Fax: +31 (70) 3834827. E-mail: IFLA@ifla.org. Website: <http://ifla.inist.fr/index.htm>

2008

World Library and Information Congress: 74 IFLA General Conference and Council, Québec, Canada. Information: International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA), PO Box 95312, 2509 CH The Hague, Netherlands. Tel. +31 (70) 3140884. Fax: +31 (70) 3834827. E-mail: IFLA@ifla.org. Website: <http://ifla.inist.fr/index.htm>

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