Global Connections

Newsletter of the IFLA Section of Health and Biosciences Libraries

International Federation of Library Associations

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The Chair’s Perspective

Having just returned from an excellent Medical Library Association conference in Phoenix, I am now looking forward to our programme of events at the World Library and Information Congress in Seoul. We have three sessions including a satellite day on “Information Resources in Traditional Medicine” to which I am particularly looking forward. Our keynote for the day is Professor Il-Moo Chang of the Natural Products Institute in Seoul, who I met a few years ago when I worked at the British Library. He and I were involved in a project organised by Columbia University in New York, which was going to build a web based information resource on complementary medicine. I spent a week in Seoul which I thoroughly enjoyed and which I can recommend as a great venue for all of those librarians planning to attend. The rest of the satellite seminar looks extremely good with a global selection of speakers. It is hoped that we will publish the proceedings later in the year.

The section also has two more sessions as part of the conference itself, one on new technology and a panel discussion on the emerging concept of the Informationist. Both will be worth attending with a good selection of speakers from around the world.

Of course, we also have two business sessions for my Committee, which provides a forum to put together our aims for the year and a place for good cont. p. 2

Bruce Madge

Get to Know Your Standing Committee Leadership

The main purpose of the Global Connections Newsletter is to acquaint the 150 active members with each other and the mission of the IFLA Section of Health and Biosciences Libraries. This issue continues with photographs and brief biographies for more of the Section’s Standing Committee.

Last issue featured Bruce Madge, J. Michael Homan, Päivi Pekkarinen, Kathleen Burr Oliver and Carole Gall.

Want to learn more about the Section’s leadership? Read on.
Standing Committee Member: Christine Stotzenbach

From 1993 until 2004, I was working at the BIUM (Bibliothèque interuniversitaire de médecine et d’odontologie, Paris, http://www.bium.univ-paris5.fr/medecine/), the most important medical academic library in France. It holds a vast collection of old and rare books dating back to the Middle Ages. A part of this collection has been digitized: Galen’s works, Hippocratic collection, 19th century dissertations of the medical school of Paris and countless other treasures, all available on the web site (http://www.bium.univ-paris5.fr/histmed/medica.htm).

I was in charge of the serials department (about 2600 medical journals). The library also handles the national task of sending articles to other medical libraries and pharmaceutical laboratories (about 60 000 interlibrary loan transactions per year). With the era of electronic journals, I was interested in new challenges: cost, economic models, licences, negotiation with publishers, birth of open access...

In 2001, I attended my first IFLA congress at Boston where I got the idea to create an e-mail reference service. With the agreement of the Director of the BIUM, Guy Cobolet, I set up “BIUMInfo”/ Ask a librarian (interface available in English language, http://www.bium.univ-paris5.fr/medecine/refvrt_cad.htm).

Since 2005, I have been an associate director at the library of the University of Marne-la-Vallée (in the East of Paris) and responsible for electronic resources (http://www.univ-mlv.fr/bibliotheque/index.htm).

Although it doesn’t include any medical section, I continue to follow the news in that field: I regularly give classes on medical electronic journals at the ADBS (Association des documentalistes et bibliothécaires spécialisés), French association of specialized librarians.

I also belong to the CFI (Comité Français IFLA, http://www.cfifla.asso.fr/), French IFLA committee, which aims to disseminate IFLA’s work to French speakers. My modest contribution every year consists of translating one or two papers from English to French and writing abstracts of some meetings (satellite meeting last year on: Open access: the option for the future?!).

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discussion about areas of global concern. It also gives us a good place to begin plans for next year’s conference, which is being held in Durban, South Africa. Feel free to come and join in, the first session will be before the Satellite meeting on Saturday at Kyunghee University and the second will be on Friday 25th at 11am.

Bruce Madge, Chair

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Standing Committee Member: Becky J. Lyon

Ms. Lyon received her Master of Science in Library Science from the University of Illinois and upon graduation came to the National Library of Medicine as a post-graduate intern in the Library's Associate Fellowship Program. She held positions at the Library of Congress and the Library of the Department of Veterans Affairs before returning to NLM in 1984 to head the National Network of Libraries of Medicine, NLM’s 5100 member health science library network, which now includes many public libraries as members. In 1998, Ms. Lyon was in charge of NLM’s pilot project with 41 public library organizations to determine ways in which NLM and the NN/LM could assist public libraries in improving the public’s access to electronic health information. This project was instrumental in the Library’s decision to develop a permanent program to provide health information to the public. In December, 1999, she was appointed Deputy Associate Director for Library Operations at NLM and oversees Library Operations’ outreach activities including programs to reach health professionals and the public, international programs, training, and distance education. In addition, she is in charge of overseeing the Library Operations plan for collection and staff space in the proposed new NLM building, as well as plans for renovation of space in the existing Library building. She chaired an NLM-Association of Academic Health Sciences Libraries committee which planned the successful The Library is a Place: Symposium on Building and Renovating Health Sciences Libraries in the Digital Age held at NLM in November, 2004. Since January, 2005, Ms. Lyon has served as Acting Associate Director for Library Operations.

In addition to special interest in consumer health information and library buildings, space, and the Library as Place, Ms. Lyon has a particular interest in developing emergency preparedness and disaster response plans for NLM in cooperation with other national libraries and in collaboration with libraries in the NN/LM.

Ms. Lyon is a member of the Medical Library Association, American Library Association and Public Library Association and is the NLM representative to the Association of Research Libraries, American Association of Academic Health Libraries, International Federation of Library Associations and the European Association for Health Information and Libraries.

...Ms. Lyon has a particular interest in developing emergency preparedness and disaster response plans for NLM in cooperation with other national libraries and in collaboration with libraries in the NN/LM.
Big Pharma – Not Always the “Bad Guy”

While much of the news about pharmaceutical companies involves pricing or recalls, the humanitarian efforts by many corporations receive minimal media attention.

A case in point: Following the devastation of the December 2004 tsunami, pharmaceutical companies around the world leapt into action, donating funds and much-needed medical supplies to the affected areas. Among the participants was the Chairman & CEO of sanofi-aventis who, accompanied by the French Minister for Humanitarian Aid, Health and the Family, flew to Colombo, Sri Lanka to provide six tons of sanofi-aventis medicines, including anti-diarrheals and antibacterial treatments. Ongoing support by this company and its global employees includes an initial donation of one million Euros to institutions and associations active in the entire affected area, as well as a child sponsorship project, creating long-term adoption of individual villages by several sites within the global company – “twinning” – similar to the “Sister Library” program within the Medical Library Association. Employee donations to this fund were matched by the company. The funds are devoted primarily to:

- rebuilding livelihoods (e.g., purchase of fishing boats and nets)
- reconstruction of housing and communities
- access to health care (financing mobile clinics, repairing dispensaries children’s education (school equipment and supplies, training teachers, repairing schools)

Other “big pharma” companies led similar programs: Abbott Laboratories, AstraZeneca, Bayer, Chiron Vaccines, GlaxoSmithKline, Merck & Co and many others. Details on these and other humanitarian efforts can be found on individual company websites or by searching the Internet.

by
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Collaboration between Moldova and North Carolina, Brief Summary
by Jill Byerly Mayer

“The North Carolina - Moldova Partnership for Peace program is based upon an agreement to link these two states together to better facilitate cooperation in the areas of civil emergency operations, expansion of markets, cultural, scientific and academic exchanges, and the coordination of humanitarian efforts of many governmental and non-governmental organizations.

Introduction from NC Secretary of State web site (viewed 6/14/06):

Establishing a medical library partnership:
In 2004 a contingency of Moldovan officials came to North Carolina and met with Secretary of State, Elaine Marshall, and NC delegation. During this meeting, Donna Flake was asked to describe the MLA Sister Library project with Latvia to the Moldovan group. Moldova was interested in such a relationship and Donna was very interested in helping but, since her library was already working with Latvia, she needed another person to take the lead. Diana Darrow from Donna’s institution will assist in this role and they have agreed to coordinate the NC-Moldovan medical library partnership.

Dr. Tom Bacon, Director of the NC AHEC Program, approved this statewide initiative for NC AHEC. All NC AHEC libraries are involved, as well as the four academic medical school libraries.

In preparation for a NC delegation to go to Moldova in 2006 for their Bilateral Meeting, a planning meeting was held in Raleigh, NC. Secretary of State Marshall requested an AHEC representative and Rachel Wiltfert was selected. Rachel attended the planning meeting and later went to Moldova as a member of the NC delegation, April 8-14, 2006.

2006 NC/Moldovan meeting in Moldova (Rachel’s full report is attached):
The first two days were comprised of official committee meetings between the NC and Moldovan delegations. Rachel attended the health and medical sub committee meetings where she made a presentation. The remaining days were spent in other educational and cultural meetings and visits.

Rachel’s observations:
The entire delegation toured Chisinau, the capital, and surrounding areas and observed that the country is indeed very poor.

The university medical school library and the National Library of Medicine merged into “Scientific Medical Library of the State Medical and Pharmaceutical University “Nicola Testemitanu”.

Donna’s experience with the MLA Sister Library project with Latvia is serving as the model for Moldova.

Diane Darrow and Donna Flake will go to Moldova this Fall. They will meet with librarians and attend EAHL. Two Moldova medical librarians have scholarships to cover EAHL expenses and they will travel with Donna and Diane. The Moldovan Minister of Health is looking for funds for the Director of the Medical Library to also attend.

For more information:
NC Secretary of State Moldovan partnership web site: http://www.secretary.state.nc.us/Partnership/ and the journal article:


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Progress report given by Rachel Wilfert, NC AHEC Information & Library System Office, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, 2006

Republic of Moldova – North Carolina Medical Library Partnership

Background
NC-Moldova partnership is based on a successful model – a ‘Sister Library Initiative’ between the Medical Library Association (U.S.) and the Medical Research Library of Latvia
Over 4 years, U.S. medical libraries donated 5,800 items (books & journals) to Latvia
Latvian library received software (DOCLINE) to request articles electronically à U.S. medical libraries
– donated free articles (interlibrary loan)
U.S. Library vendors donated free medical databases to Latvian library
Latvian medical librarians attended professional library conference with international colleagues
Project still going forward with U.S. libraries donating books, journals and interlibrary loans

Republic of Moldova – North Carolina Medical Library Partnership

Partner Libraries:
North Carolina – 9 medical libraries of the NC AHEC Program and 4 NC university medical libraries
Moldova – The Scientific Medical Library of the State Medical and Pharmaceutical University “Nicolae Testemitanu”

Project Leaders:
North Carolina – Ms. Donna Flake, Library Director & Ms. Diane Darrow, Volunteer Coordinator for Eastern European Medical Libraries from the Coastal AHEC Medical Library in Wilmington, NC (Ms. Flake was the head of the Latvian Sister Library Project also.)
Moldova - Ms. Silvia Ciubrei, Vice Director of the Scientific Medical Library of the State Medical and Pharmaceutical University “Nicolae Testemitanu” in Chisinau, Moldova.

Progress Report:
All 12 NC medical libraries have agreed to donate extra medical books & journals to Moldova
Medical libraries in NC will supply articles from their collections of electronic medical journals (via inter-library loans) at no cost to the Scientific Medical Library. This will be accomplished using the U.S. National Library of Medicine’s DOCLINE software which will be made available to the Scientific Medical Library.
A few trial memberships in the NC AHEC Digital Library, a library of electronic medical resources will be given to selected medical faculty in Moldova
One library vendor has agreed to donate a medical database to the Scientific Medical Library

Next Steps:
Develop a simple process for the selection and shipping of medical books and journals from North Carolina to Moldova
Bring North Carolina and Moldovan medical librarians together in September 2006 to facilitate training on the DOCLINE software
Support the participation of the Moldovan and North Carolina medical librarians at the 2006 European Association of Health Information & Libraries Conference in Cluj, Romania in September 2006
Search for additional resource donations from U.S. library vendors

by
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Information Resources in Traditional Medicine

Satellite Session IFLA Preconference

Kyungh ee University, Seoul, South Korea

Saturday August 19, 2006

Programme:

9:30 Registration and coffee

Morning Session: Chair: Bruce Madge, Chair, IFLA Health and Biosciences Libraries Committee

10:30 Keynote speaker – Professor Il Moo Chang, Natural Products Institute, Seoul, South Korea

11:15 Professor Byung-II Min, M.D., Ph.D. Kyunghee University

*History of Korean Traditional Medicine*

11:45 Coffee

12:00 Rowena Cullen:

*Traditional Maori healing practices*

12:30 Marcia Zeng:

*Representing CAM knowledge in taxonomies and other knowledge organization systems*

13:00 Lunch

Afternoon Session: Chair: Carole Gall

14:00 Kyung- Ryun Park, Associate University Librarian, Wonkwang University Medical School

*A Bibliographic Study of Tongui-bogam: With a special reference to its influence on Japan and China*

14:30 Zhiping Xia, Fudan University Library, Shanghai, Peoples Republic of China

*Traditional Chinese Medicine Information Resources in China Today*

15:00 Tea

15:15 Kathy Murray, Manager and Professor, Health Sciences Information Service, University of Alaska Anchorage - Alaska

*Barriers to Access to Information on the Health of Indigenous Peoples in the United States and Canada*

15:45 Edgardo Civallero, National University of Córdoba, Córdoba – Argentina

*Libraries and aboriginal medicine: experiences in Argentina.*

16:15 Summing up

16:30 Close of conference
2006 IFLA Activities
Health and Biosciences Libraries Standing Committee

Saturday, 19 August 2006
08:30-09:15 Brief business meeting before the Satellite Session
09:30 Information Resources in Traditional Medicine Satellite Session at Kyunghee University

13.45-15.45, Monday, 21 August 2006

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The Emerging Informationist: Wired and Ready?
Chair & Introductions: Bruce Madge or Rowena McCullen
Panelists:
1. JEAN SHIPMAN, (MLA Pres) The Concept of the Informationist
2. KATE OLIVER, Case Study: Working Toward the Informationist at Johns Hopkins
   TONY MCSEAN, (Elsevier): Respondent/Discussant

16.00-18.00, Wednesday, 23 August 2006

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What's new in technology for health information?
- Bridges over the divide EDGARDO CIVALLERO (National University of Cordoba, Argentina)
- Brave New Web: Health Informatics and the Emergence of Innovative Technologies WIN SHIH (University of Colorado Health Sciences Center, USA)
- The Database of University Scientific Publications: 3 in 1 MEILE KRETAVICIENE (Kaunas University of Medicine, Lithuania)
- Establishment of public health emergency information service system in medical libraries of China GUIZHI WANG (Medical Library of the PRA, Beijing China)
- Ontology based adverse event reporting system architecture SENATOR JEONG and HONG-GEE KIM (Seoul National University, Seoul, Korea)
Electronic Resource Centres CAMERON ESSLEDEN (The Community Library, New Zealand)

Friday, 25 August 2006
11:30-14:20 Wrap-up Business Meeting
It gives me great pleasure to tell you that we have a keynote speaker for the Information Resources in Traditional Medicine 2006 IFLA Satellite Preconference session. He is Professor Il Moo Chang of the Natural Products Institute in Seoul who I know from my time at the British Library and he will be speaking about the work of the Institute and some of the problems encountered with coding of multi-herb preparations.

Bruce Madge, Chair