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Government Libraries Section

2007 Annual Report

This has been a very good year for the Government Libraries Section. For the first time, the section held a mid-term conference in Wales attended by 32 librarians from Europe, the US, and India. The theme of the conference was *Government Libraries: Creating Impact from Information*. Key speakers were Claudia Lux, IFLA incoming President; Arwel Jones and Dr. Geraint Evans at the National Library of Wales; Ian Snowley, President of CILIP; Ian Thomson, Director of the South Wales Europe Direct Information Center; and Mary Bone, Chatham House Think Tank Librarian. Another key activity was to review the first full draft of the *Guidelines for Government Libraries*.

At the IFLA Annual Conference in Durban, South Africa, the Section sponsored two programs. The first was entitled *Government libraries: approaches to multi-lingual collections and services* and featured four quality papers: Rebecca Davies (paper delivered by Patrick Ryan) from Cardiff, Wales; TF Constable and Mrs. Motsarome Mebena from the University of South African; Ching-chih Chen, from Simmons College, Boston, USA; and Areceli García Martín from Madrid, Spain. A second program was the second hearing on the *Guidelines for Government Libraries*.

Three newsletters were also published by Newsletter Editor, Patrick Ryan. Patrick also produced a brochure about the section for distribution at the Durban conference. The election of the new Standing Committee resulted in a SC of 12 people.

Submitted by Nancy Bolt, October, 2007