



INFORMATION LITERACY

NEWSLETTER

July 2003

International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions

Editor:

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This issue substitutes the Bulletin of the former Round Table on User Education that has now become the Section on Information Literacy. The new status of our group imposes challenges and opportunities. We have to be active with relevant programs and activities to recruit new members. As part of this change, we have the opportunity to take part in IFLA Governance and to receive administrative funds. This year, we have an exciting program for Berlin that includes an Open Session and a Workshop. The newly named World Library and Information Congress: 69th IFLA General Conference and Council, under the theme "Access Point Library: Media - Information - Culture" will take place on 1-9 August 2003. Our Executive Committee will be renewed for a two years interim term (until Oslo). Information professionals with interest in Information Literacy are invited to become members of INFOLIT. Contact us at the IFLA headquarters or at our email addresses: Jesus Lau (Chair), jlau@uv.mx; Martha Castro (Treasurer), mcastro@uv.mx, and Toby Stone (Information Officer) tstone@uap.fr

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1. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

The two meetings are open to everyone with interest in information literacy matters. Agenda for Friday 8th August will be to finish any business not dealt with in first meeting.

SI –1, Saturday, August 1, 11:30 - 14.30;

SI –2, Friday, August 8, 8:30 – 10:00;

International Conference Center, Berlin (Check the Conference program for room number).

Agenda:

1. Introductions and welcome
2. Adoption of the agenda
3. Approval of the minutes from the INFOLIT EC meeting held in Glasgow (published in the Newsletter)
4. Reports from the Chair, Information Officer, Treasurer
5. Report from the Coordinating Board (CB) on Education and Research (Division 7)
6. Research project report: International Guidelines for Information Literacy
7. Changes / additions to the EC members
8. Election of new secretary
9. Berlin conference update and invitation to attend the INFOLIT Program
10. Performance evaluation of INFOLIT and future action
11. Implications of IFLA new policy documents: Life Long Literacy's President's Theme; Recommendations of the Social Responsibilities Group Report; *Digital Divide* and *Green Light* papers (Please, see web links in Section 8 of this Bulletin)
12. Update of strategic plan
13. Plans for Buenos Aires, Seoul, and Oslo conferences
14. Evaluation of the Berlin Program
15. Other matters and new business
16. Close

2. OPEN SESSION

Wednesday, 6 August, 13:45-15:45

Theme: **The International Information Literacy Certificate: Challenges for the Profession**

Joint session: Information Literacy and University Libraries and Other General Research Libraries

- a. Chan Sai-Noi, Making Information Literacy Compulsory Subject for Undergraduates: The Experience of the University of Malaya.
- b. Cristobal Pasadas, The International Information Literacy Certificate: A Challenge for the New ... Millennium?

3. WORKSHOP: INFORMATION LITERACY ASSESSMENT

Thursday August 7, 2003. **09.00-13.00**

Off-site Workshop: University of Applied Sciences, Potsdam

Using Assessment as a Tool to Improve Teaching and Improve Learning

Workshop Presenters:

Eileen M. Stec, Instruction and Outreach Librarian; **R. Wilt**, Training and Learning Coordinator; and **Leslie Murtha**, Instruction and Information Service Librarian

All three presenters are from Rutgers University Libraries, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, New Jersey, USA.

The workshop will address practical and theoretical issues concerned with the assessment of information literacy in a library environment. Sessions will cover formal and informal assessment strategies for diagnosing needs, supporting improvement, and informing planning processes

and decision-making relating to learners, instructors, and programs. The workshop will include brief formal presentations, discussion, and interactive exercises. Assessment of the workshop will be embedded in the sessions.

Participants will be asked to complete several short questions before July 20th as a component of the workshop. The workshop audience is limited to a small group so register now to reserve a seat. To register, contact one of the workshop facilitators, Eileen Stec, at estec@rci.rutgers.edu

4. MINUTES FROM GLASGOW

Participants: **Officers:** Jesus Lau, Chair, (Mexico), Secretary and Information Officer (Sweden). **EC Members:** Sinikka Koskiala (Finland), Teodora Oker-Blom (Finland), Benno Homann (Germany), Martin Kesselman (USA). **Observers:** Christina Felming (Finland), Jose A. Gomez Hernandez (Spain), Gunilla Hakli (Finland), Sonia Minetto (Italy), Eileen Stec (USA), Toby Stone (France), Ingrid Thomson (South Africa), Susanna Tiirola (Finland), Eva Tolonen (Finland). **Apologies:** Martha Castro, Treasurer (Mexico)

- The formalities of accepting the previous agenda and EC reports were conducted and accepted by attendants.
- The money received for the research project has not been used yet.
- The RT will require more funding when it becomes a Section to cover the marketing the section, the production of leaflets, etc.
- We will now compete with all the other sections for the funds and members.

Report from the Coordinating Board (CB) Division VII.

- The meetings of the CB will take no longer than 2 hours starting with Berlin 2003.
- There is a recommendation that the word Section should be put at the end of the Section name i.e. Information Literacy Section.
- We can have a maximum five corresponding members.
- We must revise the Action plan in the Strategic plan.
- CB has decided that from the Berlin conference onwards the Open sessions should be two hours long. They also encourage us all to work together with other sections in arranging Open sessions.
- The number of workshops will be limited, especially offsite workshops and pre- and post seminars. They also discussed if workshop participants who are not attending the IFLA conference should have to pay a fee.

Report on RTUE activities

- The main activity has been to the upgrading of the Round Table into a Section. Jesus Lau has done a fantastic job in applying for the change and we all thank him for that work.
- There will be a conference in Mexico, Oct. 10-12 2002 on Information Literacy. IFLA is an organizing partner.
- The new issue of the Newsletter was published in, July 2002 for distribution at the Conference.

Research project report

- RTUE Committee was the only body to apply for a research grant and received \$1000 Euros. The title is International Literacy Guidelines and is carried out by Dr. Jesus Lau

and his colleagues. For more information about the project, please see the Newsletter and the report written by Jesus Lau.

- Jesus presented the plans for continuing this project next year.
- There was a discussion about the participation of members of the RTUE in the project. We can contribute with any national survey, literature and weblinks.
- Roswitha Poll, Germany did a survey to find out what German libraries had done in terms of Information Literacy. Jesús will contact her.
- Any national information literacy standards' information can be sent to Jesus Lau.

RTUE activities in Glasgow

- Tuesday August 20th 2002, Open Session / Developing Librarians as Teachers. The session is organized by Teodora Oker-Blom, Finland
- The people presenting papers are Sharoon Markless, UK, Cerise Oberman, USA, David Herron, Sweden and Ross Todd, USA.
- Wednesday August 21st 2002, Workshop – Becoming a Librarian Teacher. Arranged by Ingrid Kjellqvist. The facilitator for the workshop is Patricia Yocum, USA.

Plans for Berlin, Buenos Aires and Oslo

- An important thing to discuss is if we shall send out a call for paper for the Open session for the Berlin conference or if shall just contact interesting lecturers. We can use both alternatives.
- See strategic plan – Action 2.1. “Promote the attendance to the **Berlin** RT program by teachers from Germany”. There is a problem getting teachers in Germany to attend the meeting since they would have to pay a daily fee to the IFLA conference. Benno Homann will write letters to teacher organizations and politicians to try to interest them in the question.
- Toby Stone suggested that Christine Deschamps could be invited to attend a meeting or a conference arranged by Teachers organizations to discuss the matter with them in Germany prior the IFLA Conference.
- The theme for the Open session and Workshop was proposed at the Boston conference to be “Information Literacy as an educational goal”. After a long discussion the meeting decided that the Open session in Berlin should be held together with the Reference Work Section and the theme will be, something like; what's the role of the reference desk in information literacy.
- Benno Homann and Martin Kesselman, Secretary of The Reference Work Section will arrange the Open session in Berlin.
- The workshop was proposed to bring up the question about assessment of Information literacy education, “Assessment of Information Literacy as part of the educational goal”.
- Eileen Stec will arrange the workshop and eventually facilitate it herself. Ingrid Kjellqvist will help with the administrative and logistical arrangements.
- The **Buenos Aires** conference could possibly be the venue to discuss the **Guidelines**. For example a workshop about implementing the guidelines. Jesus will contact the Latin American Section to discuss collaboration and he will also try to find Latin American speakers.
- The Open session was proposed to check **the State of the Art of Information Literacy in Latin America**.
- Another potential subject is **Faculty collaboration** that could be cover in the **Oslo** conference.

Changes/addition to the EC members.

- This Executive committee will remain as an interim Standing Committee until the 2003 conference in Berlin. There will be nominations and elections carried out by the national associations and institutions.
- There can be 20 EC members of the section and we can bring in 3 more members. Sinikka Koskiala was retiring from the Committee after a many years; she was greatly thanked and applauded for her contributions to the Round Table.
- Three new members were welcomed into the committee:
- Eileen Stec, USA; Toby Stone, France; and Eva Tolonen, Finland

Other matters

- Jesus wanted an English speaking person to make a note to the IFLA Express about the new Information Literacy Section. Eileen Stec promised to do that.
- An extra RT Officers´ meeting was scheduled for Friday at lunch time to catch up with potential late Conference activities. The meeting took place and the following topics were discussed: Withdrawal of the Reference Section joint proposed session, workshop topics and update of the Berlin Conference.
- Written by Ingrid Kjellqvist, Secretary, and Jesus Lau, Chair

5. PLANS FOR BUENOS AIRES 2002 AND BEYOND

The **Buenos Aires** conference could be the venue to discuss the **Guidelines**. For example a workshop about implementing the guidelines. This workshop could be jointly organized with the Latin American Section with local speakers of the region. The topic proposed for Open session was **The State of the Art of Information Literacy in Latin America**. Another potential subject could be **Faculty collaboration** that could be discussed in the **Oslo** conference. If you have ideas about what to include in these programs, like speakers’ names or papers to propose, please contact Jesus Lau, INFOLIT chair. The program will take shape in Berlin. We would also like to define the topics for the Buenos Aires and Seoul conferences. So, any ideas you may have will be considered within the general topics of the next IFLA meetings.

6. ONLINE DISCUSSION LIST

We have a listserv for any matters you may have on user education between the IFLA conferences. To subscribe to the list, address an email a message to: majordomo@email.rutgers.edu with the one-line message: subscribe user_ed and your full email address. The address for the list is: user_ed@email.rutgers.edu

7. STRATEGIC PLAN 2002-2003 – GLASGOW UPDATE:

Mission

The Section on Information Literacy has the mission of fostering cooperation on user education in all types of libraries as well as providing opportunities to exchange experiences and ideas about information literacy globally.

Priorities

- To focus on all aspects of information literacy, including user education, library instruction, bibliographic instruction, etc.
- Promote the role of information literacy in different sectors of society (students, parents, educators, decision makers, education administrators)
- To monitor the development of library user education in libraries worldwide.
- To promote membership among user education librarians.

Action Plan

- Organize an open session and a workshop during the Glasgow Annual IFLA Conference.
- Prepare a new leaflet to promote the Round Table.
- Promote the attendance to the Berlin RT Program by teachers from Germany.
- To translate the standards on user education into German.
- To set up a committee to work a first draft of international guidelines on information literacy.
- To transform the RT into an IFLA section.

Goals

- To create a link with librarians from developing countries to promote information literacy and the adoption of best practices in this field.
- To promote and monitor the development of education and training for librarians in *information literacy*.
- To focus on all types of user education including information literacy, learning styles, the use of computers, networked resources, and media in the development of instructional materials.

8. IFLA NEW POLICY DOCUMENTS

Be prepared to take an informed active role at IFLA activities, and specially at our Section meetings. Here are links to the most important documents that will influence and regulate our Section's plans and work. Please, please take time read these documents.

- a. **Elections in the sections** (does not apply to INFOLIT this time): see: <http://www.ifla.org/V/pr/officersselect03.htm>
- b. **New rules for Discussions Groups:** www.ifla.org/III/statute.htm
- c. **Follow-up of the IFLA discussions** on:
 - **The Digital Divide:** <http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla68/papers/brainstorming02.htm>
 - **Green Light for IFLA:** http://www.ifla.org/V/cdoc/green_light2.html
- d. **Strategic Plans 2004-2005.** Some points of reference for this item are:
 - Discussion and inclusion to respond to the presidential theme of **Life Long Literacy:** <http://www.ifla.org/III/gb/prtheme03-05.htm>: What can we/our Section do to support this priority?
 - Action on the recommendations of the Social Responsibilities Group; report in 2004
 - Include action on inclusiveness for developing countries
 - Cooperation with other IFLA-units and other issues, suggested in **Digital Divide** and **Green Light**
 - New guidelines for congress planning: <http://www.ifla.org/V/pr/confplan-guide.htm> bear in mind: evaluation of section work in 2007 (one of the criteria: relation to Professional Priorities and Presidential Themes)

- What other activities does the section do, apart from contributing to the World Congress
 - Can the section organize regional conferences?
 - use the format for strategic plans; it will slightly be updated soon: <http://www.ifla.org/V/pr/spguide.htm>; the draft plan is to be submitted before 1st October 2003.
- e. **Future Congresses** (Buenos Aires and Oslo), see also the new guidelines for planning: <http://www.ifla.org/V/pr/confplan-guide.htm>. New format for Buenos Aires and beyond: all Sections have a 2 hour time slot. Through cooperation, larger sessions are possible. Extra time slot can be applied for, based on quality/necessity. Program Proposals, work for quality. SC-meetings: 2 hours, 50 minutes. Satellite Meetings.
- f. **Professional Resolutions**. Forms available at Room 36/37. The Deadline for delivery at the IFLA Secretariat: **Thursday 07 August 2003, 12:00 hrs**

9. NEWS ITEMS

- a. **Information Literacy Assessment (USA)**. The Educational Testing Service (ETS) is developing an instrument to assess Information and Communications Technology (ICT) literacy and have invited Hannelore Rader along with others from California, Washington, and Texas to serve on an advisory committee for this task representing the University of Louisville. They will work with faculty experts and other university staff to define, promote and assess Information and Communications Technology (ICT) literacy in higher education with the goal to measure knowledge and skills in these areas. Their tasks begins in August and expect to have a quick turn around.
- b. **Mexican Information Literacy Standards**. The participants of the Third Meeting on Information Literacy hosted and organized by Juarez University created a set of information literacy standards for higher education, and were adopted by the National Council of Higher Education Libraries. The document is available in Spanish and English. If you would like to have a copy, send an email to Jesus Lau (jlau@uv.mx) or to Jesús Cortés (jcortes@uacj.mx)

10. INTERNATIONAL INFOLIT CONFERENCES (with contributions by Paulette Bernhard)

May 8, 2003. L_utilisation des TIC dans les facultés d_ingenierie: l'état de la question. Colloque Formation en ingénierie et TIC (FITIC) 2003, École Polytechnique de Montréal, <http://www.polymtl.ca/fitic/index.php>

May 12 – 14, 2003. 32nd Annual Workshop on Instruction in Library Use (WILU) University of Windsor, May 12-14, 2003 <http://wilu2003.uwindsor.ca/ENGLISH/FrontMain.html>

June 11-13, 2003. United Kingdom - IT and Information Literacy - ITILit 2003. A meeting that relates to IT and UE is being organized in Glasgow during the summer 20003 under the "Second International Conference on IT and Information Literacy" (ITILit2003). The conference web site is <http://www.elit2003.com>. The chair is Nicholas Joint, Head of Reference and Information, Andersonian Library, Senior Research Fellow, Centre for Digital Library Research,

University of Strathclyde, 101 St James Road, Glasgow, Scotland, UK. G4 0NS. Phone 0141-548-4626, Email n.c.joint@strath.ac.uk

Sep 20 –23, 2003. Information Literacy Meeting of Experts, Prague, The Czech Republic, <http://www.nclis.gov/libinter/infolitconf&meet/infolitconf&meet.htm>, papers: <http://www.nclis.gov/libinter/infolitconf&meet/papers/papers.html>

Sep 9 – 11, 2004. Fourth Information Competencies Meeting - Mexico. The Bi-annual International Meeting on Information Literacy in Academic Libraries will be organized by Juarez University Libraries in Juarez, Mexico. There is a call for papers. Contact Jesus Cortes, Juarez University, jcortes@uacj.mx

11. ELECTION TIME

The election of the new Executive Interim Committee Members will take place at the first EC meeting, see date and time in Section 1. If you are interested in standing for any of the EC leadership positions, you are welcome to take part in the election. Ingrid Kjellqvist resigned to her Secretarial Post, so we will have to elect a new person to fill this position.

12. INFOLIT OFFICERS

Jesus Lau (Chair, Mexico) jlau@uv.mx Secretary (Vacant), Toby Stone, Information Officer (France) tstone@uap.fr, and Martha Castro (Treasurer, Mexico) mcastro@uv.mx

13. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Paulette Bernhard, (Canada) bernh@EBSI.Umontreal.CA; Nancy Fjallbrant (Sweden) nancyf@lib.cahlmers.se; Martin Kesselman (USA) martyk@rci.rutgers.edu; Teodora Oker-Blom (Finland) TOKERBL@vetmed.helsinki.fi; Hannelore Rader (USA) h.rader@louisville.edu; Gunilla Thomasson (Sweden) gunilla@lib.chalmers.se; Marina Zaluzhskaya (Russia) marina@gpntb.ru; Corresponding members: Shmuel Sever (Israel), Clare Walker (South Africa)