



# INFORMATION LITERACY SECTION

## NEWSLETTER

July 2005

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International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions

**Editor:**

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This summer issue of the IL Newsletter contains short reports of what is going on in some of our members' countries and topics of interest for the conference in Oslo. The Nordic point of view tends to be the main one this time too, for which the editor apologises. It is partly due to lack of information.

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### 1. NEWS FROM DIFFERENT PARTS OF THE WORLD

#### EU

**The European network on Information Literacy (EnIL)** was also introduced in the last Newsletter. It is a network of scientists and researchers actively involved in information literacy, drawn from 14 EU countries. The network was established by initiative of the Italian National Research Council.

EnIL has opened a discourse on information literacy at European level, in order to promoting the establishment of a culture of information in Europe. The EnIL network is on its way to expanding to all the EU25 Countries

**A Survey on Information Competencies of Students** aimed at strengthening campus awareness of the need for information literacy and propose a systematic data gathering about the information competencies of incoming students in Higher Education was one of the first initiatives. The pilot University was the Libera Università Maria SS. Assunta (LUMSA) in Rome. A questionnaire was submitted to the attention of EnIL members and formed the basis for a common survey in each of the involved Countries. The gathering of answers is now ended and the result is a collection of comparable data to be analysed for future common actions.

At the moment the **EnIL activities on the way** are the following:

- complete the data checking of the survey

- complete the statistical processing of data
- complete the survey report
- complete the EnIL gateway
- attempt to organise a new meeting with some results in hand

**Consult:** <http://www.ceris.to.cnr.it/Basili/EnIL/index.html>

**Contact:** Carla Basili, [c.basili@ceris.cnr.it](mailto:c.basili@ceris.cnr.it)

### **A Virtual Workshop on Information Literacy and Learning:**

This workshop is part of the European project "LIS Education in Europe. Joint Curriculum Development and Bologna Perspectives".  
(<http://www.db.dk/LIS-EU/>).

Themes:

- Different aspects of and perspectives on information literacy and learning
- The European dimension
- Core concepts and conceptual frameworks
- The place in the LIS school curriculum: Compulsory or optional?
- The theme in the context of the international universe of the LIS discipline
- European theme or not? Is the theme essential for all LIS educational programmes in Europe?
- Should the theme be a part of a European LIS core curriculum?
- Different theoretical and curricular approaches to the theme in various parts of the European LIS education world?
- Different views on the theme and its components in different parts of Europe?
- Teaching methods to make LIS students information literate
- Development of LIS students' teaching skills

In August 2005, just before IFLA Conference, there will be a two-day conference in Copenhagen for representatives of European Library & Information Science (LIS) schools (August 2005). A group of LIS education experts (50) selected on a Europe-wide basis will explore the concept of a core curriculum in European LIS education, the current state of curriculum development in LIS in Europe and opportunities for enhanced networking and collaboration. The tangible results of the project will be the summaries of viewpoints, ideas and proposals presented by European LIS educators in a broad sense and embodied in the reviews and reports resulting from the conference. The results from the conference will serve as a platform for accelerating the Bologna Process within the European LIS education community. A publication will be prepared to present the findings from the conference.

Contact: **Sirje Virkus, Professor, Manchester Metropolitan University/Tallinn Pedagogical University** [S.Virkus@mmu.ac.uk](mailto:S.Virkus@mmu.ac.uk)

## **NORDIC COUNTRIES**

### **The Continuation of NordINFOLIT**

NordINFOLIT was introduced in our last Newsletter. It started as a Nordic collaboration to encourage development, find common solutions and document current Nordic projects in the field of information literacy. NORDINFOLit was formed in the autumn of 2001 with support from NORDINFO - the Nordic Council for Scientific Information. Its steering committee had members from all of the Nordic countries

The four areas of activity has been:

- A Nordic **summer school** on information literacy.
- **Seminars** on standards and guidelines for integrating information literacy into higher education.
- An international information literacy **conference** - Creating Knowledge.
- A **web forum** and network for discussing and documenting Nordic best practices for information literacy.

Since the beginning of 2005 NORDINFO is closed down as an organisation and discussions has started about a possible continuation. The future is still uncertain but the steering group will go on and keep the network together. The activities, as for example the recently held summer school 2005 in Helsinki, will take place anyhow. It is not possible to stop all extensive planning and tear apart such a well reputed, professional and dense network. The name is now spelled NordINFOLIT with a stress on the latter part of the word.

**Contact:** Christina Tovoté, chair, Stockholm University Library

[Christina.tovote@sub.su.se](mailto:Christina.tovote@sub.su.se)

**Consult:** For information and contact details for NORDINFOLit steering committee members, please consult the English page in the NORDINFOLit website

[www.nordinfolit.org](http://www.nordinfolit.org)

**The 4<sup>th</sup> Nordic Summer School for Library Pedagogues**, the Nordic variant of the Immersion in USA, took place in Finland 27.6 – 1.7. in the middle of a very beautiful cultural landscape just outside Helsinki.

The Summer School started in Helsinki University and was focused on IL strategy and policy. Themes for the different days were:

- Active teaching/active learning and quality evaluation
- Co-operation between teacher and librarian – a problem or a possibility?
- New winds for the IL teaching – inspiration and motivation
- Visions for the future – what IL competences are needed?

**Consult:** <http://www.helsinki.fi/infolukutaito/english/index.htm>

### **The National Survey Concerning Information Literacy in Sweden's Law of Higher Education and Its Implementation**

Birgitta Hansson, senior librarian and manager of the Center for Information Literacy and librarian pedagogy at Örebro university, and Olle Rimsten senior lecturer of law at Örebro university, have now finished their investigation into the responsibility in higher education

institutions for the new part dealing with information literacy in the Swedish law. Their report with the title "Someone Else's Job" was introduced to the Nordic summer school in Helsinki during the last week of June.

Their task within the national project was to

- give a picture of the situation in Swedish universities regarding the implementation of the regulation on information literacy,
- if they found deficiencies, suggest measures in order to improve the situation,
- further internal reflection in the universities concerning information literacy,
- bring to the fore questions concerning competence development of staff to make the implementation possible,
- make topical the question of meeting places for librarians, teachers and others concerned.

Some further questions for their consideration were:

- What is the situation in each individual university when it comes to steering documents, responsibilities and strategies for the implementation of the regulation?
- Has any competence development been considered necessary for the implementation of the regulation?
- Are there meeting places for librarians, teachers and others concerned for desirable cooperation?
- How is the collaboration in order to attain the goals arranged between staff and library?

They will present "Someone else's job" and the results in a poster at the IFLA meeting in Oslo.

**Contact:** Birgitta Hansson, Olle Rimsten, Örebro University, Sweden

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[olle.rimsten@bsr.oru.se](mailto:olle.rimsten@bsr.oru.se)

## **EGYPT**

### **A High Level Colloquium on Information Literacy**

is scheduled to take place November 6-9, 2005, at the Bibliotheca Alexandrina in Alexandria, Egypt. The Colloquium is designed as a working meeting, not a public meeting. There are plans for 50 participants including a very limited number of specially invited observers, such as members of the Egyptian National Commission to UNESCO, members of the Egyptian Government, and organizer and sponsor representatives.

The meeting has four major expected outcomes:

- Alexandria Declaration to be promulgated and disseminated by UNESCO,
- A contribution to the World Summit on the Information Society, to be held the following week in Tunis, Tunisia
- The foundation for consideration of a World Congress on Information Literacy before the end of the United Nations Literacy Decade (2003-2012) from a further exploration of the major issues of information literacy at the regional level by leading experts, and

Cultivation of leaders from around the world who can serve as expert resources for their regions in the area of information literacy and lifelong learning.

The six regions represented with teams are:

- Asia and Oceania
- Europe (Western, Central, and Eastern)
- Latin America and the Caribbean
- North Africa and the Middle East
- North America (Canada, Mexico, and the United States)
- Sub-Sahara Africa.

The five sectors are:

- Information Literacy
- Economic Development
- Education and Learning
- Governance and Citizenship
- Health and Human Services

Specialists from each of the sectors will represent a variety of diverse sub-components or sub-sectors backgrounds and disciplines. For example:

- Information Literacy* is composed of ICT and media literacy, as well as lifelong learning specialists, librarians, archivists, museum curators, and so forth;
- Economic Development* is composed of business and industry, small and medium-sized enterprises, banking and finance, insurance, stock and bond markets, and so forth;
- Education and Learning* is composed of formal education elements, such as higher education and K-12, as well as non-formal elements such as commercial and adult education and training, special education for the disabled and the disadvantaged, distance learning, and others;
- Governance and Citizenship* is composed of public policy makers at the national and sub-national levels, the media, public interest groups, and others;
- Health and Human Services* is composed of medical institutions, health care associations, community service organizations, social service institutions, medical records specialists, and so on.

**Contact:** Christina Tovoté, European Teamleader, [christina.tovote@sub.su.se](mailto:christina.tovote@sub.su.se)

## **FRANCE**

**FORMIST (Formation à L'Information Scientifique et Technique) new website**  
<http://formist.enssib.fr/>

**Contact:** Sylvie Chevillotte, Chief librarian, French national LIS School (ENSSIB)  
[chevillo@enssib.fr](mailto:chevillo@enssib.fr)

## **MEXICO**

### **Juárez Conference Call**

The fifth Mexico bi-annual conference on information literacy will take place in Juarez, Chihuahua in October 18-20. The theme will be "Evaluation and assessment of competencies"

Those interested in preparing a paper, contact Jesus Cortes, Conference Chair,  
[Jcortes@uaci.mx](mailto:Jcortes@uaci.mx)

## **SPAIN**

**REBIUN, Red de Bibliotecas Universitarias Españolas**, the Spanish university libraries' network, held it's annual meeting in Granada 4-6 May. The main topic was the establishment and organisation of LRC:s, Learning Resources Centres or as it is called in Spanish **Centros de Recursos para el Aprendizaje y la Investigación (CRAI)**. For more information in Spanish and proceedings in English by three guest speakers consult:  
[http://www.ugr.es/~biblio/ayudaopac/crai\\_granada.html](http://www.ugr.es/~biblio/ayudaopac/crai_granada.html)

**Information literacy** is the **topic for many weblogs** today and librarians seem to be devoted bloggers around the world. Infolit Blogs is an information source in which there are continuously new features.

**ALFIN** is a blog about Information Literacy **in Spanish** maintained by our section member José Antonio Gomez. ALFIN is the acronym of "alfabetización informacional" (more extended spanish translation of "information literacy"), and is equivalent to "Infolit". Around 100 people visit daily this blog.

<http://alfin.blogspot.com/>

Other blogs of great interest for us are Sheila Webber's in English mentioned below and Sylvie Chevilotte's in French:

Formist' blog

<http://blogformist.enssib.fr/>

### **Contact:**

Jose A. Gomez, Facultad de Comunicación y Documentación, Universidad de Murcia  
[jgomez@um.es](mailto:jgomez@um.es)

## **UK**

The **SCONUL** (Society of College, National and University Libraries) former **Advisory Committee on Information Literacy** has been **Renamed Working Group on Information Literacy**, as part of a restructuring of SCONUL's groups. The renamed group will have more of a remit for learning, including e-learning, as well as information literacy.

[http://www.sconul.ac.uk/activities/inf\\_lit/](http://www.sconul.ac.uk/activities/inf_lit/)

The SCONUL WGIL **\_Learning outcomes\_** document, with information literacy case studies from university libraries, is proving popular and can be downloaded from the SCONUL website.

[http://www.sconul.ac.uk/activities/inf\\_lit/publications.html](http://www.sconul.ac.uk/activities/inf_lit/publications.html)

The **CILIP CSG Information Literacy Group** held its **First Annual "LILAC" Conference** on information literacy in London in April. A 2nd LILAC conference will be held in 2006 in Leeds. A number of papers are available on the website for the conference:

[http://www.cilip.org.uk/groups/csg/csg\\_ilq/lilac05.html](http://www.cilip.org.uk/groups/csg/csg_ilq/lilac05.html)

The Group also plans to cooperate with other UK organisations and people to set up a central Information Literacy website.

**Ms Jo Webb**, Academic Librarian at De Montfort University, and **Ms Moira Bent**, faculty Liaison Librarian at the University of Newcastle upon Tyne, have just been announced as two of the **winners of a National Teaching Fellowship in 2005**. Teaching Fellowships are awarded via the Higher Education Academy (the agency that aims to foster teaching excellence in higher education in the UK) to university teachers (faculty members) and those in learner support roles. Fellows get a prize of 50,000 to spend on a project concerned with furthering excellence in teaching and learning.

<http://www.ntfs.ac.uk/index.html>

**Contact:** Sheila Webber, Senior Lecturer, Department of Information Studies, University of Sheffield [s.webber@sheffield.ac.uk](mailto:s.webber@sheffield.ac.uk)

**Consult:** The Information Literacy Weblog: <http://ciquest.shef.ac.uk/infolit/>

## USA

### **Information Literacy in US libraries, a few trends** by Sylvie Chevillotte

“*Information Literacy in American academic libraries*” is the topic I spent three months studying in the US, on a Fulbright scholarship, I haven’t reached final conclusions yet but would just like to share a few thoughts with colleagues from all around the world.

The first one is that the term “Information Literacy” can have different meanings, according to the places and the people.

Then, that there is a fabulous move towards embedding Info lit in the curriculum but that it is still difficult for librarians and teachers to communicate. At many places, librarians “translate” the term Info lit and the ACRL standards for the teachers to understand (i.e “critical thinking” instead of IL)

The third important point to my opinion, and this might be because I’m French and in France we don’t really have the equivalent of it, yet.- the 3<sup>rd</sup> point is the importance of the standards. They are not perfect, but they give a framework and the possibility of a common language for librarians and faculty...

I want to point out two important experiences going on among many others.

- *ETS /ICT Literacy assessment*. It is the first time that such an important evaluation is built somewhere. Many articles and presentations have been made of it and it is quite controversial, but it is essential, to my opinion because it links ICT and Info Lit and because it is built on real world story lines.

The project is lead by Educational Testing Service (ETS) working with California State University (SCSU) and 6 other colleges and universities. The assessment was tested across 31 campuses by about 4500 examinees between January and April 2005. The data will now be analysed.

More information on the website : <http://www.ets.org/ictliteracy>

- The other interesting experience I was lucky enough to discover is very different on its scale and purpose. It is a project of University of California Berkeley that is called “*Mellon Library/Faculty Fellowship for Undergraduate Research*”. It is a four year project aiming at getting faculty involved and aware of the importance of research skills for undergraduate students. It is based on a voluntary basis and implies a strong

commitment from faculty and librarians alike. The project also involves partners such as ICT and educational teams on campus.

More information : <http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/MellonInstitute>

Many other thoughts will be developed in the French report I'm writing;  
More information about Fulbright grants: Very few librarians and faculty apply for scholarships on LIS.

**Contact:** Sylvie Chevillotte, Chief librarian, French national LIS School (ENSSIB)  
[chevillo@enssib.fr](mailto:chevillo@enssib.fr)

A draft of **New ACRL information literacy standards for science and technology** can be found in the ACRL website:

<http://www.ala.org/ala/acrl/acrlstandards/infolitscitech.htm>

Task Force members are grateful for any comments or feedback. Please address your remarks to Virginia Baldwin, Task Force Chair, at [vbaldwin@unlnotes.unl.edu](mailto:vbaldwin@unlnotes.unl.edu)

**Discover, Connect, Engage. Creative Integration of Information Literacy** was the title of the 33<sup>rd</sup> LOEX (Library Orientation Exchange) National Conference 2005 held in Louisville, Kentucky May 12 – 14.

Consult the website for more info: <http://library.louisville.edu/loex2005/>

## 2. UPDATED TASK-LIST

*This is the list of tasks that have been or are soon to become finished:*

Eva Tolonen and Teddy Okerblom will continue and finish the **second part of the section history**.

Christina Tovoté will finish a **directory of previous IL officers**

Jesús Lau will continue publishing the **book of Best papers**

Jesús Lau will finish and ask for **translation of “How to create an electronic classroom**

Leslie Murtha will send a draft for comments to all SC members of **“How to do electronic tutorials**.

Section members (Sylvie C, Christina T, others?) will search for **voluteers to translate the flyer**

Leslie Murtha will take over Toby Stones task of a **website directory**

Benno Homann will finish his draft of **“How to facilitate an information literacy programme**

Christina Tovoté and Birgitta Hansson will finish guidelines on **“How to promote information literacy in universities**

## 3. OSLO SC MEETINGS AGENDA

Meeting I: Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> August 2005, 14.30 – 17.20

Meeting II: Friday 19<sup>th</sup> August 2005, 14.00 – 16.50

1. **Welcome**
  - a. Apologies for absences
  - b. Adoption of Agenda
  
2. **Confirmation of Minutes of previous meetings**



- a. Buenos Aires Saturday 22 August 2004
  - b. Buenos Aires Saturday 28 August 2004
  - c. SC I 13<sup>th</sup> August 2005 (In SC II meeting)
3. **Election of SC Officers for 2005-2007**
    - a. Chair
    - b. Secretary
    - c. Treasurer
    - d. Information Officer
  4. **IFLA Oslo Conference business**
    - a. PC and CBVII business arising from meetings
    - b. Review of IFLA Sections
    - c. Other matters
  5. **IL activities at the Conference**
    - a. Conference program
    - b. Booth Schedule
    - c. Best papers for IFLA Journal
    - d. Other matters
  6. **Strategic Plan 2005-2006**
  7. **Communication**
    - a. Annual Report September 2004 – August 2005
    - b. Newsletter
    - c. Website
    - d. Leaflets
  8. **Financial report**
  9. **Tasks' reports**
  10. **Information Literacy Guidelines Report**
  11. **Marketing of the section**
  12. **Projects**  
Proposals
  13. **Future conference planning**
    - a. Seoul, Korea 2006 – *Libraries: dynamic engines for the knowledge and information society*
      - Satellite sessions – travelling workshops China?
      - IL programmes
    - b. Durban, South Africa 2007 – *Libraries for the future: progress, development and partnerships*
      - Satellite sessions – travellings workshops Botswana?
  14. **Other business**

#### **4. ELECTIONS, NEW SC DIRECTORY, THANKS TO OUTGOING MEMBERS**

The calls for nominations for:

- President-elect, to serve from 2005-2007 and as President from 2007-2009
- Elected members of the Governing Board, to serve from 2005-2007 and
- Section Standing Committee members, to serve from 2005-2009

were issued to all voting Members of IFLA in October.  
Nominations for all these positions was due to IFLA HQ  
2<sup>nd</sup> February 2005.

In our first SC meeting in Oslo we have to elect (or re-elect) the four officers of the SC: Chair, Secretary, Information Officer and Treasurer for a new serving period of two years.

#### **Directory of the new SC members:**

*Borg Pedersen, Viggo Gabriel*  
Research Librarian  
NTNU Library  
N-7191 TRONDHEIM  
Norway

*Chevillotte, Sylvie*  
Head Librarian  
ENSSIB  
17-21 Bd du 11 Novembre 1918  
69623 VILLEURBANNE  
France

*Goff, Linda*  
Head of Instructional Services  
California State University, Library 2021  
2000 State University Drive, East  
SACRAMENTO, CA 96819-6039  
United States

*Hansson, Birgitta*  
Senior Librarian  
Örebro University Library  
S-70182 ÖREBRO  
Sweden

*Lamouroux, Mireille*  
Director of the Documentary Services  
SCEREN-CRDP  
48-50 Rue Anizan Cavillon  
LE BOURGET 93350  
France

*Lau, Jesus*  
Interim Chair  
Universidad Veracruzana  
Ruiz Cortines 650, Frac. Costa Verde  
94294 Boca del Rio, VERACRUZ  
México

*Stec, Eileen*  
Outreach and Instruction Librarian  
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Finland

*Torras i Calvo, Maria-Carme*  
Senior Academic Librarian  
University of Bergen Library  
Haakon Shetelig's Plass 7  
5007 BERGEN  
Norway

*Tovoté, Christina*  
Interim Secretary  
Pedagogical Developer  
Stockholm University Library  
Stockholm University  
SE-10691 STOCKHOLM  
Sweden

## **5. IL ACTIVITES IN OSLO**

### **SC Meetings:**

The following SC meetings are the business meetings of the Standing Committee. They may be attended by observers by permission of the chair which is usually given. They are a good way of getting to know the work of the Section and may lead to direct involvement.

**SATURDAY 13 AUGUST**

**14.30-17.20**

**FRIDAY 19 AUGUST**

**14.00-16.50**

## Programmes:

WEDNESDAY 17 AUGUST

13.45-15.45

### 140 SI - Management and Marketing with Information Literacy - Part I.

*Information Literacy: a voyage of discovery for citizens*

(Continues: see [Part II.](#))

- [The digital divide, the fishball maker and lifelong learning: NLB responds to the Clarion Call with information literacy programs](#)  
NGIAN LEK CHOH and RAJEN MUNOO (National Library Board, Singapore)
- [Information capability building: role of information literacy programmes - a study](#)  
SASIKALA CHAGARI (Deptt. of Library & Information Science, Andhra University, Visakhapatnam, India)
- Die Zentral- und Landesbibliothek Berlin – eine Teaching Library in Deutschland  
CHRISTA BUNKE, Zentral- und Landesbibliothek Berlin, Germany

16.00-18.00

### 145 SI - Management and Marketing with Information Literacy - Part II.

*Information Literacy: a voyage of discovery for librarians*

(Programme, see [Part I.](#))

This discovery is about learning about, and empathising with, your customers. Do you understand what information literacy skills and knowledge citizens already have. How can you discover their needs and wants? What are your assumptions about your own and your customers' information literacy? This short workshop will encourage you to reflect on your own situation and to exchange experience with others.

#### Workshop facilitated by:

BILL JOHNSTON (University of Strathclyde, Scotland)

CHRISTINA TOVOTE (Stockholm University, Sweden)

SHEILA WEBBER (University of Sheffield, UK)

**Contact:** Sheila Webber (Committee Member, M&M Section) [s.webber@shef.ac.uk](mailto:s.webber@shef.ac.uk))

Christina Tovoté (Secretary, Information Literacy Section) [christina.tovote@sub.su.se](mailto:christina.tovote@sub.su.se))

## 6. FUTURE PLANNING

A **satellite meeting in China** before or after the 72<sup>nd</sup> IFLA conference in Seoul was proposed in the section meetings in Buenos Aires. This is a possibility to start what we have called the "travelling workshop", a suggestion we also made together with UNESCO in one of the meetings in BA. Possible format: 2 days, Tentative title: "Pedagogical methods: how to facilitate information literacy learning".

We have also discussed **IL hot topics** for future programmes and agreed about two:

a. **Evidence based IL reserach** and b. **Partnership faculty – librarian**

As for the IFLA conference in Durban 2007 Babakisi Fidzani proposed a similar **satellite travelling workshop in Botswana**.

**Contact:** Eileen Stec, [estec@rci.rutgers.edu](mailto:estec@rci.rutgers.edu), Babakisi Fidzani, [FIDZANIB@mopipi.ub.bw](mailto:FIDZANIB@mopipi.ub.bw) or [fidazmib@mopipi.ub.bw](mailto:fidazmib@mopipi.ub.bw)

## 7. INFOLIT CONTACTS

Information professionals with interest in Information Literacy are invited to become members of INFOLIT. Contact us at the officers' email addresses: Jesus Lau (Chair), [jlau@uv.mx](mailto:jlau@uv.mx); Leslie Murtha (Information Officer), [lmurtha@andromeda.rutgers.edu](mailto:lmurtha@andromeda.rutgers.edu), and Christina Tovoté (Secretary), [christina.tovote@sub.su.se](mailto:christina.tovote@sub.su.se).

And don't forget our INFOLIT discussion group web site! To subscribe go to:  
[http://groups.yahoo.com/group/IFLA\\_info\\_lit/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/IFLA_info_lit/)

**SEE YOU IN – VI SES I – OSLO !**