

I N T A M E L I S A R O U N D T A B L E O F I F L A

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ST. LOUIS CONFERENCE IN VIEW

INTAMEL

"Public Libraries in a Global Society" is the theme of the first INTAMEL Conference of the millennium, to be hosted jointly by St. Louis County Library (SLCL) and St. Louis Public Library (SLPL). In addition, New Orleans Public Library is hosting an optional weekend extension to the St. Louis program.

Bookings have already been received from INTAMEL member libraries ranging from Singapore, Amman and Dresden, to Minsk, Brasov and the City of London. Very favourable hotel prices have been negotiated by the organisers and prompt booking is advised while they are still available.

Conference co-host and INTAMEL President Dan Wilson (Director, SLCL) confirms that time is built into the Program (outlined on page 2) for the presentation of papers by participants. Building on the momentum of recent conferences, these sessions provide a valued opportunity for discussion and exchange of experience on issues common to libraries across the world.

Co-host Dr. Glen Holt, Executive Director, SLPL, together with Dr. Leslie Holt, are primarily responsible for the series of special programs currently being arranged for the Conference. They

are examining a number of areas for consideration, including:

- Cost Benefit Analysis Project to develop a nationally transportable methodology to measure the benefits (value) from public investment in library services;
- method and evaluation of the statistically significant success

of use of library methodologies to teach reading and reading readiness to at-risk children and their parents; and

- new central library building design and innovative rehabilitation and construction of branches.

Presentations on technological applications which will be part of



Services for young people will be a theme of the Conference, whether formally or informally, as will library buildings – St. Louis Public Library (above) and St. Louis County Library headquarters (below)



INTAMEL Conference ST. LOUIS, USA

Sunday 17 to Friday 22
September 2000

with optional program in
NEW ORLEANS
to Sunday 24 September

– Book now to obtain
favourable hotel rates –

Contact Dan Wilson,
details, page 3

the scheduled library tours, will be of interest to members involved in current innovations. A tour of DRA (Data Research Associates) Headquarters in St. Louis, will feature their system, while other tours will feature Innovative Interface's new products.

The Business Meeting at St. Louis will address several important issues relating to INTAMEL's constitution, says Dan Wilson. Proposed changes will be sent to all members at least one month prior to the conference. They will reflect changes made over the years in INTAMEL practice but not yet incorporated into the formal constitution.

- For the outline Conference Program, see page 2 overleaf.
- SLCL website is at: <http://www.slcl.lib.mo.us>
- SLPL website is at: <http://www.slpl.lib.mo.us>
- New Orleans Public Library website is at: <http://www.gnofn.org/~nopl>

INTLIB – INTAMEL's new listserv – see page 2

Check out INTAMEL's web pages at <http://www.ifla.org/VII/rt3/rtiamcl.htm> – see page 2

ST. LOUIS CONFERENCE OUTLINE PROGRAM

Sunday 17 September

- Registration and Welcoming Reception
- Keynote speaker: Sara Parker, Missouri State Librarian

Monday 18 September

- Opening session with representatives from MLA, Metro St. Louis, state and local libraries
- St. Louis County Library (SLCL) tour
- DRA tour
- SLCL Library Board reception

Tuesday 19 September

- Programme
- Tour of St. Louis Public Library (SLPL)
- SLPL Library Board reception
- St. Louis Botanical Gardens Library Rare Books Collection plus Herbarium tour

Wednesday 20 September

- Lewis & Clark Library System Program and tour.
- Keynote speaker: Jean Wilkins, Illinois State Library Director
- Kahokia Mounds excursion

Thursday 21 September

- Open session, SLCL Branch
- INTAMEL Business Meeting
- Farewell Gala, SLPL

Friday 22 September

- SLPL tour
- St. Louis Symphony Orchestra

NEW ORLEANS OPTION

Friday 22 September

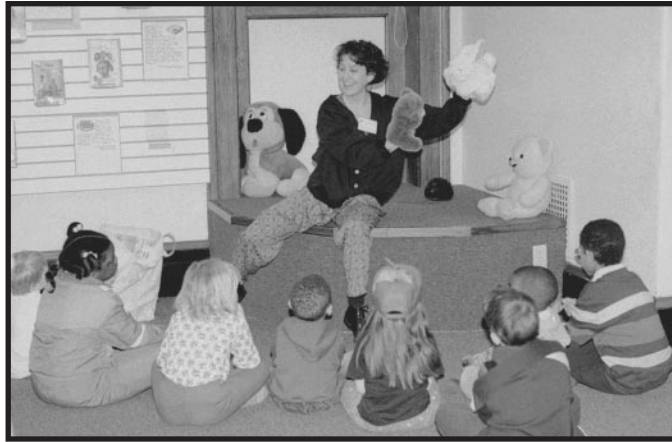
- Flight to New Orleans
- Welcome & reception, Latter Branch, New Orleans Public Library (NOPL), hosted by the Friends of NOPL

Saturday 23 September

- Library tours & meetings; Amistad Collection and Tulane Jazz Collection on Tulane Campus
- Reception in French Quarter

Sunday 24 September

- Historic New Orleans Collection tour (museum & archives in the French Quarter)



More young library users at St. Louis

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

INTAMEL

Two scholarships will be awarded by INTAMEL this year, each amounting to a maximum of \$2000. Applicants for the awards were invited to apply to Secretary/Treasurer Jan Boman by 1 June.

The inability of many members to sustain their INTAMEL membership or to attend the annual conferences owing to lack of financial resources, remains a pressing concern for officers and fellow members. The liveliness of

recent conferences is partly attributable to the wide geographical spread of libraries represented, and the wealth of experience available to be shared.

"We hope that as many INTAMEL members who are able will contribute to the scholarship fund", says Jan Boman. "Donations of whatever amount will be most welcome."

A convenient way to give donations is to include it with the annual dues payment for 2000.

- Contact Jan Boman, details page 3.

STATISTICS NEEDED

INTAMEL

One of INTAMEL's many valuable functions is the compilation and publication of annual statistics relating to member libraries. Traditionally a function of Hannover Library, the most recent set of statistics (for 1998) was e-mailed or mailed to members in May.

Hannover Library Director Wiebke Andresen points out that only 31 questionnaires were returned for 1998, 25 fewer than in the previous year. She is concerned at this significant discrepancy and asks members to let her know of any reasons for their lack of response.

The statistics questionnaire for the following year, 1999, was also

sent to members at the same time. The deadline for their return is **15 July 2000**. In case of difficulty, contact Wiebke.

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NEW LEAFLET

St. Louis County Library has prepared a new INTAMEL leaflet. It contains a Mission Statement (see *Metro* page 4), which has also been posted on the INTAMEL web pages on IFLANET. The leaflet covers the benefits of membership, along with upcoming conference dates and a membership form with an invitation to 'round-up' for the Scholarship Fund. ●

LISTSERV LAUNCHED

INTAMEL

An e-mail listserv has been launched for INTAMEL members. Facilitated by the IFLA website service, INTLIB is up and running as a discussion forum, bulletin board and electronic mailing list. The aim is to encourage and simplify communication between members and to facilitate exchange of experience. The establishment of INTLIB is in line with INTAMEL's Medium Term Programme.

"Current issues, problems and news can all be shared via INTLIB", says INTAMEL Information Coordinator Stuart Brewer. "Information, views, advice and guidance can be sought from colleagues and provided at the speed of light. The potential for aiding the development of metropolitan library services across the world is enormous."

All INTAMEL members with a known e-mail address have been entered as subscribers to INTLIB, and a first welcoming message has been sent. Members who have not received the message and wish to be INTLIB subscribers, please contact Stuart (details, below).

The INTAMEL web pages on IFLANET <<http://www.ifla.org/VII/rt3/rtiamcl.htm>>, which have developed ad hoc over the years, have been revised and greatly expanded. They now contain the INTAMEL Mission Statement, Medium Term Programme, news, conference reports and papers, Business Meeting minutes, newsletters, brief history and INTAMEL contact details. ●

INTAMEL/IFLA COORDINATOR

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NEKRASOV LIBRARY MOVES FORWARD

MOSCOW

Founded in 1919 from private collections, the Moscow Central Public Library was named after N. A. Nekrasov, the celebrated 19th-century poet, in 1946. In 1955 it moved to its present historic building, "the house of A. S. Saltykova", which was one of the few Moscow mansions to survive the great fire of 1812.

The Nekrasov Library has 14 departments and serves over 75,000 readers. Its collections contain about 2 million items in many different languages and it collects 453 journals and 130 newspapers annually.

The Information Bibliography Department is one of its oldest and the card indexes of the 1930s and 1940s are still in use. A substantial collection of about 120,000 electronic records has been created, based on analytic processing of articles from over 30 newspapers and 100 journals. An electronic catalogue of new acquisitions is being created.

The Department of National Literatures contains over 150,000 books in 74 languages, as well as about 30,000 journal and newspaper items. Despite the disintegration of the former USSR, the Nekrasov Library maintains many of its connections and it cooperates with numerous national republics and subjects of the Russian Federation as well as with

The Moscow Central Public Library, the Nekrasov Library, is one of the largest in the Russian Federation. Following changes in the last decade, it now looks forward to expansion in the future.

the embassies of the former Soviet States.

The Department of Art, founded in 1969-71, has a collection of over 500,000 items in 38 languages on subjects ranging from painting and sculpture to cinema, theatre, music and photography.

World culture

The Department of Local Lore, History and Economy, founded in 1967, collects literature on all aspects of Moscow life, including



Libraries and education – Moscow students find space to work

19th-century as well as current publications. A collection of information and documents relating to Moscow's international population has been formed and, together with representatives of over 50 national associations, the Library is working on a long-term programme for its development.

The increasing percentage of young students since 1994 led to the establishment of a special programme in 1997 entitled "Libraries and Education". This defines all possible ways of co-operation between libraries and educational institutions, and the pooling of resources in order to

improve the training of young specialists. For that reason, the Nekrasov Library joined the UN's Interregional Center of Library Cooperation and the UNESCO "World Culture" programme and regional "Moscow on the Way to World Culture" programme.

New building

Membership of IFLA and INTAMEL assists the Library in actively developing its international connections, and staff participate in international seminars and conferences.

The Nekrasov Library is currently under reconstruction. Thanks to broadening functions, new Divisions and increasing use of IT, a new building of 45,000 m² is needed. It is hoped that in a few years Moscow will have a new library which meets the highest technological requirements of a modern information centre for culture and education.

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Books in many languages available at the Nekrasov

CONTACTING INTAMEL

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CHANGE OF SCENE

Jan Boman, INTAMEL's Secretary/Treasurer and formerly City Librarian of Stockholm, has moved to the Swedish National Council for Cultural Affairs. His first task in his new post is to carry out a study of the Swedish county library system.

Later this year he will investigate contracting out in relation to libraries in Sweden. Contracting out has become more widespread in recent years, largely owing to adverse economic conditions in many parts of the country. The Swedish branch library system will also come under the microscope. "A lot of branches have been closed during the past few years", Jan explains, "again, attributable to funding difficulties for Sweden's communities". ●

GOING FOR GROWTH

DENVER

A new central library can be a stimulus to growth, as proved by figures released in March by Denver Public Library on the fifth anniversary of the opening of its new library. Since 1995:

- circulation has more than doubled, with over 2 million items checked out in 1999;
- 418,579 people now hold Denver Public Library cards, an increase of 30 per cent;
- over a million people visit the Central Library every year, making it the city's third highest cultural attraction, topped only by the Denver Zoo and the Denver Museum of Natural History;
- the new library opened in 1995 with 100 computer terminals offering free Internet access; today there are 200, and a series of workshops (plus one-on-one assistance from librarians) helps adults, families, students and seniors to learn to navigate the web.

MANAGING CHANGE

BERLIN

The text of Claudia Lux's illuminating paper on "Managing Library Staff from a Different Cultural background: The East-West Conflict in Berlin" has been published in the *IFLA Journal* 26 (2000), pp 21-24.

The paper was given at the 1999 IFLA Conference in Bangkok and in a shortened version at INTAMEL's Conference in Zürich. Claudia Lux has been Director-General of the Zentral- und Landesbibliothek Berlin since 1997 and was elected to IFLA's Executive Board at Bangkok.

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Looking to the future, Denver Public Library aims to continue going for growth and reaching out to more Denver residents:

- a \$220,000 Gates Library Foundation grant will enable the library to build on its mission to level the technology playing field by offering additional computer stations at branches in low-income neighborhoods;
- a Carnegie Corporation grant will add thousands of second language materials (Spanish, Russian and Vietnamese) to its collection this year;
- the \$91.6 million bond that financed the Central Library construction also paid for the renovation, expansion and construction of 18 branch libraries. Thanks to the success of a 1998 bond issue, a new branch is due to open in 2001;
- the African American Research Library, now in the early planning stages, should be unveiled in 2003. This special facility will preserve and spotlight the legacy of African Americans in Colorado and the Western United States. Key historic documents are currently scattered and incomplete, and librarians are gathering materials for the collection.

Across the library systems as a whole, from stepped-up programming for adults at the Central Library to a new citywide pre-school literacy drive, Denver Public Library is constantly engaged in extending its services. "Connecting people with the resources they can use to fulfil their full potential is what we're all about", says City Librarian Rick Ashton, "and we'll keep finding new ways to do that".

- <http://www.denver.lib.co.us>

SHARE YOUR NEWS

Several members send us their library newsletters, press releases and other news items. These help in editing Metro and spreading information about new activities and developments.

Send your news to the editors – by mail, fax or e-mail (details, top of page 1). Stick a reminder note on your desk or computer screen – better still, put us on your mailing list.

- Copy date for the next issue: Friday 20 October 2000

INTAMEL MISSION STATEMENT

- A vigorous public library system is necessary to the life and development of metropolitan cities in all parts of the world.
- Municipal, regional and national governments have an obligation to establish and maintain metropolitan public library systems as part of the social and educational services provided to all citizens.
- Many metropolitan cities in the world are facing great financial problems in establishing and extending public library services.
- INTAMEL calls on all metropolitan city governments to do all within their power to give greater priority to the extension and development of metropolitan area-wide public library systems. In so doing, the Association is particularly concerned that the book resources of the metropolis are also made available through a network of related libraries to residents outside the metropolitan area.
- INTAMEL hereby affirms its readiness to work in any way it can with municipal, regional and national authorities in all countries in order to assist them in the development and extension of metropolitan public library systems.

AIDING AT-RISK YOUTH

QUEENS

Department of Justice funding is enabling a ground-breaking library and Police Department initiative to keep young adults in school and out of trouble in Queens Borough, New York.

The \$13,800 funding is from the US Department of Justice's Weed and Seed program which aims to identify at-risk youth before they get into trouble and give them the support, resources and encouragement to stay in school successfully. It is paying for a qualified teacher to give extra homework help at the Arverne

Branch of the Queens Library to 15 to 20 high school students three afternoons a week for six months. Access to a computer lab is also available. Another advantage of the scheme is that participants are productively occupied during the critical after-school hours.

The project is a joint initiative by the Library and the Patrol Borough Queens South, 101st Precinct. Youth officers from the Precinct worked proactively in the community to identify young adults with potential but whose environment might not be supportive.

- Queens Borough Public Library was one of the four winners of the first ever National Award for Library Service awarded by the federal Institute of Museum and Library Services. The Award, for community service, was made at the Capitol Building in Washington during National Library Week in April.
- <http://www.queenslibrary.org>