



**International  
Federation of Library  
Associations and  
Institutions:  
Section V  
Social Science  
Libraries**

**Newsletter 2004:1**

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**Greetings from the Chair:**

The Social Science Section has an entirely new set of Officers – Jacques Hellema (Belgium) as Treasurer, Steve Witt (USA) as Secretary and Margaret Robb (United Kingdom) as Chair. We are always looking for new members, so please come along to our session, in combination with Division VIII on Thursday, 26<sup>th</sup> August (session 142). Speakers from Argentina, Brazil, Fiji, Ghana, New Zealand, and the USA will be discussing different aspects of the topic “Changing roles of NGOs in the creation, validation and dissemination of information in developing countries”. There will be time for questions as well as small group discussions on the issues raised by the speakers.

The success of last year’s workshop, held off-site at the Social Sciences Research Centre, was due in large part to the presence of real library users discussing their needs with social science librarians. A mixture of break-out sessions combined with short presentations on related topics ensured that it was an active workshop in which all participants took part.

The papers presented at our main session (in French and English) included social scientists and librarians talking on the theme, “Building strategic alliances with our special user groups: how social and political scientists cope with the new information paradigm”. An overview of the topic was provided by the first paper, which summarised the results of a study describing the different research methodologies within the social sciences. The role of the Internet in conducting political science research and the lack of standardisation on the quality of digital library materials were explored by two academics.

The Social Science Section has, over the years, excelled at creating relevant and active discussion groups, which then go off to form their own section. This happened, yet again, with the creation of a Knowledge Management Section (based on the KM Discussion Group) in November 2003.

Promotion of the section should be made easier by the availability of our guide in English, French, Russian and Spanish.  
(<http://www.ifla.org/VII/s5/ssl.htm>)

Margaret Robb  
9<sup>th</sup> August 2004

## Buenos Aires 2004:

***Changing roles of NGOs in the creation, validation and dissemination of information in developing countries*** organized by the Social Science Libraries Section and Division VIII, Regional Activities.

**Date:** August 26<sup>th</sup>, 2004

**Time:** 1:45-6:00PM

**Programme:**

1. NGO, information flow, and nation: an exploration in relationships  
O.N.G., flux d'informations et nation : une étude exploratoire des interrelations by LYNNE M. RUDASILL (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Urbana, USA)
2. How to foster and strengthen civic life through information for action: the role of NGOs  
Comment stimuler et renforcer la vie civique à travers l'information pour l'action : le rôle des ONGs  
Como fomentar y fortalecer la vida civil a con información que promueve la acción: el rol de las ONGs by NORMA PALOMINO (University Torcuato de Tella, Buenos Aires, Argentina)
3. Non governmental organisations (NGOs) and library development in Africa  
by HELENA R. ASAMOAH-HASSAN (The Library, Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Kumasi, Ghana)
4. La alfabetización informacional para la ciudadanía en América Latina: el punto de vista del usuario final de programas nacionales de información y / o inclusión digital  
by SUELI MARA SOARES PINTO FERREIRA (Escola de Comunicações e Artes - ECA/USP, Sao Paulo, Brazil) and ELISABETH ADRIANA DUDZIAK (Escola Politécnica - EP/USP, Sao Paulo, Brazil)
5. NGOs, ICTs and information dissemination in Asia and Oceania  
by ELIZABETH READE-FONG (University of the South Pacific, Suva, Fiji) and G.E. GORMAN (Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand)

## Feature Articles:

### Your master key to economics research

Vanessa Proudman, NEREUS Project Manager  
Tilburg University Library, the Netherlands



A consortium of leading academic European libraries with

key economics collections (London School of Economics, Tilburg University, Erasmus University Rotterdam, the German National Library for Economics and Université Libre de Bruxelles) is presently developing a service called Nereus. The prime goal is to create one distributed network of European and global research for economics linking *the* key resource capacities of the strongest universities and their libraries and making that research available via an innovative portal. First-rate, recent and comprehensive academic information, will be thus easily accessible to the international academic community, irrespective of the source's European location, type or format of information.

The Nereus search service will provide:

- quality *content* from top economics institutions
- a broad overview of the world's key economics resources
- licensed material (using appropriate security measures)
- open access content

All in one simple interface for simultaneous searching.

Nereus will unlock new content, for example bringing together the near complete academic output of various economists available, and making formerly digitally invisible material and statistical data retrievable. The Nereus

consortium will investigate the possibilities of consortium agreements (without threatening any existing national consortium deals) with the aim to bring new licensed economics-specific content to the researcher at cheaper prices.

The portal will give seamless access to as much full text academic output as possible in a google-like intuitive search environment. Innovative technology will underpin the service, with added value dynamic features such as extendable search options, personalization, and log and citation analysis which will deliver more informed results to the researcher. It is being designed by closely listening to faculty information needs. A Scientific Advisory Board will help to shape Nereus's goals and monitor its achievements with the economics scholar in mind.

Nereus will serve as an important integrated showcase for European and world economics research increasing the impact of academic output from universities, other research institutions, publishers, banks and businesses, government and non-government and international organisations from across Europe and abroad.

Behind the scenes, librarians and IT specialists in the Nereus universities are pooling their expertise in information and knowledge provision methods and services. Exchange of experience and spread of best practice will enable us to bridge gaps and solve problems collectively, to the ongoing benefit of the libraries and portal service now and in the future.

To sum up:

The consortium aims to create *the* quality resource and international library infrastructure in economics, in co-operation with the other key academic information providers of Europe, with a service launch in 2005.

For more information, please contact:

<http://www.uvt.nl/nereus/>

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## The Refugee Studies Centre Library, University of Oxford

Joanna Soedring, Social Studies Librarian

Oxford University, United Kingdom



The Refugee Studies Centre (RSC) Library, part of Oxford University Library

Services, holds the largest collection of materials worldwide relating to the causes and consequences of forced migration. The library aims to provide a vital resource, not only for academic study and research, but also for NGO and government workers, policy makers, consultants, journalists and the general public.

The majority of the collection of 30,000 physical items consists of semi-published and unpublished 'grey literature'. This includes conference and seminar papers, field research, agency reports, and working papers. The library also contains approximately 4,500 books, 270 newsletter and periodical titles, over 250 theses and over 400 videos.

The study of forced migration is multi-disciplinary and this is reflected in the scope of the collection. Subjects covered include health, psychology, education, human rights, political science, anthropology, law, geography and sociology. Geographical coverage is international and strengths include

southern and East Africa, western Europe, the Middle East and South and South-East Asia. Date coverage extends primarily from the 1980s to the present day. Earlier material, from the 1940s onwards, can be found in the library's special collections and archives.

The specialised classification scheme and the comprehensive online catalogue, which utilises index terms from the *International Thesaurus of Refugee Terminology*, enable readers to find exactly what they need within the numerous boxes of grey literature.

The RSC Library is committed to disseminating its resources to as wide an audience as possible. Approximately 3000 documents from the grey literature collection are available in full-text via the Digital Library component of Forced Migration Online (<http://www.forcedmigration.org>), a web-based portal that provides access to a wealth of resources on human displacement.

For more information please see <http://www.rsc.ox.ac.uk> or email [rsclib@qeh.ox.ac.uk](mailto:rsclib@qeh.ox.ac.uk)

## Social Science Libraries Conference at Göteborg University, Sweden

**Jonas Gilbert**

**Göteborg University Library, Sweden**

Göteborg University Library is the Swedish national resource library for social sciences. In this capacity they arrange a number of projects to promote the services of the social science libraries in Sweden.

On 4<sup>th</sup> November 2003, a one-day conference was held in Göteborg which focused on social science libraries and political science. The conference attracted an audience of about 50 from all over Sweden.

The day began with talks from several well-known Swedish political scientists who described their many information needs. A

panel discussion was followed by a report from Marianne Ladenvall, head of the Central Library at Göteborg University. In the afternoon, Professor Olle Persson of Umea University explained the results of a bibliometric survey, based on the Web of Science, which examined where Swedish political scientists were publishing their papers.

The last paper had an IFLA connection as it was a version of a paper delivered in Berlin by the University of Oxford Social Sciences Librarian. It shows that IFLA publications have an international audience beyond IFLA!

## Social Science Libraries Section Aids in Creation of the new Knowledge Management Section

**Irene Wormell**

**Swedish School of Library and Information Science**

The keen interest that the IFLA community has shown in Knowledge Management (KM) over the past few years has led to the transformation of the Knowledge Management Discussion Group into a full-fledged IFLA Section. Established in December 2003, the new KM section is situated within Division IV (Bibliographic Control).

Since its inception in 2001, the activities of the Knowledge Management Discussion Group received considerable attention among conference delegates. Information professionals from all parts of the world participated in the KM meetings, expressing their interest in learning more about this important development in organizational management. LIS professionals have shown great interest in the implementation of Knowledge Management in the libraries and information environment and expressed

a need for a deeper understanding of its many dimensions and relevance to their work.

### ***Working definition of Knowledge Management (KM)***

Knowledge Management is often defined as the process of creating, storing, sharing, and re-using organizational knowledge to enable an organization to achieve its goals and objectives. KM extends the concept of “*knowledge*” beyond existing concepts such as “memory,” “storage,” and “information.” The term covers such areas as tacit knowledge (expertise), implicit knowledge, and procedural knowledge.

### **Mission**

The aim of the IFLA KM Section is to support the development and implementation of a Knowledge

Management culture in libraries and information centers. The Section will provide an international platform for professional communication—a mechanism to increase the awareness of KM, understanding and appreciating its significance for librarians and the institutions that employ them. The Section will track developments in Knowledge Management and promote its practical implementation within the IFLA community.

Since KM encompasses many dimensions organizational management, the activities of the Section are intended to be integrated and linked to other relevant sections of IFLA and other professional organizations. The KM Section can be seen as a wide platform with integrated activities, working in a co-operative mode with other sections and divisions.

## International Conferences 2004-2005

### 2004

#### **September 10-12, 2004**

Feria Internacional del Libro Universitario  
[www.uv.mx/filu](http://www.uv.mx/filu)  
Xalapa, Veracruz, México

#### **October 23-30, 2004**

Salzburg Seminar: Libraries in the 21st Century  
<http://www.salzburgseminar.org/>  
Salzburg, Austria

#### **October 27-29, 2004**

BIBLIOCOM 2004-Italian Library Association's 51st Annual Conference  
<http://www.bibliocom.it>  
Rome, Italy

#### **November 2-5, 2004**

Sofia 2004: Libraries, Globalization, and Cooperation  
<http://slim.emporia.edu/globenet/sofia2004/index.htm>  
Sofia, Bulgaria

#### **November 27-December 5, 2004**

18th Guadalajara International Book Fair (Feria Internacional de Libro-- FIL)  
<http://www.fil.com.mx/>  
Guadalajara, México

### 2005

#### **May 15-21, 2005**

United States Agricultural Information Network (USAIN) and International Association of Agricultural Information Specialists (IAALD) present:  
"USAIN Biennial Conference & IAALD IXth World Congress"  
Lexington, Kentucky, USA

#### **August 14-18, 2005**

World Library and Information Congress: 71st IFLA General Conference and Council  
<http://ifla.org/IV/ifla71/index.htm>  
Oslo, Norway

#### **October 27<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup>, 2005**

Library History Seminar XI:  
Libraries in Times of War, Revolution, and Social Change  
Champaign, Illinois, USA  
Contact [wrayward@alexia.lis.uiuc.edu](mailto:wrayward@alexia.lis.uiuc.edu)

#### **November 16-18, 2005.**

World Summit on the Information Society  
<http://www.itu.int/wsis/>  
Tunisia

#### **November 25-November 30, 2005**

19th Guadalajara International Book Fair (Feria Internacional de Libro-- FIL)  
<http://www.fil.com.mx/>  
Guadalajara, México

## Social Science Libraries Strategic Plan

### SECTION V: SOCIAL SCIENCE LIBRARIES

Draft

Revised & Updated September 2003

#### MISSION

The Section of Social Science Libraries provides an international platform for professional communication and exchange of ideas among librarians, scholars, and professionals in the social sciences. To foment the integration of scholarship and the practice of librarianship within the social sciences, the Section explores and encourages the involvement of numerous sub disciplines\*. The Section also seeks to promote the concept of social science librarianship as an area of specialization by which knowledge and scholarship in the many social science disciplines are documented, organized, made accessible, disseminated and preserved for the current and future generations.

\*Sub disciplines in the Social Sciences include but are not limited to the following:

*...anthropology, communication science, criminology, demography, development, economics, education, environmental planning, futurology, geography, history, labour science, law, library and information science, linguistics, management science, philosophy, political science, public administration, psychology, social policy, sociology, statistics, science of religion, science of science ...*

#### STRATEGIC PLAN

The Section's strategic plan supports its mission with the following goals:

1. Provide a platform for professional exchange and communication for special libraries and information centres in the social sciences worldwide, in an interdisciplinary way and without regard to the media support of the information provided by each library for its users.
2. Foster international cooperation across disciplinary and national boundaries.
3. Offer professional development opportunities by organizing conferences, workshops, and seminars for all people involved in social science information services.
4. Maintain library- and information-related professional standards and values worldwide.
5. Support of the IFLA core programmes, especially the work of the Committee on Access to Information and Freedom of Expression (FAIFE), as social science libraries often deal with socially or politically sensitive information.
6. Operate with other interest groups to lobby for professional requirements in the social science library and information environment, thus enhancing the quality of information work in the social sciences in general.

#### GOALS & ACTION PLANS, 2004– 2005

**GOAL I:** To facilitate the sharing of information and ideas among social science information professionals.

Corresponding IFLA Professional Priorities:

- Supporting the Role of Libraries in Society
  - Promoting Research Sharing
  - Promoting Standards Guidelines and Best Practices
- A. The Section will sponsor an open forum relating to Education and Development at the 70<sup>th</sup> IFLA General Council and Conference to be held in Buenos Aires, Argentina in 2004.
  - B. The Section will sponsor an open forum on the theme of Best Practices in Social Science Libraries at the 71<sup>st</sup> IFLA General Council and Conference to be held in Oslo, Norway in 2005.
  - C. The Section will explore the feasibility of developing and publishing position papers and articles that support and advocate on behalf of social science librarianship and its contributions to scholarship and society.
  - D. The Section will continue to translate and distribute its brochure into other official IFLA languages. Current versions include French and Russian with a Spanish translation in production.
  - E. The Section will continue work on replicating the study on information use and behavior of social scientists.
    1. The Section will apply for funding to continue research based upon the results of the feasibility study.
  - F. The Section will continue to carry out the following activities already being conducted:

1. Sponsorship of the Soclib listserv.
2. Publication of the Section Newsletter.
3. Exploration of potential cooperative activities with the other IFLA sections sharing common interests.
4. Collection and maintenance of data for the Directory of National Libraries of Education.

**GOAL II:** To accomplish the action plans set out in Goal I, the Standing Committee will be expanded to 20 active members.

Corresponding IFLA Professional Priorities:

- Developing Library Professionals
  - Supporting the Infrastructure of Library Associations
- A. Current Standing Committee members will actively work to identify individuals interested in the work of the Section, who are also able to attend the Standing Committee meetings at each IFLA conference during their proposed terms of appointment.
  - B. Once identified, the Standing Committee will assist these individuals in their being appointed.
  - C. Standing Committee members will identify a mentor for each new committee member appointed.

**GOAL III:** In order to reflect IFLA's global mission more fully, the Standing Committee will seek greater geographic/cultural diversity among its new members.

Corresponding IFLA Professional Priorities:

- Developing Library Professionals
  - Supporting the Infrastructure of Library Associations
- A. In the action plans to accomplish Goal II, the Standing Committee will particularly recruit members from Latin America, Africa, Asia, and Southern and Eastern Europe.
  - B. Standing Committee members will attempt to identify sources for at least partial funding for one social science librarian or information professional from a developing country to attend both the Buenos Aires and Oslo Conferences.

**GOAL IV:** The Section will actively seek to expand its membership.

Corresponding IFLA Professional Priorities:

- Developing Library Professionals
  - Supporting the Infrastructure of Library Associations
- A. Standing Committee members will analyze IFLA and Section membership data and send invitations to join the Section to appropriate IFLA members who are not yet members of Section V.
  - B. Each Standing Committee member will identify at least one library that is not currently an IFLA or Section V Member. An invitation to join IFLA and Section V, along with information on each group, will be sent to the directors of these libraries.



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