



## Annual Report 2006-2007 Science and Technology Libraries

### **Scope**

The Science and Technology Libraries Section supports librarianship and professional competencies of librarians in the fields of science and technology. The section takes interest in and responds to current challenges about collecting materials in, and offering access to information relevant to physical sciences, engineering and technology. Activities include monitoring the dynamic environment in the field, promoting discussions, as well as exploring and sharing best practices among members who serve in research, public, corporate and government libraries. Working with colleagues in developing nations is a high priority. The section has established relations with other IFLA sections and international professional organizations relevant to the field.

### **Membership**

The Section has 18 standing committee members and one corresponding member. Section membership stands at 100 members, including personal members. The Section has members from all continents of the world.

### **Officers 2007-2009**

#### **Chair / Treasurer**

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### **Collaboration with other IFLA sections and relationships with other bodies**

Following the discussion with IFLA Headquarters during spring 2006, the Section became the IFLA liaison with ICSTI. Regarding this development, Anne Powell participated on behalf of the Section and IFLA the ICSTI Winter Meeting 2007 and Meeting of National Science Portals Forum on January 20-22, 2007 in London. In Durban discussion continued with current ICSTI president Herbert Gruttemeyer, who also took part in the Section's activities (open session, study trip). During the Durban meetings member of the Section Standing Committee Christine Stotzenbach was nominated to act as the liaison person between the Section and ICSTI.

After the Seoul conference new collaboration with the Government Information and Official Publications Section (GIOPS) was initiated. The joint interest in the area of science portals matured into a plan to organize a joint pre-conference in 2008 on the theme "National Science Policies and Science Portals".

The paper "The ubiquitous library for the blind and physically handicapped: a case study of the LG Sangnam Library, Korea" presented by Kyung-Jae Bae in the Section Seoul program was accepted and published in the IFLA Journal Volume 33 (2007) No. 3, pp. 210–219.

## Meetings - Durban conference

The Standing Committee met in two sessions during the Durban conference, attended by 11 persons, observers included. It was noted that two Standing Committee members had resigned before their term (2005-2007) ended: Rivkah Frank (Israel) resignation received in September 2006 and Reinhard Supper (Germany) in November 2006.

The transition to new officers took place in the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting. The immediate past Chair participated in the 1<sup>st</sup> Coordinating Board (Div 2) meeting and the newly elected Secretary in the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting.

The Section program was well attended with over 150 delegates. There were three excellent presentations

- Scientific data for sustainable development – the role of science and technology libraries in developing countries ANDREW KANIKI (National Research Foundation, Pretoria, South Africa)
- Building Science Information Fluency In African Universities: How Libraries And Researchers Are Benefiting From Improved Access To Science Scholarship BARBARA ARONSON (WHO, Geneva Switzerland), GRACIAN CHIMWAZA (ITOCA, Harare, Zimbabwe), TANDI EDDA LWOGA (Sokoine National Agricultural Library, Morogoro, Tanzania), OLIVIA VENT (Cornell University, USA)
- La bibliothèque de sciences et technologies : levier de réussite de la réforme universitaire au Maroc HANAN ERHIF and LAMYAA BELMEKKI (Association nationale des informaticiens Maroc)

One of the papers was presented in French. Unfortunately simultaneous interpretation was not available. The speaker's Power Point slides had, however been translated into English and some 100 copies of slide handouts were distributed among the audience.

The Section also collaborated in the IFLA Newcomer Session in the conference program by providing short presentation concerning the work of IFLA.

The Section Study Tour was made to the Oceanographic Research Institute, separately from the official Conference Program. There were 19 attendees for the study tour, including members of the Health and Biosciences Libraries and Information Technology sections.

Meetings with representatives of the Government Information and Official Publications Section (GIOPS) were held during the Durban Conference to finalize the planning of the IFLA 2008 satellite event and map subsequent tasks.

Espoo, Finland      November 2007

Irma Pasanen,

Chair 2005-2007



Science and Technology Libraries Section Standing Committee in Durban