Back to the Roots!

Where best to celebrate IFLA’s 75th Anniversary then in the country of its ‘birth’? Over 4,300 participants came to Glasgow to join in the celebrations during one of the best ever IFLA conferences.

Thanks to tremendous efforts of the National Organising Committee, the IFLA Sections and IFLA Headquarters this year’s theme, Libraries for life: democracy, diversity, delivery, appeared as a red thread throughout the week.

Congratulations to all for this success!

Country Representation

As in most years, the host country was the best represented country with 1443 delegates from the United Kingdom at this year’s conference.

Runners up were:

- United States 549
- Russian Federation 158
- France 145
- Netherlands 140

Facts and Figures about the conference

- 220 meetings
- 166 conference papers
- 115 translations from English into one or more of the other 4 IFLA working languages
- 27 meetings with Simultaneous Interpretation
- 58 poster Sessions
- 25 workshops
- 39 Mobile Libraries at the Mobile Meet
- 2000 (+/-) copies of IFLA Express each day
  - 1525 English
  - 150 German
  - 150 Russian
  - 100 French
  - 75 Spanish
- 3300+ delegates
- 1,082 first timers
- 98 Volunteers
- 131 countries represented
- 85+ grantees thanks to generous grants from (amongst others) the following institutions:
  - 31 DANIDA
  - 29 Comité Français IFLA
  - 24 CILIP
  - 3 SIDA
- 126 stands from 140 companies combined to make an exhibition of 2,385 m²
- 10,500 m² occupied by exhibition, registration, posters, cybercafé, model childrens library etc.
- 19 IFLA Corporate Partners included
- 21 new members joined during the conference
- 2500 IFLA pens given out at the booth
- All participants received the Conference Papers CD-ROM sponsored by Ovid Technologies
- 2500 conference bags handed out
- 1,000 Canvas bags for 1-day delegates handed out
- 5 times (at least) Auld Lang Syne sang by all delegates
Reflections on the Clyde

An abstract of the text of Winston Tabb, Chair, Professional Committee

[...]

For the past few years our association has been engaged in an intensive effort to transform IFLA from a relatively closed and opaque organization into one that is becoming increasingly open, inclusive and transparent. To that end we have sought to strengthen the emphasis on the core values and professional priorities we have in common, while encouraging the diverse divisions, sections and discussion groups that are the heart of this association to apply those values and priorities in ways that will be most beneficial to the kinds of libraries, activities and customers they represent.

All four of IFLA’s core values are important. But in these brief “reflections on the Clyde” at the close of our week together, it seems most appropriate to focus on the 4th of those values: “the commitment to enable all Members of the Federation to engage in, and benefit from, its activities without regard to citizenship, disability, ethnic origin, gender, geographical location, language, political philosophy, race or religion.” This is a huge ambition, and one that we may never perfectly realize; but we must always press toward this critical goal. While not every IFLA member is able - yet! - to participate personally in the annual conference, it was wonderfully gratifying this week to see that increasing numbers of the IFLA family are finding ways to come together from all part of the globe for these annual reunions of our professional family.

[Then Winston Tabb announced the winners of the Best Poster Session and the Best Newsletter Awards, see elsewhere in this newsletter]

Emerging foremost among my “reflections on the Clyde” are the extremely inventive ways in which our hosts, the Scottish NOC, have supported IFLA’s goal of enabling all Members of the Federation to engage in and benefit from its activities - for example, by offering for the first time the “flying visit” option, enabling librarians to participate in two full days of programs while minimizing their travel costs; by placing special emphasis on Carnegie libraries and librarians in Carnegie’s homeland; and by offering financial support specially for Scottish librarians. Not to mention the novelty of having the opening session at the opening of the conference! But none of these innovations may, in the long run, seem more important than the “red thread,” shown at the bottom of the logo. Our professional world is increasingly complicated and challenging, and this fact of our professional lives has increasingly been reflected in our annual conference programs. Your Professional Committee, working with the Governing Board and National Organizing Committee, have sought to be responsive to the members’ somewhat contradictory requests to reduce the length of the conference program while still allowing sufficient opportunities for the sections’ programs, workshops and standing committee meetings. Thus we eagerly welcomed the NOC’s idea of using the “red thread” to help program planners and conference attendees use the theme, “Libraries for Life: Democracy, Diversity, Delivery,” to bring some coherence to this week’s proceedings.

Beginning with IFLA Express #1 in March, the NOC highlighted programs that related to the overall theme, as well as to the sub-themes “Building on the Past, Investing in the Future.” We have heard many favorable comments about this innovation, which served to highlight convergences in our professional interests even while celebrating our diversity.

In closing, as I reflect on the many stimulating and pleasant events of this week along the Clyde, I feel certain that one will haunt me for many years. Each of us who was privileged to witness Seamus Heaney’s magnificent mind at work as he delivered the opening keynote address is likely to have several of his arresting observations branded in our memory. But returning to the red thread of our conference theme, I shall never forget how Mr. Heaney modified that theme as perhaps only a poet could do - telling us what we, of all people, should know: Libraries are not just for life; they are for “dear” life, with all the richness and urgency that word connotes. So my final reflection on the Clyde is that we must never forget that we are engaged in critical work, and that we can be successful in that work only if we approach it as a united community.

We just experienced a wonderful IFLA convention and we want to thank you for that. The venue was well chosen, the turnout impressive, the programme has been excellent and the opening ceremony outstanding. I have never experienced such a lively, inventive and well organized ceremony. The speeches have been very informative and interesting, especially the ones from Herman Liebaers and Derk Hank, not to mention the brilliant concert of the young musicians.

Klaus Saur, IFLA Corporate Partner
IFLA/OCLC Early Career Development Fellows named for 2003

The International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) and OCLC have awarded five IFLA/OCLC Early Career Development Fellowships for 2003. OCLC and IFLA established the fellowships to support library and information science professionals who are in the early stages of their career development and from countries with developing economies.

The fellows are:
- Selenay Aytaç (Turkey), Cataloger and Information Specialist, Isik University, Istanbul, Turkey
- Anjali Gulati (India), Lecturer, Department of Library Science, University of Jammu, Jammu, India
- Hyekyong Hwang (Republic of Korea), Researcher/Librarian, Korean Institute of Science and Technology, Seoul, Korea
- Ibrahim Ramjaun (Mauritius), Librarian, National Library of Mauritius, Mauritius
- Thi Nha Vu (Viet Nam), MLIS student, Curtin University of Technology, Perth, Western Australia, Australia

Established in 1999, the IFLA/OCLC Fellowship supports library and information science professionals from countries with developing economies who are in the early stages of their career development. The fellowship program, hosted by OCLC at its headquarters in Dublin, Ohio, USA, provides advanced continuing education and exposure to a broad range of issues in information technologies, library operations and global cooperative librarianship.

“The IFLA/OCLC Fellowship is an investment by the sponsoring organizations in the future of librarianship around the world,” said Jay Jordan, president and CEO, OCLC.

During the fellowship period, from April 28 through May 23, 2003, the IFLA/OCLC Fellows participate in seminars, lectures and mentoring; observe portions of the OCLC Members Council meeting; and visit selected North American libraries.

Participating organizations have included the Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.; the Mortenson Center for International Library Programs, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; and the American Library Association, Chicago, Illinois.

“This cooperation between IFLA and OCLC is really a great achievement, which allows librarians from developing countries to come to the United States, have good technical training and visit a few libraries,” said Christine Deschamps, president of IFLA and member of the OCLC Board of Trustees. “I can only hope that other bodies will join us and help more librarians participate each year.”

More information and applications for 2004 are available from the OCLC Institute on the Web <www.oclc.org> or by writing to the OCLC Institute at 6565 Frantz Rd., MC 750, Dublin, Ohio, USA, 43017.

Fellowships for the Americas Program


The program provides grants for librarians from the Americas, including South America, Central America, North America and the Caribbean, to attend the IFLA conferences in Berlin in 2003 and Buenos Aires in 2004. The ‘Fellowships for the Americas Program’ will be funded from the net revenues earned from the IFLA 2001 Conference, which was held August 16-25, 2001, in Boston.

Fifteen fellowships will be offered for librarians from the Americas to attend the IFLA 2003 Conference in Berlin. The number of fellowships available for the Buenos Aires conference will be determined in 2003.

For more information: https://cs.ala.org/ifla

ALA, International Relations Office
50 East Huron Street
Chicago, Illinois 60611
USA
Fax: +1-312-2804392

Photo: Crawford Brown
Resolutions adopted at IFLA Council II

All resolutions below were adopted by Council, during the IFLA conference in Glasgow.

Professional Resolution

Social Responsibilities

The IFLA Social Responsibilities Discussion Group, after three years of work, urges IFLA’s Governing Board to insure that its recommendations for actions to IFLA’s bodies be considered for implementation during their next planning cycle.

It asks the Governing Board to pass on the recommendations to the appropriate IFLA bodies by the Secretariat staff.

The organizers of the Social Responsibilities Discussion Group will provide support and advice.

Submitted by the IFLA Section on Education and Training

General Resolutions

Disaster Plans

‘Be it resolved that, considering the many risks that threatens the cultural heritage, all libraries responsible for collections of national significance should set up, test, implement and regularly update a disaster plan’

Submitted by:
PAC Core Activity (M.-T. Varlamoff)
PAC Section (J. McIlwaine)
Section on National Libraries (F. Campos)

IFLA Internet Manifesto

Whereas a freely accessible Internet is essential to unrestricted access to information be it resolved that this IFLA Council Meeting in Glasgow on Friday, 23 August 2002, endorse The IFLA Internet Manifesto.

Proposed by Alex Byrne, Member of IFLA Governing Board, Chair IFLA/FAIFE Committee.

(Full text: http://www.ifla.org/III/misc/im-e.htm)

President-elect Brainstorming Session

Fifteen tables of delegates representing all regions and professional levels participated in a brainstorm, based on IFLA’s Core Values.

The goal of this extensive session was to help Kay Raseroka, first ever President-elect of IFLA, to prioritise the aims and actions for her period as President of IFLA.

A consolidated report on the Brainstorming Session will be posted on IFLANET and published in IFLA Journal.

The Glasgow Declaration on Libraries, Information Services and Intellectual Freedom

For decades the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions and its worldwide membership have actively promoted the intellectual freedoms as expressed in the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Meeting in Glasgow on the occasion of the 75th anniversary of its formation, IFLA proclaimed its support of these principles and rights in The Glasgow Declaration.

Full text: www.ifla.org/faife/policy/iflastat/gldeclar-e.html

Council decisions on membership fees

Council voted in favour of 2 proposals affecting membership fees. The fee for International Association membership is now divided into three bands. These bands are determined according to the countries in which the majority of members of each association reside, the UNESCO Scale of Assessment figure for the countries, and the United Nations List of Least Developed Countries. The fee for Band 1 has been set at EUR 450. For Band 2, the fee is EUR 340. The Band 3 fee has been reduced to EUR 205.

Council accepted a proposal to give the power to the Governing Board to increase the IFLA membership fees in all categories by a figure no greater than one percent less than the official retail price inflation, as recorded by the Netherlands government, over the previous twelve months. Council itself must approve the IFLA membership rates for all categories at intervals of no more than three years.
Statement on Libraries and Sustainable Development

Meeting in Glasgow on the occasion of the 75th anniversary of its formation, the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA)

• Declares that all human beings have the fundamental right to an environment adequate for their health and well-being.
• Acknowledges the importance of a commitment to sustainable development to meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of the future.
• Asserts that library and information services promote sustainable development by ensuring freedom of access to information.

IFLA further affirms that:

• The international library and information community forms a network that connects developing and developed countries, supports the development of library and information services worldwide, and ensures these services respect equity, the general quality of life for all people and the natural environment.
• Library and information professionals acknowledge the importance of education in various forms for all. Library and information services act as gateways to knowledge and culture. They provide access to information, ideas and works of imagination in various formats, supporting personal development of all age groups and active participation in society and decision-making processes.
• Library and information services provide essential support for lifelong learning, independent decision-making and cultural development for all. Through their vast collections and variety of media, they offer guidance and learning opportunities. Library and information services help people improve educational and social skills, indispensable in an information society and for sustained participation in democracy. Libraries further reading habits, information literacy and promote education, public awareness and training.
• Library and information services contribute to the development and maintenance of intellectual freedom and help safeguard basic democratic values and universal civil rights. They respect the identity, independent choice, decision-making and privacy of their users without discrimination.
• To this end, library and information services acquire, preserve and make available to all users without discrimination the widest variety of materials, reflecting the plurality and cultural diversity of society and the richness of our environments.
• Library and information services are helping to tackle information inequality demonstrated in the growing information gap and the digital divide. Through their network of services, information on research and innovation is made available to advance sustainable development and the welfare of peoples worldwide.

IFLA therefore calls upon library and information services and their staff to uphold and promote the principles of sustainable development.

This Declaration was prepared by a work team issued by the Governing Board of IFLA. Approved by the Governing Board of IFLA 16 August 2002, Glasgow, Scotland. Proclaimed by the Council of IFLA 19 August 2002, Glasgow, Scotland.

Fun Run raises money for Books for All

During a 5 kilometer Fun Run on Sunday 18 August 2002, which was organised by Dawn Vallance, librarian and member of the local Athletics Club, an amount of more than GBP 300 was raised. This money was given as the final contribution to Books for All.

It started in 1973 as an initiative of IFLA’s Children and Young Adults Section. Founded by Colin Ray and run by Lioba Betten, the objective of the project was to raise money to purchase and distribute books for children at schools in developing countries. With modest support of UNESCO and IFLA, the project managers were able to reach the target amount of 500,000 US Dollars! Having achieved this goal, the project is now complete.

IFLA would like to thank Lioba Betten, who, for many years, has been travelling, lobbying, campaigning and promoting the project. She has succeeded in establishing libraries in many parts of the world.
Publishers and Librarians agree on the preservation of digital information

An international group of librarians and book and journal publishers have reached agreement on the archiving and preservation of digital information.

The statement, entitled “Preserving the Memory of the World in Perpetuity” was agreed by the Joint Steering Group, established by the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) and the International Publishers Association (IPA).

Concern has been growing that much digital material has already been lost, because no attempt has been made to preserve it. In many countries there are long-established arrangements to preserve print materials for future generations. But this is often not the case for digital information. As a result, many electronic publications will not be preserved unless specific steps are taken to ensure their survival.

The statement commits both organisations to work together on joint initiatives to study the technical, economic and policy issues surrounding digital preservation.

The full text of the statement can be found at: http://www.ifla.org/V/press/ifla-ipa02.htm

Upcoming IFLA Elections

Next spring elections will be held for the positions of IFLA President-elect, members of the Governing Board and the Section Standing Committees.

Nomination forms will be sent out this month. Be sure to use your right to nominate and influence the future governance of IFLA!

Governing Board Decisions

Buenos Aires

At its meeting in Glasgow the IFLA Governing Board, taking into account the economic situation in Argentina, reaffirmed the decision to go to Buenos Aires in 2004.

Sustainable Development

The Governing Board adopted the Statement on Libraries and Sustainable Development, to coincide with the UN World Summit, which began in Johannesburg, South Africa, the following week.

For more information see: http://www.ifla.org/III/eb/sust-dev02.html

What’s in a name?

After some discussion about it in previous years the Governing Board decided to rename the IFLA Conference to: the World Library and Information Congress.

This was done for all several reasons, mainly marketing. Some cities have displays welcoming the delegates to the IFLA conference, but that may not mean much to a lot of people. By advertising it as the World Library and Information Congress, the conference is more likely get the attention it deserves.

IFLA/FAIFE Summary Report 2002: Libraries, Conflicts and the Internet

The report discusses Internet accessible information and censorship; presents an overview of the global situation relating to libraries and information services and intellectual freedom; looks at the Internet as the information tool of the 21st century; introduces the topic ‘libraries and conflicts’, which sadly has become more and more pressing for the international library community; and finally discusses some of the possibilities on how to respond when intellectual freedoms are at stake.

Available from the IFLA/FAIFE Office:
Birketinget 6, 6th floor
DK-2300 COPENHAGEN
Denmark
faife@ifla.org

Did you enjoy yourself?

Come to Berlin!
Exciting new programme, but with the same IFLA-feeling. Information about the 2003 conference can be found at: www.ifla.org
Durban, here we come!

During the closing session Ingrid Parent, chair of the Conference Planning Committee, announced Durban, South Africa as the host city for the 2007 conference.

Some 40 South African delegates came to the stage to celebrate this decision and to issue an invitation to their country.

IFLA has invited from National Association Members expressions of interest in hosting the IFLA General Conference to be held in August 2008.

For more information about hosting the IFLA conference please go to: http://www.ifla.org/IV/tohost.htm

Future conference sites:
2003, Berlin, Germany
2004, Buenos Aires, Argentina
2005, Oslo, Norway
2006, Seoul, Korea
2007, Durban, South Africa

For more information on IFLA’s future conferences: www.ifla.org

Houston (Texas) Public Library Wins Marketing Award

The Houston Public Library in Houston, Texas (USA) has been announced as the winner of the first IFLA 3M International Marketing Award for an entry by Andrea Lapsley, for a project entitled The Powercard Challenge. The award was presented by IFLA at a press conference on Tuesday morning, 20 August, 10.30-12.00 at the IFLA Conference in Glasgow, Scotland. The award, sponsored by 3M Corporation, one of IFLA’s Gold Corporate Partners, rewards excellence in the implementation of creative, results-oriented marketing projects or campaigns. 3M also recognized the winner at its reception in Glasgow. The award winner received airfare, lodging, and registration for the conference as well as a cash award of USD 1000 to further its marketing efforts.

Second and third place winners were the Calgary Public Library in Calgary, Alberta (Canada) for an entry by Grant Kaiser, entitled Rediscover Your Calgary Public Library, and the Queens Borough Public Library, in New York, New York (USA) for its entry by Gary E. Strong, entitled The Opening and Promotion of the Flushing Library. Daisy McAdam, chair of the selection jury, reported that there were 39 candidates from 14 countries and that the selection jury had a very difficult time because of the high quality of many of the entries.

Àngels Massisimo, Natalia Santucci, Marielle de Miribel, and Christina Tovoté joined Daisy McAdam in serving as the selection jury. Congratulations to all the candidates, and particularly to the winners!

IFLA welcomed total of 21 new members during the conference

National Associations:
Association Nationale des Bibliothecaires, Archivistes, Documentalistes et Museographes de Guinee (ANMBAD), Guinea
Association Nigerienne des Bibliothecaires de la Lecture Publique, Niger

Institution:
Yorkshire Museums, Libraries & Archives Council, United Kingdom

Personal Affiliates:
Marilia Mesquita Guedes Pereira, Marcia Rosetto, Brazil; Marie-Martine Yobol, Cameroon; Francine Gaudet, Pierre Gaudet, Canada; Plissengar Tinlengar, Chad; Dinesh K Gupta, India; Marjory Slaney, Ireland; Yui Manabe, Japan; Bayaraa Bat-Edrene, Mongolia; Muhammad Yaqub Chaudhary, Pakistan; Jaffee Yee Yeow Fei, Thailand; Lesley Anne Mitchell, United Kingdom; Laura Bayard, Kay Cassell, Sarah Jones, Jaswant Singh, Virginia Walter, Blanche Woolls, United States

Student Affiliate:
Olivier Charbonneau, Canada

I think the Conference in Glasgow was a great success. I am sure you are pleased too. The volunteers deserve a medal, they were so helpful and friendly!

Marie-France Plassard
Director, UBCIM

Photo: Crawford Brown
Best Newsletter & Best Poster Awards

In yet another effort to encourage and recognise broad-based participation in the annual conference, the Professional Committee decided at its March meeting to give, for the first time this year, an award for the most outstanding poster session.

After considering carefully the information content; overall interest and relevance to IFLA’s priorities; the aesthetic quality, general appearance and clarity of presentation; and the helpfulness of the presenters at each poster session, the award jury selected, with some difficulty from a very strong field, as the first winner of the Outstanding Poster Session Award, Kate Murray, a master’s candidate at the Centre for Information Literacy and Department of Information and Library Studies, University of Cape Town, South Africa.

The jury noted that the design of the poster on the subject ‘Constructing the Road to Digitisation at UCT Libraries’ was immediately eye-catching, using a map of South Africa and internationally-recognizable road signs to entice the casual observer to take a closer look. Using the metaphor of the “learner driver,” Ms. Murray designed a “route planner” for digitization that helps demystify for smaller libraries, particularly libraries in developing countries, the process of digitizing library materials.

Best Newsletter Award

The Chair of the Professional Committee, as judge for this competition, selected the Asia and Oceania Section as the winner. Five other newsletters, from those received by July 15 2002, received honorable mention: (listed alphabetically) Africa Section, Art Libraries Section, Library Services to Multicultural Populations Section, Newspapers RT (now section), and Rare Books and Manuscripts Section.

Winston Tabb said during the Closing Ceremony the following: ‘All of the newsletters chosen were published in both print and digital form. But what particularly impressed me about the Asia and Oceania Section newsletter was its comprehensiveness, and its “newsiness,” including very timely and thorough information both about the Section and IFLA in general, but also about library programs and activities throughout the region.’

Free Registrations to the 69th Council and General Conference & Council in Berlin, Germany

The lucky winners of a free registration (drawn from the Evaluation Forms) to next year’s conference are:
- Inci Önal, Turkey
- Premila Gamage, Sri Lanka

The winners of five free registrations donated by the British Council in Berlin are:
- Domenico Ciccarello, Italia
- Mariana Kiriakov, Republic of Moldova
- Salma Chowdhury, Bangladesh
- Michele Mathieu, France
- Yared Mammo, Ethiopia

Financial implications

From a press release issued by the SECC Glasgow we learned that the impact of an IFLA conference was quite substantial for the host city and region.

The IFLA conference generated 28,200 delegate-days, as it is called in the industry, which makes an estimated economic benefit of 6.6 million GBP, the equivalent of 10.5 million Euro.

A boost for potential hosts?

Let Glasgow flourish?!? We certainly did!!! The innovations paid off: everything we offered that was new and different proved to be a success. The “feel” was marvellous: warmth and friendship throughout.

Bob McKee, Co-Chair IFLA 2002 Organising Committee