



World Library and Information Congress: 70th IFLA General Conference and Council

22-27 August 2004
Buenos Aires, Argentina

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IFLA Bibliography Section Activities

Prepared by

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Abstract

This is a brief report on the activities of the Bibliography Section in 2003-2004. The countries represented in the Section are listed, with special attention paid to those countries that have never had representation in the Section. The updated mission and the new or updated main goals and actions connected to them are described. The program for Buenos Aires, including a summary or review of national bibliographies in Latin America, is introduced.

Introduction

In 2003 several members retired from the Section and new members joined it. We are pleased to have new members from countries that have never had representation in the Section before. The combination of the old experienced members and the new ones was especially useful in preparation of the new Strategic Plan, which involved a re-assessment of the Section's mission and main goals, including the implementing actions. The mission changed only slightly, but the goals differ from those of the previous Strategic Plan. Several actions resulted in presentations and printed materials being prepared for the Berlin Congress, some of which are available at the Bibliography Section pages of IFLAnet. Others have appeared in the form of questionnaires and surveys, and the results depend very much on the cooperation and responses of those addressed. Since IFLA/WLIC 2004 takes place in Latin America, which is characterized by very different levels of national bibliographies--ranging from highly effective to poor-- it is logical to devote part of our open programme to this region.

Standing Committee Membership and Officers

106 associations, institutions, and personal affiliates are currently members of the Section. The Standing Committee of 21 members takes the lead in establishing and implementing policies and programmes. The members for 2003-2005 represent Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Lithuania, Macedonia, Norway, Russia, Spain, Slovenia, Sweden, the United Kingdom, and the United States. Chair Bohdana Stoklasova and Secretary Talbott Huey were re-elected for two-year terms at the Berlin conference, and Alan Danskin was named Information Coordinator.

Mission

The Bibliography Section furthers universal bibliographic control (UBC) by promoting standards and best practices in the production, content, arrangement, dissemination, and preservation of bibliographic information. In the context of UBC the Section is particularly concerned with the work of national bibliographic agencies. It is also concerned with the promotion of the importance of the discipline of bibliography to library professionals in all types of libraries, to publishers, distributors and retailers, and to end-users. While taking full account of technological capabilities, the Section will ensure that its solutions are not necessarily dependent on particular technologies.

The Section is closely associated with the other sections within the Division of Bibliographic Control and, where appropriate, it cooperates with other divisions and sections.

Actions 2003-2004

Following the new strategic plan for 2004-2005 drafted at the Berlin congress, the Section has taken or will take in 2004 the following actions in pursuit of stated goals:

Goal 1. Extend the provision of universal bibliographic control by advocating and promoting the production of national bibliographies.

Actions:

- 1) *The Section was active in preparing a well-attended session on current issues and trends in bibliographic control presented in Berlin by Division IV.*
- 2) *Section Chair Bohdana Stoklasova organized a successful Division IV day-long workshop at the Berlin conference on subject gateways, and presented a short survey on subject gateways and a paper on subject gateways in relation to national bibliographies.*
- 3) *A working group led by Maja Zumer organized a well-attended session on electronic national bibliographies during the Berlin conference.*
- 4) *Unni Knutsen has arranged a programme on best practices in the national bibliographies of the Latin American/Caribbean area to be presented at the World Library and Information Congress in Buenos Aires, based on a survey conducted by Knutsen and Francisca Movilla Lopez. Similar programmes will be planned for the conferences in Seoul (2006) and Durban (2007).*

Goal 2. Improve the quality and consistency of bibliographic control by advocating implementation of the recommendations of the International Conference on National Bibliographic Services (ICNBS) and by developing specific guidelines to facilitate such implementation.

Actions:

- 1) *Efforts are under way to arrange for translation of ICNBS Recommendations into as many languages as possible.*
- 2) *A working group led by Maja Zumer in cooperation with other sections of Division IV has begun to develop guidelines for electronic national bibliographies and inclusion of electronic documents in national bibliographies. A working group led by Bohdana Stoklasova in cooperation with other sections of Division IV has begun to develop guidelines for agencies inexperienced in national bibliographic work, with interim results to be presented at Oslo(2005).*

Goal 3. Promote cooperation with the publishing industry in the provision and preparation of bibliographic information.

Actions:

- 1) *The Section is cooperating with the IFLA-International Publishers Association joint steering group to continue to encourage publishers and the book trade to assist as much as possible in developing national bibliographic information.*
- 2) *The international survey on CIP currently being conducted by the Library of Congress and supported by the Section was distributed to national libraries in different countries and will be reviewed and analyzed in a presentation at the Buenos Aires congress.*

Goal 4. Publicize the work of the Section.

Actions: the Section's web page displays minutes of the Steering Committee meetings, the strategic plan, the annual reports, the ICNBS Recommendations, and the two newsletters published each year, in addition to photos, addresses, and other relevant materials.

See <http://www.ifla.org/VII/s12/sb.htm>

Goal 5. Promote membership in the Section and extend the geographic scope of representation on the Standing Committee.

Actions: Several Berlin Congress attendees from countries which have never had representation in the Section expressed interest in joining the Section. All Congress attendees are of course welcome at Steering Committee meetings.

The state of the national bibliography in Latin America

The programme of the Bibliography Section for the Buenos Aires Congress:

[A review of national bibliographies in Latin America]

Dan Hazen, Head of Collection Development, Harvard University, Cambridge MA, USA
(Spanish)

La bibliografía nacional Argentina : una deuda pendiente

Susana Romanos de Tiratel, Directora, Instituto de Investigaciones Bibliotecológicas, Facultad de Filosofía y Letras, Universidad de Buenos Aires, Buenos Aires, Argentina
(Spanish)

Electronic Consortium of Libraries : a bibliographical cooperation schneeme

Celia Ribeiro Zaher, Director of Technical Processing Center, National Library Foundation of Brazil, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
(English)

La bibliografía nacional como sistema de repertorios bibliográficos para el estudio de la cultura cubana

Araceli García-Carranza, Jefa Dpto. Bibliografía Cubana, Biblioteca Nacional José Martí,
Cuba

(Spanish)

 **Back to the Programme: <http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla70/prog04.htm>**