The International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) announced the receipt of a USD $1 million grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation’s Global Libraries initiative. The funding will support IFLA’s work to strengthen awareness of the important role libraries play in developing the information society.

Libraries enable people to take part in the information society, to develop their knowledge and their opportunities. Many libraries provide free access to online information found on computers connected to the Internet, which allows people to improve their economic and social well-being.

As IFLA demonstrated during its active participation in the World Summit of the Information Society, libraries are key elements in the provision of free access to information and support for freedom of expression. Current IFLA president Alex Byrne and incoming president Claudia Lux expressed their gratitude for the foundation’s support which will assist IFLA to continue to promote these priorities. The longstanding co-operation between IFLA and the foundation has now moved to a new level in which the organizations will further promote the development of libraries in the world.

“We are pleased to support IFLA’s work to promote libraries as important centers for learning and information. Our partnership with IFLA will help more public libraries provide free public access to computers and the Internet, which can provide people with opportunities to enhance their education, find jobs, build businesses, and exchange ideas with people around the world,” said Martha Choe, director of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation’s Global Libraries initiative.

Each year at IFLA’s annual meeting of active librarians, the World Library and Information Congress, the foundation presents its annual Access to Learning Award. The award honors innovation in providing free access to online information in public libraries or related institutions.

Guided by the belief that every life has equal value, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation works to help all people lead healthy, productive lives. In developing countries, it focuses on improving people’s health and giving them the chance to lift themselves out of hunger and extreme poverty. In the United States, it seeks to ensure that all people - especially those with the fewest resources - have access to the opportunities they need to succeed in school and life.

Based in Seattle, the Foundation is led by CEO Patty Stonesifer and co-chair William H. Gates Sr., under the direction of Bill and Melinda Gates and Warren Buffett.

Council Meeting today! Hall 1AB from 15.00–18.00

AGENDA
1. Opening by the President, Alex Byrne
2. Appointment of Tellers
3. Establishment of a Quorum
4. Adoption of the Agenda
5. Minutes of the previous meeting, held in Seoul, 24 August 2006
6. In memoriam of those members who have died during the past year
7. Presentation of the Annual Report by the Secretary General
8. Presentation of the Annual Accounts by the Treasurer
9. Presentation of the report by the President, Alex Byrne, and handover to the new President, Claudia Lux
10. Address by the President, Claudia Lux
11. Motions and Resolutions (see notes below)
12. Closure of the Council meeting by the President.
IFLA gratefully acknowledges the year-round support of our Corporate Partners

IFLA CORPORATE PARTNERS

Level: Gold

BRILL
EBSCO Information Services
ELSEVIER
Emerald

INFOR

Level: Silver

Cambridge University Press

Level: Bronze

Annual Reviews
Beijing Security Electronics Engineering Co. Ltd
Bomefa
CSC Consulting Group
Dansk BiblioteksCentre
ebrary
Eurobib
Harrassowitz
Innovative Interfaces
Instant Library
Schultz
Sileon.Info Ltda
Springer
Thomson Scientific
IFLA gratefully acknowledges the support of WLIC 2007 sponsors

**MAJOR SPONSOR**

art and culture
Department: Arts and Culture
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

---

**IFLA CORPORATE PARTNERS**

**Corporate Partner Level: Gold**

EBSCO
ELSEVIER
INFOR
OCLC
ProQuest

---

**Level: Bronze**

Springer

*the language of science*

THOMSON

---

**SIGNIFICANT SPONSORS**

DBSA
ETHEKWINI MUNICIPALITY
GALE
NRF
National Research Foundation
Sabine
SAMRO
Swets
DIPLOMATIC MISSION OF THE UNITED STATES
SOUTH AFRICA
Win a free registration for IFLA 2008 in Québec, Canada!

Leave your business card at the IFLA booth in the exhibition, no. 105! The winner will be announced at the Closing Session.

The Aquatic Commons: A New Digital Repository for International Aquatic Information

The International Association of Aquatic and Marine Science Libraries and Information Centers (IAMSLIC) announce the launch of the Aquatic Commons as part of the solution to providing access to local content and knowledge in the aquatic sector. The Aquatic Commons will facilitate the exchange of scientific research and management information related to the world's marine/aquatic environments by providing a searchable Web-accessible repository for digital documents. The repository runs on EPrints software and is housed at the Florida Center for Library Automation. It is managed by the Aquatic Commons board appointed by IAMSLIC and supported by IAMSLIC and the FAO FishCode Programme.

Why another repository? The members of IAMSLIC recognize a need to offer repository services where local, stable IT support is lacking. We also sense a desire to provide access to legacy collections as well as the sector's 'grey literature', material that have never been widely accessible. This valuable traditional knowledge, local scientific information and government reports can enhance science research and inform natural resource decision making. It is estimated that 80% of scientific knowledge is not documented, but resides in the heads and files cabinets of our scientists and local experts. The Aquatic Commons provides a mechanism to get that knowledge into the mainstream hence demonstrating its value to the greater aquatic community. Recurring themes at the Aquatic Commons will facilitate the exchange of scientific research and knowledge management in itself, but a tool with its own unique needs and opportunities.

IFLA: ADVOCACY POSITION CREATED AT HEADQUARTERS

At its meeting on 17 August the Governing Board decided to create a position of Senior Policy Adviser at IFLA Headquarters in The Hague. This decision forms part of the Governing Board’s strategy to develop IFLA’s advocacy capacity.

The person appointed to this position will be expected to undertake and coordinate the Federation’s international advocacy work of education, relationship building and interventions in relation to the strategic advocacy themes. The priority of these themes may vary from time to time, but themes currently emphasized are the IFLA President’s advocacy focus, “Libraries on the Agenda,” and the role of the library as an agency of inclusion in the ‘Knowledge Society’, freedom of access to information, freedom of expression, copyright, and equitable access regimes. This is an exciting opportunity to represent library interests and to influence international policy developments.

The position will be advertised shortly. In the mean time further information can be obtained from the IFLA Secretariat at the Congress, or from the Secretary General at IFLA Headquarters, The Hague, Netherlands, after the Congress.

Access to HIV/AIDS Information in African Libraries

A report by Nompumelelo Magwaza, journalism student at the DUT

FAIFE in conjunction with Health and Biosciences libraries joined in a discussion on how the access to information on HIV/AIDS in African Libraries can be better utilized. Professor Kingo Mchombu of the University of Namibia in Windhoek, Namibia, gave an overview of how important knowledge management is in libraries and communities. He emphasized that indigenous knowledge can help in educating about HIV/AIDS. Information technology, both old and new, is not knowledge management in itself, but a tool used for the improvement of information dissemination. Kendra Albright of the University of Sheffield, Sheffield, UK, focused on HIV/AIDS information seeking and healthcare communication in sub-Saharan Africa. She quoted statistics from UNAIDS that 38.6 million people, from children to adults, are HIV infected in sub-Saharan countries. She highlighted Uganda as an example of how education on HIV/AIDS was used to decrease the pandemic. Mchombu commented that Uganda could be used as an example but that we should remember that every country has its own unique needs and opportunities. Albright went on to say that culture should never be left out in health campaigns, especially on issues like HIV/AIDS. She mentioned some issues to consider when drawing up an HIV/AIDS campaign:

- The material used should have a specific target audience and should include cultural practices; and
- That material should be available in variety of languages including different forms of media, such as radio, theatre and television.

Martha Terry, a Senior Librarian at the University of Cuba, emphasized the impact of education on the human mind.

“Education is a very important part of informing and changing the human mind works,” she said. She added that men and women should be given equal education on HIV/AIDS. “The information should not be focused on women only.” The importance of traditional healers’ knowledge on HIV/AIDS was discussed. Mchombu felt that traditional and conventional medical practitioners should build close working relationships in order to incorporate popular education on the matter. He remarked that African Universities are undertaking research on traditional medicine and that this knowledge could be used to purify HIV/AIDS from Africa.

Art Gallery Visit

The Durban Art Gallery on Tuesday welcomed the Art Libraries Section. Ms Jenny Streton, Exhibitions Curator and Acting Director, and Ms Renu Rabillat, Librarian, gave a presentation of the Gallery and its Library to a group of around 40 delegates.

The Durban Art Gallery was founded in 1892 when it received its first donation, a painting of Durban Bay by harbour engineer Cathcart William Methven. Since 1910 it has been located in City Hall. Over the past decades the focus has changed, and now the collections are representative of the art being produced in Southern African. The Gallery’s primary concern today is collecting and exhibiting traditional and contemporary South African art.

The visiting art librarians were very generously treated to tea and cake, and had a wonderful time exchanging experiences and sharing their knowledge of South African art and artists. One result of the visit is that the Gallery librarian has agreed to become a Corresponding Member of the Art Libraries Section.

PS A tip to the Exhibitors at WLIC in Durban. Donate a PC to the Librarian which is without a functioning computer. Thereby you give a real boost to the library and also save on your shipping costs home. Please contact IFLA Head quarters at ifla@ifla.org or kerstin.assarsson-rizzi@raa.se who will be happy to put you in touch with the Librarian.

For more information, please contact Jean Collins of the FAO Fisheries Library (jean.collins@fao.org) or the web site http://www.iamslic.org/index.php?section=147.

If you are interested in discussing this project at the conference please contact Janet Webster who is in attendance (janet.webster@oregonstate.edu)
E-learning Discussion Group: library educators and practitioners collaboration for enhancing quality

E-learning presents new challenges for Schools of Librarianship and Information Sciences. It also impacts on library services in terms of their provision of learning resources and reference services to support communities of users, creating increasing pressure for electronic and digital library services.

On Tuesday 21st, about 200 LIS educators and practitioners participated in a discussion of the E-learning DG, promoted by the Education and Training Section in collaboration with the Sections for Information Literacy, and Continuing Professional Development and Work Based Learning. The speakers presented different perspectives on how e-learning contributes to LIS education and continuing professional development and its implications for the operation of library services.

The E-learning DG will provide a virtual forum to explore such topics as the adaptability of e-learning for less technologically developed countries, the capacity of library professionals to create communities of practice, inter-working and collaboration between LIS schools, and in particular the potential role of libraries in enabling and supporting e-learning.

To become involved in the discussion, contact the E-learning DG convenors:
Anna Maria Tammaro (annamaria.tammaro@unipr.it)
Sylvie Chevillotte (sylvie.chevillotte@bvra.enssib.fr)
Ian Smith (I.Smith@latrobe.edu.au)

RESOLUTION
To be discussed at the Council Meeting on Thursday 23 August, 15.00-18.00

Grant making and the interests of IFLA

"Be it resolved that
Council confirms IFLA’s long-standing policy that:

The Federation shall not participate or intervene in any way, including the publication or distribution of statements, in political campaigns on behalf of, or in opposition to, any candidate for public office, and

The income or assets of the Federation shall not be distributed, or applied to the benefit of, any private person or non-charitable organization other than (a) pursuant to the conduct of the grantee organization’s charitable, scientific or educational activities; (b) as payment of reasonable compensation (including reimbursement of costs incurred) for services rendered; or (c) as payment of the fair market value of property or goods purchased by the Federation.

Council instructs the Governing Board to prepare amendments to IFLA’s Statutes explicitly stating these limitations, and to submit them to Council for its approval no later than the Council meeting that will be held in Quebec City in August 2008."
Are multiple subscription sources multiplying your subscription problems?

We can help.

EBSCO brings simplicity and efficiency to the management of subscriptions, from order placement to renewal. As your single-source supplier for print, e-journal, e-book and database subscriptions, EBSCO handles all ordering and countless access details on your behalf. We provide you one consolidated invoice with line-item-level detail and comprehensive management reports.

Our proven approach saves your staff time and your library money by eliminating the need to communicate with multiple contacts and deal with assorted reporting methods. From handling mundane print subscription tasks to taking on the larger issues of electronic access, EBSCO’s subscription management service provides you with realistic, helpful solutions.

www.ebsco.com
Session on Geography and Map Libraries
A report by Ayanda Kunene, journalist student at the DUT

Mr. Peter Ocholla, Department of Hydrology from the University of Zululand presented a paper on Natural Resources and Conflicts in Africa. Ocholla spelled out Africa’s main resources which are: fauna and flora, inland fresh water and ocean water resources, mineral deposits, geomorphology and the atmosphere. “The importance of resources is that they offer foreign exchange, tourism, support life and livelihood,” said Ocholla.

Ocholla said that some of the main reasons for conflict in Africa could be attributed to poor governance and corruption. He touched on Zimbabwe and the current status by stating that the conflict in the country is not one of lack of resources but one of poor governance and a bad land redistribution plan.

Sokoto then moved on to Nigeria and the Niger Delta by saying that although Nigeria is one of the worlds most oil-rich countries, with oil accounting for 40% of the country’s GDP, it has nothing to show in terms of infrastructural development.

He added: “Recently there was a meeting to form a United States of Africa: how can a United States of Africa be formed when a simple thing such as sharing resources has not been solved?”

Impact of globalization on small farmers worldwide: implications on information transfer

Also presented another paper ‘Impact of globalization on the information needs of farmers in Ghana’ authored by Justin Chisenga of FAO Regional Centre in Africa, Accra. Both the papers pleaded for the establishment of Farmers Information Centres.

Dutch speaking caucus sponsors children’s book about Nelson Mandela

On the occasion of Nelson Mandela’s 90th birthday (2008), Bibliofeel would like to publish a children’s book on this great man in the eleven official languages of South Africa, and hopefully also in braille and audiobook.

On Tuesday, 21 August 2007, recipients of the Access to Learning Award (ATLA) shared lessons and examples from their work.

The first speaker was Faith Chao, President of the Evergreen Education Foundation (ATLA 2004). She started training programmes for farmers, as well as book exhibitions and computer workshops. Future programmes include training librarians in the usage of databases as well as programmes such as the Pig Power Programme that will teach people to use pig manure to generate methane gas. In conclusion Chao had this to say, “Libraries will become a part of people’s lives and they will no longer think that libraries are only places for scholars doing research.”

Silvia Prada reported on Gerente Bibliolohed, Colombia (ATLA 2002). This project saw the formation of four large libraries, as well as the refurbishing of many smaller libraries. She was emphatic about the importance of libraries and said “reading brings peace and improved living standards.” These four new libraries are open seven days a week, 12 hours a day and are now “the centre of cultural activities.”

The final speaker was Rolf Halep, Library Director of the Aarhus Public Library, Aarhus, Denmark (ATLA 2004). “I feel embarrassed standing here as I come from a stinking rich country” was his opening statement, when he compared the plight of Denmark to the other much more needy countries. He went on to say that “we all have different challenges”. The way that he tries to meet some of Denmark’s challenges was through initiatives for children and women, IT guides, health centres, public information and information technology.

The money received by the different projects was well utilized for the improvement of the dissemination of information and knowledge to people in need of it.