



BIBLIOGRAPHY SECTION

Annual Report, 2005

By

Beacher Wiggins, Secretary

Mission

The Bibliography Section is primarily concerned with the content, arrangement, production, dissemination and preservation of bibliographic information, especially (but not exclusively) where these pertain to national bibliographic services. It is also concerned with the promotion of the importance of the discipline of bibliography to library professionals in all types of libraries (not just national libraries), to publishers, distributors and retailers, and to end-users. While taking full account of technological possibilities, the Section is aware that such developments are not yet fully available in some areas of the world, and it will ensure that its solutions are not necessarily dependent on particular technologies. The Section is closely associated, where appropriate, not only with other Sections within the Division of Bibliographic Control and with the UBCIM Programme, but also with the Sections on Information Technology and National Libraries.

Membership and officers

106 associations, institutions, and personal affiliates are currently members of the Section.

In 2005, there are twenty full members, four corresponding members, and four honorary advisors. The following nations are represented: China, Cuba, Czech Republic, Denmark, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Korea, Lithuania, Macedonia, Norway, Russia, South Africa, Spain, Slovenia, Sweden, and United States of America.

Until the 2005 World Library and Information Congress in Oslo, Norway, Bohdana Stoklasova, Czech National Library, served as chair and treasurer;

Talbott Huey, Michigan State University Libraries, USA, served as secretary; and Kirsten Waneck, Danish Bibliographic Centre, served as information coordinator.

The following officers were elected in Oslo: Unni Knutsen, Oslo University College, chair; Beacher Wiggins, Library of Congress, USA, secretary/treasurer; Claudia Werner, Die Deutsche Bibliothek, Germany, information coordinator/Section Newsletter editor.

Activities, 2004-2005

The Bibliography Section's work supports the following pillars and professional priorities:

Pillars: profession; members

Professional priorities: a) supporting the role of libraries in society; d) providing unrestricted access to information; f) promoting resource sharing; g) preserving our intellectual heritage; h) developing library professionals; i) promoting standards, guidelines, and best practices

The Section's meetings in Oslo, Norway, accomplished much, giving focus to 1) updating its Strategic Plan; 2) reviewing the work of its Working Group on Guidelines for Electronic National Bibliographies; 3) assessing the Section's Oslo Programme; 4) using that assessment to plan for its Programmes in Seoul, Korea, and Durban, South Africa; and 5) preparing the Section's Formal Review.

1) The Section's Strategic Plan and Goals for 2006-2007 were affirmed:

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

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

-- Publicize the work of the Section.

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

2) The Working Group on Electronic National Bibliographies continued to make progress on its work in developing Guidelines for the creation of Electronic National Bibliographies, which will also incorporate information on creating a general National Bibliography and selection criteria for the inclusion of electronic resources. Having met in Prague, Czech Republic, in November 2004 to

continue its work, the Working Group agreed to meet in Vilnius, Lithuania, in February 2006, to remain on track with its ambitious goal of having a first draft of the Guidelines ready by the WLIC in Durban.

3) After the success of its Programme in Buenos Aires that focused on Latin America, the Section determined to develop similar programmes for future WLICs. The Oslo Programme followed suit and was deemed a success with over 180 in attendance. The Programme focused on European countries, which had been surveyed to solicit information on the inclusion of electronic resources in national bibliographies. The Programme was entitled "National Bibliography: New Tools, New Materials." The intent was to present an assessment of how national bibliographies are evolving, some the new tools being used, and what those tools constitute.

4) For its Seoul programme, the Section agreed to survey East Asian countries, similar to what was done for Latin America and Europe for the Buenos Aires and Oslo Programmes, respectively. The Programme will present the current situation in East Asia and Central Asia (the former Soviet Union republics), with Korea being the keynote presentation. For its Durban Programme, the attention will be on African countries, working with a new colleague from Mali, Mr. Amadou Sidibe, who joined the Section's meeting in Oslo.

5) The Section agreed that in preparing its formal review, emphasis would be given to principles rather than specifics, except where specific numbers were requested. Because of its many activities over the past five years, the Section would have a good story to tell in its review. The review was completed and submitted by the Chair and Secretary by the October 1, 2005 due date.

Newsletter/communication

Two attractive issues (with colour pictures) of the Section's *Newsletter* were published and posted on its IFLA website. The Section continued to share its ongoing activities and to disseminate information by mounting its documents and other items on its IFLA website.

• **Bibliography Section:** <http://www.ifla.org/VII/s12/index.htm>