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Library Associations and Institutions

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Associations de Bibliothécaires et des
Bibliothèques

Internationaler Verband der
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Section on Serial Publications

NEWSLETTER OF THE IFLA SECTION ON SERIAL PUBLICATIONS

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Editor of this issue: Elizabeth Gazdag, Information Co-ordinator for IFLA Section on Serial Publications.

Multipled by the National Széchényi Library, Budapest, Hungary

This Newsletter issue includes the Strategic Plan of the IFLA Section on Serial Publications for the years 2002-2003 in its final form, as approved by the Coordinating Board.

We are all looking forward to the publication of the renewed International Standard Bibliographic Description for Serials with great expectations. The revision process is coming to an end and we shall be given the opportunity to put into practice the new principles and rules together with the long-standing policies very soon. A member of our Standing Committee took part in the revision work – her remarks together with a few paragraphs quoted from the Introduction to the renewed standard, written by the Chair of the Working Group, are given here to prepare you for the change.

The revision of the standard was catalyzed by developments in publishing methods, by formation and spreading of digital culture. The library community – and among them serials specialists – show an increased interest in this topic. Several meetings have been organized lately and expected to be held dealing with handling electronic resources as a special collection of our cultural heritage. A selection of announcements of such meetings shows the wide choice available for colleagues world-wide to exchange their views on the field. These announcements were distributed via Internet mailing lists (mainly IFLA-L), and give you the possibility to follow the topics and sometimes also the professional materials linked through conference websites. One of the related conferences was held in Rome, Italy, the end of last year. A colleague from the organizers was kind enough to provide our readers with detailed information on this event.

You will also find information on the programs organised by the IFLA Section on Serial Publications at the forthcoming 68th IFLA Conference in Glasgow, Scotland, UK, in August 2002. All the programs and committee meetings are open and may be attended by people interested in the subjects – colleagues are welcome.

Following the recommendations of the Professional Committee in December 2001, the Governing Board decided to approve the change of IFLA Round Tables into Sections. As our Section is affected in these developments through the Round Table on Newspapers, relevant information has been collected here from different sources (e-mailed information, IFLA Journal – News Section).

The editor wishes you an enjoyable reading and pleasant preparations for the next IFLA event.



Strategic Plan 2002-2003, IFLA Section on Serial Publications

Mission

The Section on Serial Publications concerns itself with all issues which make serial publications unique in both the print and electronic environments. These include: bibliographic standards and control; holdings information; national and international library co-operation; access and availability; conservation and archiving; collection management and development; pricing issues; copyright; and, relationships with serial publishers, serial suppliers and other serials related organisations. The accelerating impact of technological developments on library serials producers, liaison with suppliers and the serials publishing industry also fall within the remit of the Section. As access rather than ownership becomes an increasingly important issue, the Section is committed to working closely with the appropriate Core Activities and Standing Committees within IFLA.

Goals

1. Promote the importance of best practice in library serials collections management and development and provide the impact of new technology.

[Professional priorities: (a) Supporting the role of libraries in society; (b) Defending the principle of freedom of information; (d) Providing unrestricted access to information; (f) Promoting resource sharing; (h) Developing library professionals; (i) Promoting standards, guidelines and best practice; (k) Representing libraries in the technological marketplace]

Actions

1.1 Complete French translation of the Section's Basic Serials Management Handbook.

1.2 Prepare a revision of Basic Serials Management Handbook.

1.3 Enter a discussion with the Round Table

of Newspapers regarding its future position within the IFLA structure.

1.4 Publish the Russian translation of the Basic Serials Management Handbook and organize a following workshop or conference programme.

1.5 Create a Serials Resources List (a list of useful serial links) on the Section's website on IFLANET.

2. Work towards the improvement of national and international co-operation on access to serials information to include bibliographic information, holdings, abstracting and indexing services etc.

[Professional priorities: (a) Supporting the role of libraries in society; (b) Defending the principle of freedom of information; (d) Providing unrestricted access to information; (f) Promoting resource sharing]

Actions

2.1 Complete work on serials union catalogues in association with UAP Core Programme Activity by updating and redesigning the Directory of Union Catalogues.

3. Promote the importance of, and improvement to, national and international standards for serials.

[Professional priorities: (i) Promoting standards, guidelines and best practice]

Actions

3.1 Participate in the revision of ISBD(CR) as well as related work in collaboration with the Cataloguing Section and the ISBD Working Group.

3.2 Continue close liaison with the ISSN International Centre and support development of OSIRIS.

3.3 Monitor the development and application of national and international standards, including SICI, DOI and UNIMARC for holdings, by involvement in relevant working groups.

4. Work with a variety of groups outside IFLA (e.g. publishers, authors, suppliers, serials interest groups) and IFLA Sections to promote co-operation within the serials information chain.

[Professional priorities: (a) Supporting the role of libraries in society; (b) Defending the principle of freedom of information; (d) Providing unrestricted access to information; (f) Promoting resource sharing; (g) Preserving our intellectual heritage]

Actions

4.1 Discuss further collaboration with the Section on Acquisition & Collection Development, on survey of the costs of licensing agreements versus subscription costs.

4.2 Continue participation in meetings and activities towards closer co-operation with publishers and subscription agents.

4.3 Continue close liaison with other serials related organisations such as the UK Serials Group, the North American Serials Interest Group (NASIG) and German Serials Interest Group (GeSIG).

5. Raise the profile of the Section by improving dissemination of information about the programmes, publications and activities of the Section and by attracting and involving new members.

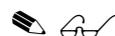
[Professional priorities: (a) Supporting the role of libraries in society; (b) Defending the principle of freedom of information; (d) Providing unrestricted access to information; (f) Promoting resource sharing; (g) Preserving our intellectual heritage; (h) Developing library professionals]

Actions

5.1 Continue the inclusion of reports on appropriate open sessions and workshops in the Section's Newsletter.

5.2 Continue to ensure that the Section's Information Co-ordinator mounts further information about the Section and its activities on IFLANET.

5.3 Proactively contact the Chairs of serials interest groups to promote the Section and attract new members.



ISBD(S) revision is coming to an end

Remarks from:

Karen D. Darling

**Standing Committee member and
member of the ISBD(S) Working Group**

University of Missouri-Columbia

(Columbia, Mo., USA)

E-mail: DarlingK@Missouri.edu

The revised version of the ISBD(S) is currently being voted on. The revision was written by a working group sponsored by the IFLA Standing Committee on Cataloguing. The working group included one member of the Standing Committee on Serial Publication. Here are a few thoughts about the revision which may be of interest to Newsletter readers.

I think my overriding feeling about the document is that it is a good document that brings the standard ahead and recognizes the changes that have occurred in publishing since the last time the standard was written. The name change to ISBD(CR) came about fairly early on in our discussions because we all quickly came to realize that we really needed to reflect the changes in publishing in the name of the standard. With the need to describe both traditional serials and the new electronic serials and web sites, we needed to make the standard and its name reflect the old and the new.

The coordination that took place between our working group, the ISSN folks and AACR2 folks was truly wonderful. We all came to the table with the opinion that it was time to try very hard to bring the various standards into harmonization. That goal is not fully achieved in this document, but we are much closer than before. There are legitimate differences in how the standards are used and thus there will never be full harmonization. However, as we all increasingly use each other's records, data bases, etc., I believe we will see much better harmonization between the standards. One of our hopes is that it will not be another ten years before another revision of the standard takes place. We know there is more work to do.

I believe the place where we will all be aware of the most change is in the rules for what constitutes a major or minor title change. Untold hours were put into trying to make the rules easier to follow, and to minimize the need for new records to reflect title changes. I am sure not everyone will

agree with the decisions we came to but I hope you will agree that the situation is improved. We really tried to take into account the varying needs of cataloguing centers at national libraries whose function is to provide a national level record, the needs of staff working day to day to order new serials, claim missing issues, etc., and the needs of catalogers in libraries other than national libraries. I think we reached some good compromises while recognizing the legitimate different uses that are made of cataloguing records.

We worked long and hard to make the definitions clear and concise. We tried to use words that will translate well into most languages and be understood in English by non-native English speakers.

I hope that all the members of the IFLA serials community will find the revision helpful in their work.

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Quotation from the **"Introduction to the 2002 revision"**

**by Ingrid Parent, Chair, ISBD(S) Working
Group May 2002**

In:

ISBD(CR): International Standard Bibliographic Description for Serials and Other Continuing Resources

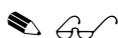
Revised from the ISBD(S): International Standard
Bibliographic Description for Serials
2002 Revision

"What an exciting and stimulating challenge it was to undertake the revision of the IFLA ISBD(S) standard. It was certainly time to update the existing standard that dated from 1988 given the tremendous advances in the electronic production and dissemination of serial publications. Revising the standard to take into account the description of a growing number of non-traditional publications such as web resources was a daunting task in itself. However, since several standards for describing serial publications were also undergoing revision at the same time due to the need to accommodate electronic resources, the moment seemed opportune to work with these other standards communities and try to develop a harmonized serial descriptive standard. And to a great extent, this objective was achieved. What an historic occasion. The ISBD(S), the ISSN Network and the AACR community worked closely together to harmonize the various

differences that existed in the three standards and to add new, agreed-upon features to the standards.

Right from the first meeting of the ISBD(S) Working Group in Amsterdam during the annual IFLA conference in 1998, the objective was clear: revise the ISBD(S) standard to take account of new developments in serial publications while at the same time, harmonize the changes with the ISSN and AACR communities. The objectives were very ambitious, and the work of revision took over three years to complete.

It is important to note the major changes made to the ISBD(S) standard, changes that are quite revolutionary in nature. The scope of the standard was expanded to include continuing resources of all kinds, not only serial types of publications but also publications that are integrating in nature, such as web sites. As a result, the name of the standard was changed to International Standard Bibliographic Description for Serials and Other Continuing Resources or ISBD(CR). Another change to mention is the revised list of instructions for when to determine whether a serial title change has occurred. Serial cataloguers and users know how difficult it is to control bibliographically various title changes for the same publication. We sincerely hope that the revised instructions will be easier to apply, and will also reduce the number of title changes that will be required. In addition, both the ISSN and the AACR communities have agreed on this list of instructions with the result that cataloguers and users will not be faced with different practices for describing the same serial title. As with all IFLA standards, the international aspect of the new ISBD(CR) has been enhanced to include many examples from various countries."



Announcements of past and future conferences and meetings on digital culture from mailing lists

Digital Libraries Research mailing list

<http://infoserv.inist.fr/wwwsympa.fcqi/info/diglib>



Date: Mon, 4 Feb 2002 17:51:35 +0100
From: "Solberg, Susann" solberg@dbf.ddb.de
Subject: The European Library – Milestone Conference

THE EUROPEAN LIBRARY (TEL) The Gate to Europe's Knowledge: Milestone Conference

April 29 - 30, 2002, FRANKFURT AM MAIN, Germany

Organizer: Die Deutsche Bibliothek, TEL Project Partner

URL: www.europeanlibrary.org



In addition to print media, which are likely to retain their importance in many areas, networked publications, interactive and multimedia products and services will play an increasingly important role over the next few years. In order to structure the vast flood of information for the benefit of the individual scholar and decision-maker, and ultimately for every private citizen, WWW gateways and portals will need to be created and continuously upgraded. This task requires international co-operation on both technology and content. Nine European national libraries together with the Conference of European National Librarians are constructing the basis for such a portal concept in the project "The European Library" (TEL). "The European Library" (TEL) is an accompanying measure within the framework of the Key Action 3 of the IST-Programme (Information Societies Technologies) of the EU.

On the basis of the decentralized digital and conventional holdings of the participating national libraries the technical, legal and context platform of a pan-European information server shall be created. In future the users can search all online catalogues of the European national libraries simultaneously with a single inquiry, proceeding from there to access their digital and conventional holdings and services. Definition and clarification of legal issues concerning copyright and licensing as well as a business model play an important role.

The results of the first half period are going to be presented at the international conference. External speakers are going to supplement and to comment the TEL presentations in five topics:

National Libraries and Publishers,
The business of Digital Libraries,
Describing and Handling Digital Publications,
The European Library: Proof of Concept,
European Information Networks.

International Federation of Library Associations mailing list

<http://infoserv.inist.fr/wwwympa.fcgi/info/ifla-l>



Date: Wed, 9 Jan 2002 14:08:34 +0100
From: "Plassard, Marie-France"
plassard@DBF.DDB.DE
Subject: International Conference on Electronic Resources, Rome, 26-28 November 2001

International Conference on Electronic Resources, Definition, Selection and Cataloguing

26-28 November 2001, ROME, Italy

URL: <http://w3.uniroma1.it/ssab/ER/en/program.htm>

This Conference was jointly organized by the Ministry of Cultural Assets, the Italian Library Association and the University of Rome La Sapienza, School of Archivists and Librarians. Several organizations sent sponsorship to the event which was held under the auspices of IFLA. The Chair of the organizing committee was Mauro Guerrini, Professor at the University of Florence.

The aim of the meeting was to consider the problems, challenges and opportunities regarding bibliographic control of the local and remote access electronic resources, one year after the Bicentennial Conference on Bibliographic Control for the Millennium held at the Library of Congress (15-17 November 2000).

A report on the Conference will be published in IFLA Journal and in International Cataloguing and Bibliographic Control. It is available upon request from the UBCIM Programme.

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[See further in this issue an overview of the event written by Domenico Bogliolo, University of Rome "La Sapienza". *Editor*]



Date: Mon, 27 May 2002 12:39:21 +0200
From: "British.editor@erpanet.org"
British.Editor@erpanet.org
Subject: ERPANET Workshop (Under EC's IST Programme)

Digitisation, Conservation, and Preservation Workshop

23rd -25th June 2002, TOLEDO, Spain

URL: www.erpanet.org/php/toledo/



ERPANET, a European Commission funded project, is pleased to announce its first workshop. This event offers experts the opportunity to take part in an investigation of key topics in digital preservation. Participants will examine the interplay of digitisation, conservation, and preservation. As a result of two and a half days of presentations and discussion, we will produce policy, organisational and technical guidelines, and recommendations. These will enable practitioners, their institutions, and funding agencies to improve conservation and preservation practice.

Workshop Focus:

- Conservation
- Digitisation
- Preservation
- Benchmarking
- Migration

Introductory speakers will include Manfred Thaller (Köln), Julián Bescós Ramón (Madrid), Julia Craig-McFeely (Oxford), Vikki Fenner (London/Swindon), and Hans Hofman (Den Haag).



Date: Fri, 1 Feb 2002 16:37:00 +0000
From: Chris Armstrong lisqual@CIX.CO.UK
Subject: Focus on Access Workshop: Preliminary announcement

Focus on Access: a workshop on building digital collections and services

2nd - 4th July 2002, CAPE TOWN, South Africa

The University of Cape Town Centre for Information Literacy and the INFOLIT Project of the Cape Higher Education Consortium are hosting a three-day Workshop aimed at middle and senior management of libraries and information services in higher education, commerce and research. Three themes will be pursued:

- *Creating a collection development policy for electronic resources*

If collection management is to be undertaken in a consistent and coherent manner, it is critical that a pragmatic and dynamic written collection development policy (CDP) be established. This theme explores the structure of a CDP. New policies for issues associated with electronic resources such as licensing, archiving, and networking need to be integrated into the policy, and existing elements such as identifying the clientele, freedom of information, and subject descriptions will have to be re-evaluated to take account of the implications of electronic resources.

- *Locating, evaluating and utilizing electronic resources*

The second theme will consider resource discovery. This will cover search engines (and their limitations: a window on the web and the invisible web); resource descriptions; gateways and portals; catalogues; and services. Bibliographic access of the sort provided by Books in Print or union catalogues is still in the early days when it comes to electronic resources and we shall look at what is available internationally before moving on to discuss alternatives, and regional and national initiatives. Resource delivery by libraries will also be considered: should one develop a library web site as a gateway, or simply use the catalogue?

- *Information skills: developing information literate users*

The aim of this theme is to understand what information literacy encompasses, how the necessary skills can be developed and how the development of the information literate individual can be measured. In order to build services of good quality, as well as managing access to a range of appropriate resources, a library or information service must provide appropriate means of helping its users make the best use of that access. Information literate users recognise their needs for information, can structure a search, select appropriate resources and critically evaluate the results.

To express your interest in receiving further details, e-mail to: focus@ched.uct.ac.za or pgunderwood@ched.uct.ac.za, (Professor Peter G. Underwood).



Date: Mon, 01 Apr 2002 10:04:33 -0800
 From: Les Pourciau pourciau@memphis.edu
 Subject: Conference in Bukhara, Uzbekistan

«Internet and Libraries: Information Resources in Science, Culture, Education and Business»

**«Central Asia-2002» International conference
 October 14-18, 2002, BUKHARA, Uzbekistan,**



The Conference objective:

to develop and improve effective cooperation by libraries, library associations and other organizations in order to make best use of the Internet and electronic information resources for science, education, culture and business.

Overall aims of conference:

- To promote an effective exchange of experience about the development of electronic information resources, the creation of library systems and the use of Internet in libraries.
- To assist in the creation of consortia to share library and electronic resources, to organize and exploit training centers for the teaching of new information technologies, to create virtual libraries and corporate networks.
- To improve and increase activities of libraries regarding the wider use of the Internet and electronic databases, and by providing open access to existing and newly to be created information resources.

The following topics for presentations and discussions are envisaged:

- * Data bases and electronic resources on science, technology, education, culture and business;
- * Internet and cooperative technologies for effective information exchange;
- * Development of library consortia;
- * Promotion of the eIFL project;
- * Internet in libraries and library resources in the Internet;
- * Problems of access to electronic library-informational resources. Licensing of information resources;
- * New forms of library information services based on information society technologies;
- * Library systems, library formats and problems of forming national electronic information resources.

Further information on the Bukhara Conference: website of the Uzbekistan Library Association at <http://ula.uzsci.net>



Date: Sun, 19 May 2002 12:07:55 +0800 (SST)
 From: "Sangeeta Kaul, Network Manager,
 DELNET" sangs@delnet.ren.nic.in
 Subject: NACLIN 2002 Convention

**Fifth National Convention on Library and
 Information Networking – NACLIN 2002
 Oct 21 - 24, 2002, KOCHI, India**

to be held at Cochin University of Science and
 Technology, Kochi-22, India
 organised by DELNET – Developing Library
 Network, New Delhi
 URL: <http://delnet.nic.in>



Theme: "Bridging the Digital Divide"

The revolution in information technology (IT) has transformed the world in a short time. India also has made a good deal of contribution in this field and has risen to considerable eminence in the world. Yet, in India the impact of information technology has not reached every sphere of activity or every individual. The same is the case with many developing countries.

The existing IT infrastructure in the developing countries is out of date in most of the cases. With rapid changes taking place in the IT sector, institutions and individuals in the under developed and developing countries cannot afford to buy new hardware and software or upgrade their communication links regularly. Also, access to digital resources is not always free or cheaply available. Therefore those who can afford to buy new infrastructure and can access best digital resources become more advanced and those who can't, are at a disadvantage. It is therefore necessary to see how we can bridge this divide that is shaping between the digitally rich and the digitally poor nations, institutions and individuals. In this context, a national convention on "Bridging the Digital Divide" has thus been considered appropriate for NACLIN 2002.

Objective of the convention:

The objective of NACLIN 2002 is to focus on Digital Divide. Participants will have the opportunity to exchange their experiences and share their ideas by interacting with peers. The convention is an ideal professional platform to discuss the various aspects of digitalization in libraries, identification of gaps and views on

finding solutions to bridge the gap.

Programme Content:

The National Convention is scheduled for four days. The first two days are exclusively designed for conducting tutorials by experts on the following topics:

- o Development of a Digital Library
- o Web Publishing
- o INTERNET Search Strategies
- o Cataloguing INTERNET Resources

The next two days will focus on the theme of the National Convention: "Bridging the Digital Divide". This theme is divided into several sub-themes as detailed below:

- o Information Resource Management
- o Digital Resources and Law
- o Information Infrastructure and National Policy
- o E-Governance and Society
- o E-Business and Digital Economy
- o Communication Infrastructure in Rural India
- o Dangers of Digital Divide: challenges for a developing country



Date: Thu, 4 Apr 2002 11:15:24 -0500 (EST)
 From: VRD Conference vrdconf@ericir.syr.edu

**The VRD 4th Annual Digital Reference Conference
 „Charting the Course of Reference: Toward a
 Preferred Future”**

November 11-12, 2002, CHICAGO, IL, USA

URL: <http://www.oclc.org/institute/events/vrd2002/>



This conference explores the nature of Internet-based question-and-answer service within a broad range of contexts, including libraries and information centers, government, business, education, and other industry sectors or organizations, as well as the specific issues involved in providing any type of digital reference service.

The theme of this year's conference, "Charting the Course of Reference: Toward a Preferred Future," emphasizes planning and direction founded upon practical experience, research, or trend analyses. Authors are encouraged to examine issues,



identify practices, and propose organizational and technological systems, standards, and practices that advance the state of reference librarianship as practised in a digital environment. Themes include, but are not limited to, the following topics and categories:

Technology for Digital Reference

Real-time/live reference * Software selection issues * Commercial vs. "home-grown" solutions * Standards for digital reference technology * Tools for digital reference, including: o Workflow software for question/answering o Question-answer archiving tools/knowledge bases o Web contact center software o Customer relationship management software o Networking/routing solutions o Voice over IP, VoIP * Planning for technological evolution

Digital Reference Service Management

Foundations for building digital reference services * Defining service levels * Integration of digital reference into other reference models (service hybrids) * Archiving/tracking questions and answers/FAQs * Policies and standards for consortia and cooperative reference * Evaluation approaches and quality standards * Training solutions and models for service staff * Models for funding/pricing * Personnel/staffing, optimizing human resources * Planning for equipment and space * Marketing services to potential users * Reference outsourcing

General Issues in Digital Reference

Partnerships - cooperative/collaborative networks, sharing/pooling resources * Partnerships with vendors * How to identify, attract, and keep patrons * Intranets * Commercial/fee-based services * Question negotiation in the digital environment * Policies and the law - privacy, ethics, copyright, licensing * Accessibility * Case studies (experiences from practising digital reference services in all contexts) * Physical spaces for virtual services – how physical spaces are transformed vis--vis virtual services * Performance and evaluation measures * Future directions of reference

Digital Reference Resources

Search engines * Reference meta-sites * Collection development * Online resources for ready reference * Intermediary search services vs. end-user systems * Locally-mounted digital resources vs. remote resources * Evaluation of digital reference resources

Date: [Mon, 25 Feb 2002 17:36:46 +0800](#)
 From: "ICADL2002 Conference"
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The 5th International Conference on Asian Digital Libraries (ICADL'02)
 held in conjunction with
The 3rd International Conference on Web Information Systems Engineering (WISE 2002)
11-14 December 2002, SINGAPORE
 URL: <http://www.cais.ntu.edu.sg:8000/icadl2002/>



Theme: Digital Libraries: People, Knowledge and Technology

Scope

When Vannevar Bush envisioned his hypertext "memex" in 1945, he dreamed of a personal microfiche-based system that would help him tackle the problem of information overload at that time. In recent years, the information on the Web, the overwhelming example of a shared world-wide collection of information, has been converted into many digital libraries by individuals or groups that select, organise, and catalogue large numbers of documents. We are in the process of creating a global infrastructure that will interconnect many computer networks and various forms of information technologies around the world, digital libraries being one of them.

ICADL'02 is the fifth in a series of annual Asian Digital Libraries conferences, and focuses on the use, adoption and adaptation of digital libraries, which include work surrounding digital libraries and related technologies, the management of knowledge in digital libraries, and the associated usability and social issues. Participation from diverse backgrounds are encouraged. Previous conferences have included practitioners, researchers, educators and policy makers from a variety of disciplines such as computer science, library and information sciences, archival and museum studies, knowledge management, and many areas in the social sciences and humanities.

Topics include but are not limited to:

* social, institutional, and policy issues * pedagogical issues * document genres and electronic publishing * collection development and management * intellectual property * provision of services * user communities * web

cataloguing * metadata and content * digital preservation * digital archives and museums * knowledge management * content management * digital library infrastructure and architecture * human-computer interaction * information retrieval * information mining * ontology-based services * semantic web * semistructured data management * text categorization * web information gathering * information filtering * information extraction * hypertext and multimedia * security and privacy



International Conference on Electronic Resources: Definition, Selection and Cataloguing Rome, November 2001

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One year after the conference on bibliographic control for the new millennium promoted by the Library of Congress to celebrate the bicentenary of its foundation, the School for Archivists and Librarians of the University of Rome "La Sapienza" promoted under the auspices of IFLA and many other sponsors an international meeting to outline problems, chances and challenges of bibliographic control that local and remote access electronic resources involves.

The Conference was outlined into five sessions:

1. *Challenges of electronic resources*, to analyse the characteristics of digital documents, the evolution of standards and rules, and the problems of applying descriptive rules to remote electronic resources;
2. *Identification, selection and preservation of valuable electronic resources*, to review the organizational and technological issues

involved in programmes of digital document selection, dealing with the different solutions achieved from the point of view of cooperation and development of national and international guidelines;

3. *Bibliographic access and control of electronic resources*, where the use of traditional approaches within a full bibliographic description, and the adoption of a metadata format in a simpler bibliographic control of electronic resources with special regard to interoperability issues and the exchange of bibliographic descriptions were the main topics;
4. *Portal and subject access to electronic resources*, to explore the state of the art of access projects to Internet resources of various types to outline a comparative review of these projects and some presentations on the systems of classification adopted in some portals;
5. *Further reflections on experiences of national and university libraries*, devoted to the main projects of some library systems aimed to favour an integrated access to Web resources or to guarantee their preservation.

During three full and thick days forty expert librarians and information scientists coming from nine countries (Italy, USA, UK, Canada, France, Finland, Denmark, Israel and Germany) offered a detailed and up-to-date overview of the most significant theoretical and methodological proposals and of the main national and international projects.

SESSION I was devoted to the challenges of electronic resources. **John D. Byrum, jr.** (Library of Congress) gave the keynote speech http://w3.uniroma1.it/ssab/er/relazioni/byrum_eng.pdf outlining the most significant unresolved problems we are still faced to:

- the necessity to provide coverage of valuable electronic resources by means of cooperative database building, repurposing bibliographic information, and adapting our selection criteria to the special features of the digital world;
- to enhance the discovery, description, and display of the bibliographic and metadata records and to do so across multiple systems;
- to encourage the development of more automated tools for creating and maintaining bibliographic information and metadata;
- to foster increased research and development

to improve cataloguing tools and to enable the catalogue to search and retrieve information from a variety of sources;

- to expand educational and training opportunities to prepare cataloguers and other library staff to better understand and service electronic resources;
- to seek a wide array of collaborative ventures with partners from throughout the information industry to gain needed resources to make it possible to meet the challenges of electronic resources.

Marie-France Plassard, (IFLA UBCIM) http://w3.uniroma1.it/ssab/er/relazioni/plassard_eng.pdf presented a historical profile of the decennial international engagement of IFLA «to ensure that the vital role of libraries in the digital age is well understood and acted upon and to encourage the development of affordable technologies that will bring information to all the populations of the world». This emphasis has been reflected in all plans of IFLA professional units with a large range of relevant activities covering rights management, the use of electronics in various settings and for different media, training and standards, as well as the use of classification as a finding tool.

Identification, selection and preservation of valuable electronic resources was the title of **SESSION II**, opened by **Riccardo Ridi** http://w3.uniroma1.it/ssab/er/relazioni/ridi_eng.pdf

(University of Venice) with a rather Schopenhauer-like title (*The world as will and documentation*). He outlined the main problems in defining, selecting and accessing electronic documents, which he distinguishes in RER (remote electronic resources) and LER (local electronic resources) and illustrated the reciprocal phenomenological and pragmatical relations inside and outside the OPACs. «Cooperate!» was his final exhortation as cooperation is fundamental in carrying out collaborative projects related to selection, cataloguing, preservation and delivery of electronic documents. He also encouraged to try to learn from the past and to make, in our digital future, fewer mistakes than we made in our analogical past.

Juha Hakala (Information Technology Library, Helsinki) reported about the present status and future challenges in identifying electronic resources - like metadata - and he defined three areas where due to the emergence of the Internet an infrastructural improvement is required: http://w3.uniroma1.it/ssab/er/relazioni/hakala_eng.pdf

- identifiers, especially ISBN, ISSN, national bibliography number and the SICI & BICI;
- emerging identifiers for works, and especially ISTC;
- URN resolution service and the Internet standard solution for linking.

Michael Gorman (California State University, Fresno) proposed a set of main variables in order to obtain a taxonomy of the Web and the Net, «to identify and isolate those documents and resources that are worth cataloguing and preserving»:

- is the resource commercial or not?
- is it derived from print, archival, and other tangible documents or not?
- what is the nature of the entity issuing the resource?
- and is the document(s) or resource static, cumulative, or constantly changing?

http://w3.uniroma1.it/ssab/er/relazioni/gorman_eng.pdf

The problems of identifying, selecting and licensing of electronic resources within library consortia and the necessity of preserving electronic resources to warrant public access were the subjects of the two following papers.

Hildegard Schäffler (Bavaria National Library, Munich) presented the consortia initiatives http://w3.uniroma1.it/ssab/er/relazioni/schaeffler_eng.pdf carried on by GASCO, the German, Austrian and Swiss Consortia Organisation.

Olivia M. A. Madison (Iowa State University) gave a glimpse of the challenging complexities of preserving electronic resources, underscoring that there is of nor simple neither straightforward approach. Some examples of standards under development, examples of some developing and existing preservation models, and examples of recent institutional archiving projects were done. http://w3.uniroma1.it/ssab/er/relazioni/madison_eng.pdf

The theme was particularly interesting for the Italian academic community, because of the recent creation in Italy of three consortium-based organizations (CIBER, CILEA, CIPE) devoted to distribute online electronic resources (bibliographic databases and e-journals) to the national scientific community. [See INFER, Italian National Forum on Electronic Resources, <http://www.uniroma1.it/infer/>, for more details on the state of the art in Italy.]

SESSION III was dedicated to the bibliographic access and control of electronic resources. **Tom Delsey**, from Ottawa, discussed the inevitability

of an action of deep reassessment of our approach in relation to the transformation that document production, identification, description and transmission have undergone as a result of digital technologies.

http://w3.uniroma1.it/ssab/er/relazioni/delsey_eng.pdf

Lynne C. Howarth (Toronto University) http://w3.uniroma1.it/ssab/er/relazioni/howarth_eng.pdf presented a very academic analysis of the methodology for the design a metadata-enabled tool to enhance resource discovery in knowledge bases.

Three papers specifically devoted to standards for the description, the encoding and the cataloguing of electronic documents followed. **Ann Sandberg-Fox** (Fairfax, Vermont) highlighted the major changes and issues done and in course of revision in the ISBD(ER).

http://w3.uniroma1.it/ssab/er/relazioni/sandberg_eng.pdf

Dorothy McGarry (University of California, Los Angeles) discussed the background for revisions taking place in the ISBDs and brought some terminological remarks.

http://w3.uniroma1.it/ssab/er/relazioni/mcgarry_eng.pdf

Barbara Tillett (Library of Congress) http://w3.uniroma1.it/ssab/er/relazioni/tillet_eng.pdf spoke about how the AACR2 have evolved to accommodate the ever changing new types of materials we have to catalogue, in particular the electronic resources.

Portal and subject access to electronic resources was the theme of **SESSION IV**. The opening address was made by **Sarah E. Thomas** (Cornell University Library) who has compared library and research portals to commercial ones, http://w3.uniroma1.it/ssab/er/relazioni/thomas_eng.pdf pointing out as libraries are balancing themselves between the two models. In this situation an element of rationality seems to be the services set-up by the Gateway (now *eReference*), adopted by Cornell since 1997 as its single point of entry to electronic resources and expanded it to cover all subjects.

A similar outline of resources was discussed by **Maria Witt** (City of Science and Industry Multimedia Library, Paris) who reported on the French situation in regard to cataloguing aspects that affect users.

http://w3.uniroma1.it/ssab/er/relazioni/witt_fra.pdf

The final **SESSION V** was devoted to the main projects of some library systems. **Antonio Scolari** (Genoa University) discussed in deep details the applications of the UNIMARC tags comparing them with other standards as the ISBD(ER) and MARC.

http://w3.uniroma1.it/ssab/er/relazioni/scolari_ita.pdf

Stuart Hunt (OCLC Europe, the Middle East and Africa) highlighted the achievement of INTRECAT and of CORC, two OCLC collaborative projects, pointing out the lessons learned for the cooperative model of the bibliographic utility and the individual library.

http://w3.uniroma1.it/ssab/er/relazioni/hunt_eng.pdf

Paul Gabriele Weston (University of Pavia) http://w3.uniroma1.it/ssab/er/relazioni/weston_ita.pdf

has proposed a general re-thinking of electronic catalogues as a technological update of the dialectics between a tool of information retrieval (with prevalence of publication on work) and a bibliographic utility (prevalence of work on publication).

Poul Henrik Jørgensen (Danish Library Centre)

http://w3.uniroma1.it/ssab/er/relazioni/jorgensen_eng.pdf described how IFLA FRBR in combination with the W3C RDF is used by the VisualCat system (which represents all types of metadata including attributes and relations as RDF statements about the corresponding objects) for Cataloguing, Authority Control and Searching across different types of electronic materials.

Denis Reidy (The British Library),

http://w3.uniroma1.it/ssab/er/relazioni/reidy_eng.pdf subject expert in Italian studies, presented some technical problems and solutions for an on-line union catalogue of Italian periodicals. I will cite directly from his conclusions: «In short the on-line catalogue and the computer that generates it are both very powerful tools at the service of scholars, librarians, students of any age and expertise, indeed they are at the service of anyone with an enquiring mind; - why doesn't man accept this fact once and for all and exploit the "godlike" qualities of the machine whilst still accepting that these almost "godlike" qualities certainly exist? – there are no longer "ghosts in the machine" but rather a "deus in" as opposed to a "deus ex machina" and finally let us briefly reflect, – if we accept what theologians say is true and that we humans have a divine origin, then surely the products of our creative and inventive minds, in this case, the computer, must also, by definition, have a divine origin?»

Giovanna Cordani (National Central Library, Rome) described the user-centred networked resources structure implemented at the National Central Library.

http://w3.uniroma1.it/ssab/er/relazioni/cordani_eng.pdf

François Dupuigrenet Desroussilles (ENSSIB) http://w3.uniroma1.it/ssab/er/relazioni/desroussilles_eng.pdf outlined French programs and initiatives launched to digitise rare books like ancient collections of manuscripts and early printed books.

Rochelle Kedar (Bar-Ilan University) http://w3.uniroma1.it/ssab/er/relazioni/keidar_eng.pdf

briefly introduced the ongoing Jewish Networking Infrastructure Project (JNIP) and discussed the alternatives in developing a specialised thesaurus that will cover subject areas of all Jewish/Judaic topics. The challenge is to create a tool that should be small enough to be “handy” and yet achieve a reasonable level of specificity of terms.

Cristina Magliano (Central Institute for the Union Catalogue of Italian Libraries and for Bibliographic Information, Rome) presented methods and outcomes of the Italian WG on the standardisation and the use of metadata within cultural Institutions.

http://w3.uniroma1.it/ssab/er/relazioni/magliano_eng.pdf

Antonella De Robbio (University of Padua) http://w3.uniroma1.it/ssab/er/relazioni/derobbio_eng.pdf

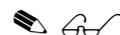
spoke on the global information infrastructure and the underlying communicative architecture that are conditioning the so-called “access to content”. There is a need to balance between intellectual right of property and copy-right. She concluded citing the real case of architect Robert Moses who in the thirties designed a join of Long Island to New York: «he planned the construction of tight bridges in order to hinder the buses full of poor black people to reach the beaches and the parks of the island. Long Island, in the Moses's planning design would have been attainable only by the rich middle-class automobiles. The technological architecture of the global infrastructure of the information should lean on foundation of freedom where barriers to the right to access to the information and to the expression of freedom should not exist at all. The use of the architecture, mostly in the construction of bridges and roads, can be an instrument of strong limitation and, in the net, these obstacles can become even more dangerous, since barriers are almost always invisible».

Finally, **Gianfranco Crupi** (University of Roma “La Sapienza”) proposed some linguistic formalisation of the description of electronic resources. He stated that content description seems to be an area that catalographic rules tends to underestimate. User studies, on the contrary, show that 91% of the users primarily focus their attention on this area and that 68% declare their dissatisfaction about the description available. http://w3.uniroma1.it/ssab/er/relazioni/crupi_ita.pdf

He also pointed out the necessity of a deep and rigorous formalisation of this area together with a better conceptual representation of the semantic realm, using tools such as semantic Web and formal ontologies.

To sum up, the presence of many attendees testified the importance of this international forum and the interest of Italian librarians, documentalists and information scientists in these topics. In my opinion it would have been more productive focusing on fewer topics in a more systematic and deeper way. Nevertheless the Conference has been a major occasion for general discussion on these issues and has been the first to be organized in Italy for a long time. It is the result of the personal efforts of Mauro Guerrini, professor of Library Science currently at the University of Florence, and we must be grateful to him.

Let's conclude with a special note reporting what Mauro Guerrini said on the image chosen as the official (and intriguing) logo of the Conference: «A few words on the official logo of the conference which embodies the concepts of historical responsibility and Cultural Awareness and evokes new perspectives in the organization, preservation and transmission of knowledge. Coliseum represents our rich cultural heritage based on classical and scientific knowledge, the fundamental of our civilization which is also a model of knowledge transmission. We have imagined the flow of the binary digits leaving the arcades and growing to carry out a new model of knowledge transmission».



Programs of the IFLA Section on Serial Publications in 2002, Glasgow

Preliminary Programme, Status 14 June 2002



Saturday 17 August

11.30-14.20 SC / Serial Publications

Meeting no.: 28

SC Meetings are the business meetings of the Standing Committees of IFLA Sections. They may be attended by observers by permission of the chairs which is usually given. They are a good way of getting to know the work of a Section and may lead to direct involvement.

14.30-17.20 EC Newspapers

Meeting no.: 52

Round Tables are run by an executive committee and operate more informally. Meetings are open without restriction.

Wednesday 21 August

08.30-11.00 Newspapers

Meeting no.: 127

Newspapers of the British Isles

- Partnerships in preservation: the experience of the Newsplan 2000 Project
JOHN LAUDER (NEWSPLAN 2000 Project, The British Library, London, UK)
- Scottish newspapers and Scottish national identity in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries
IAN HUTCHINSON (University of Stirling, Stirling, UK)
- From Bristol Post Boy to the Twin Towers. Local news papers in England
ELIZABETH MELROSE (North Yorkshire County Library, Northallerton, UK)
- Print, language and identity: newspapers in Wales since 1804
ALED JONES (University of Wales, Aberystwyth, UK)

Thursday 22 August

12.15-15.45 Cataloguing with Serial Publications Workshop

Meeting no.: 162

Seeing Serials in a New Light: from ISBD(S) to ISBD(CR)

- Bibliographic standards for serials: recent developments
PAUL V. BUNN (The British Library, Boston Spa, UK)
- Editing ISBD(CR): approach, scope, definitions
EDWARD SWANSON (Saint Paul, USA)
- Key points from the new standard – 1
UNNI KNUTSEN (National Library of Norway, Oslo, Norway)
- Key points from the new standard – 2
KAREN DARLING (University of Missouri-Columbia, Columbia, USA)
- The national context, the UK situation
DAVID BARON (The British Library, Boston Spa, UK)

Friday 23 August

10.15-12.15 SC II Serial Publications

Meeting no.: 200

Meeting may be attended by observers by permission of the chair which is generally given. Participation may lead to direct involvement. You are welcome!



The future of the Round Table of Newspapers

Following the recommendations of the Professional Committee in December 2001, the Governing Board decided to approve the change of IFLA Round Tables into Sections. As our Section is affected in these developments through the Round Table on Newspapers, relevant information is shown here collected from the e-mail correspondence of the Section's Standing Committee and from the News Section of the IFLA Journal. [Editor]

Date sent: Tue, 2 Apr 2002 18:05:01 -0600

From: "Marjorie Bloss"
bloss@endinfosys.com

Notes from the December Professional Board meeting – points that are of specific concern to us:

...The status of round tables in the new IFLA structure: As I think you are all aware, the new structure does not support round tables. Existing round tables were instructed either to become new standing committees, merge with another standing committee, or cease to exist. There was considerable discussion about the RT on Newspapers. The decision made by the Professional Committee was that it should become a standing committee in its own right...

Marjorie E. Bloss
Chair, IFLA Section on Serial Publications

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IFLA Journal, Volume 28, No. 02, 2002
NEWS SECTION
From the Secretariat
Round Tables to become Sections

During its meeting in The Hague on 28 March 2002, the Governing Board approved the detailed arrangements for the change of IFLA Round Tables into Sections in accordance with the recommendations of the Professional Committee (5 December 2001).

Round Tables should continue to use that designation until the end of the IFLA conference in Glasgow in August 2002. Their Section status will take effect from 1 September 2002.

Members who join a Section are entitled to nominate individuals to the Section Standing Committee. Institutional and Association members have the right to vote in these elections. Details can be found in the Statutes and Rules of Procedure at <http://www.ifla.org/III/statute.htm>

Since the next round of nominations for Standing Committee members is scheduled to begin in October 2002, the Governing Board determined that there is not enough time to recruit substantial numbers of members to the new Sections to participate in the process.

Therefore the Board decided that the Round Tables' current Executive Committees should function as Standing Committees *ad interim* until the next series of elections (October 2004–February 2005). During the Berlin conference (August 2003) the Interim Standing Committee should elect officers (a Chair and a Secretary).

These interim Standing Committees would serve between September 2002 and the IFLA conference in Oslo, August 2005. In order to have more working force, and of course to realise broader geographic coverage, some additional members may be appointed during this interim period. These nominations are subject to the agreement of the Coordinating Board of their respective Divisions.

From now on, Round Tables may start recruiting members for their new status as Sections. The number of section members is relevant to calculate the sum of administrative funds which will be allocated to that section. The recruitment will be left to the initiative of the Round Tables. IFLA Headquarters will place advertisements in the *IFLA Journal* and on IFLANET and IFLA-L to help recruit members to the new Sections.

