IFLA

JOURNAL

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EDITORIAL
Hallo from Oslo!

Stephen Parker

Like the Berlin conference two years ago, the World Library and Information Congress in Oslo, on the theme, 'Libraries: a Voyage of Discovery', was blessed with beautiful weather and an impressive number of participants. Some 3,000 speakers, delegates, exhibitors, volunteers and accompanying persons from 133 countries enjoyed brilliant sunshine, warm temperatures and even warmer Norwegian hospitality. Officially opened by the Minister of Culture and Church Affairs in the presence of His Majesty King Harald V of Norway, the Congress got off to a flying start with lively and original musical and dramatic presentations.

The opening ceremony included the Congress keynote address, 'Freedom of Information in a Modern Society' by Professor Francis Sejersted of the Norwegian Institute for Social Research, which is the first of two Oslo papers to be included in this issue. Noting that the Norwegian Parliament had recently adopted a new article of the Constitution on freedom of expression, Professor Sejersted goes on to discuss the problems confronting a liberal society in this connection, giving special attention to the conditions for the freedom of information in a modern society, the problems of information policy of public authorities and the problems and possibilities arising from new technological developments. The paper emphasizes the importance of the institutional setting and the need for diversity.

The second Oslo paper in this issue was presented in the first plenary session of the Congress. In 'Rising from the Wreckage: development of tsunami-affected libraries in Sri Lanka', the Director of the National Library and Documentation Centre of Sri Lanka and the National Library and Documentation Services Board, Upali Amarasiri, describes the devastation caused to public, school and other kinds of libraries and public records by the tsunami which hit the coasts of Sri Lanka and other Asian countries on 26 December 2004. He goes on to outline the rebuilding efforts now under way, including the establishment of a national disaster management committee for library and information services and archives, the involvement of local communities and the response of the international community. Noting that the rebuilding of the village-based social fabric in the coastal zone of Sri Lanka is the principal challenge at present, Mr Amarasiri concludes by emphasizing the need to keep libraries on the reconstruction agenda and to establish an international rapid response team able to team up with local librarians, archivists, archaeologists and others in countries affected by similar disasters to identify vulnerable resources, assess the damage and take remedial action.

More papers from the Oslo Congress will appear in the next issue (Vol. 32, no. 1, March 2006. Meanwhile, we go on to present a number of general papers submitted for publication in recent months. The first of these, 'Public Libraries and the Millennium Development Goals', by Ellen Forsyth, discusses the contribution which public libraries can make to the achievement of the eight United Nations Millennium Development Goals, highlighting the importance of libraries to community development and providing examples, such as mobile libraries in slums and reading tents, where public libraries are already helping in the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals in various parts of the world.

The next paper, 'Copyright and Book Piracy in Pakistan', by Khalid Mahmood and Muhammad Ilyas, notes that Pakistan has to face tremendous pressure from Western countries due to widespread book piracy in the country and presents the results of a survey of the views of book trade representatives in Pakistan on the issues of copyright and book piracy. The survey revealed that the high price of foreign books is the main cause of book piracy in Pakistan, and that local publishers and booksellers are the major beneficiaries. The authors put forward suggestions for protecting copyright in Pakistan, but conclude that measures to minimize book piracy will not be successful until books at low price are available for local readers.

The next paper takes us into a very different area and one which is new to IFLA Journal – and possibly to many readers. In 'Bioinformatics and the Library and Information Science Community' Harinder P.S. Kalra discusses the

emergence of bioinformatics in the last three decades as a trans-disciplinary area drawing on many subjects, and emphasizes that the core activities of library and information science can be of immense value in advancing the theoretical foundations of this emerging subject, as well as developing mechanisms and tools for providing quality biomedical information in a timely manner.

In the final paper in this issue, 'Globalization of Information and the Nigerian Librarian', Josephine I. Iwe notes that the globalization of information is strongly identified with the application of information and communications technologies (ICTs). Nigerian librarians may be constrained from maximizing ICT usage and application but have many opportunities and new possibilities for the future in a globalized economic system. The author proposes that the local, state, and federal governments of Nigeria should increase the resources allocated to education and information and increase their investment in the human capital required to maximize the benefits of ICT applications in a globalized system.

Although more Oslo Congress papers will not appear until next year, this issue includes a number of the official reports submitted to IFLA Council in Oslo, including the President's Report, a tribute to outgoing President Kay Raseroka by incoming President Alex Byrne, and Alex Byrne's own Presidential Address, 'Partnership to Advance Library and Information Service'. Also included are the Secretary General's Report and reports from the Committee on Copyright and other Legal Matters (CLM) and the Committee on Free Access to Information and Freedom of Expression (FAIFE).

Correction and Apology: Samira Sambaino and Laura Susan Ward

In IFLA Journal Vol. 31 no. 3, the authors' photographs for Samira Sambaino ('Images and Sounds in Uruguay', p. 249) and Laura Susan Ward ('A Revolution in Preservation: digitizing political posters at the National Library of Cuba', p. 260) were accidentally transposed. The correct photographs are shown below. Our apologies to both contributors.
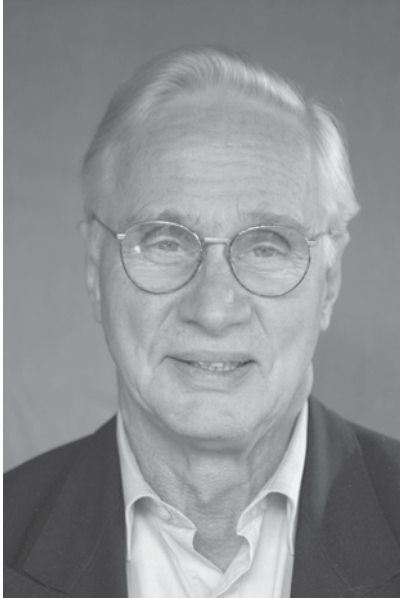
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Freedom of Information in a Modern Society

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A year ago the Norwegian Storting [Parliament] adopted a revised version of the old article 100 of the Constitution on freedom of expression. The old article had remained unchanged since the adoption of the Constitution in 1814, which is quite unique in Europe. The revision had been prepared by a commission that was appointed in 1996, and which submitted its report in 1999. During the eight years in which the new article was being considered, there was a quite extensive public debate on the grounds for and restrictions on freedom of expression.

Norway is a typical Western liberal democracy, where freedom of expression and freedom of information are taken for granted. However, this does not preclude the possibility of considerable disagreement concerning where the boundaries for this freedom should be drawn. When the Swedish government took the initiative to make a similar study during the 1980s, it was held that the position that freedom of expression was so obvious that it was not necessary to argue for it. It was therefore sufficient to concentrate on explaining the restrictions on freedom of expression. The Norwegian commission took the opposite view. We might say that it took as its point of departure Hegel's observation that a principle which has been realized in practice will be deteriorated in its speculative form. One takes the principle for granted and forgets why it was so important, which may again result in debilitated practice.

The latter is confirmed by the American sociologist Alan Wolfe, who has observed that the left and right political wings in the USA "are both sceptical of assigning a high priority to free speech". The right has always been sceptical, so "what is more surprising is the degree to which the left has come around to the right's position on free speech". Underprivileged groups – blacks, homosexuals, feminists – have lost their faith in freedom of expression and freedom of information as an instrument of emancipation. This has given rise to a demand for something resembling public censorship. We can observe this tendency in Norway too.

At the same time, we see the traditional right-wing scepticism by the way the social authorities try to protect themselves against criticism by defining narrower limits for freedom of expression. In difficult situations, such as when confronted with threats of terrorism, counteractive measures often include restrictions on freedom of expression and freedom of information. The PATRIOT Act, which was adopted in the USA following the events of 11 September 2001, empowers the authorities to examine libraries' readership records and computers.

There are thus good reasons for bearing in mind why freedom of expression is so important.

Freedom of expression can be justified in a number of different ways. In the USA, the human rights view, i.e. that freedom of

expression is a natural individual right, has a strong foundation. In Europe, it is more usual to emphasize the utilitarian ground deriving from the tradition of John Stuart Mill. Freedom of expression and freedom of information are viewed as serving considerations external to themselves. Three such considerations are normally taken into account: truth, democracy and the free formation of opinion. This threefold ground is included in the new article of the Norwegian Constitution, where it is stated that one shall be free to express oneself in the public sphere provided that one does not damage the three considerations, truth, democracy and the free formation of opinion. In article 10 of the European Convention on Human Rights there is a paragraph stating that restrictions on freedom of expression must be shown to be "necessary in a democratic society". Note that the expressions themselves need not be "necessary in a democratic society". It is *the restrictions* that shall be necessary. The burden of proof is on the necessity of *the restrictions*.

Consideration for *truth* is the most robust utilitarian ground. We human beings are fallible but, by means of shared knowledge, i.e. by examining matters, obtaining relevant information and listening to the arguments of the various parties, we are able to acquire more well founded opinions. The other two grounds are closely associated with the truth ground. Democracy is based on an open and free debate. In an open society, the social authorities must be able to provide arguments to legitimize their use of force. In an open society, the authorities shall be accountable to the public. The free formation of opinion is associated with the conception of the mature human being. Whether in or outside of positions of power we need other persons and their alternative perspectives and arguments in order thereby gradually to improve our own perceptions of ourselves and others. In the modern society with its wide variety of perspectives it is particularly important to develop the ability to put oneself in other people's shoes and view matters from where they stand. Such a reflexive identity is viewed by many people as the ideal for the modern, mature, tolerant human being.

One of the reasons why the old Article 100 of the Norwegian Constitution was regarded as out of date was that it did not explicitly refer to *freedom of information* as part of the broad concept of freedom of expression. Two factors are involved in the need for information. Firstly, one must know who is responsible for the decisions that are taken and, secondly, as a participant in the democratic process, one must have access to specific knowledge of the circumstances.

We cannot demand to live in a society without power, but we can demand that power has a face, that we know who makes the decisions and why they make precisely the decisions they make. In *The Trial*, Franz Kafka presents a horror scenario of a society where power has no face. No-one wants to live in such a society. One must be able to relate to the power in order to have a reasonable degree of control over one's own life. *Openness* is a precondition for attaining the sense of freedom that one should have in a democratic society. But how open are our societies?

No society is completely open. In Norway in the 1960s, it was maintained that the public debate only produced noise, while the important decisions were taken behind closed doors by the top persons of society. Even in a well-established liberal democracy like Norway there was apparently a lack of transparency. Another example of the closed nature of modern society is that of the EU. After the Maastricht negotiations in 1991, it became clear that the negotiators at the top level had lacked the support of the populations of the various EU member countries. The democratic legitimacy of the EU was at stake, and the reason was not least the closed nature of the system. In this situation, increased 'transparency' was launched as a slogan to regain confidence. However, the recent referendums on the new EU Constitution show that there is still some way to go in creating 'transparency' and winning the confidence of the populations in the EU system.

Freedom of information is included in article 10 of the European Convention on Human Rights. It is stated there that freedom of expression means "freedom to hold opinions and to receive and impart information and ideas without interference by public authority and regardless of frontiers". It is thus seen that freedom of expression applies not only to the right to communicate, but also the right to *receive* opinions and ideas. Freedom of information is even more clearly expressed in the Constitution of Germany, where it is stated that anyone shall have freedom "sich aus allgemein zugänglichen Quellen ungehindert zu unterrichten" (the right to "freely inform himself from generally accessible sources"). Freedom of information is now

explicitly included in the new article 100 of the Norwegian Constitution.

Freedom of information as laid down in the legal provisions referred to applies only to the right to seek information, and not to the duty to *give* or *provide* information. Such a duty on the part of the public authorities is an inevitable part of the open society. All states have an information policy – general strategies for informing or communicating with the public. Of course, the danger of such a public information policy is that it almost inevitably results in selection of information that favours the current government policy and withholding of relevant information that might result in criticism of the current policy. The information provided by the authorities must therefore be supplemented by other information.

In his book, *Risk Society*, the German sociologist Ulrich Beck points out that public information concerning major 'modern' hazards, such as pollution and major disasters has a tendency to play down the risk so as not to create 'undue' panic. The intentions are good, but is it legitimate to withhold important information for this reason, and is it really expedient? A policy of withholding information may consist of empty incantations that, when repeated, are more likely to foster general unrest than to allay it. And this applies to all societies. A typical example is that the Norwegian government withheld information concerning the radioactivity resulting from the Soviet nuclear explosions in the North during the 1960s. When it subsequently became known that the information had been manipulated by the authorities, this inevitably resulted in a reduction of confidence in the government's information policy.

Freedom of information thus applied to the right to obtain and receive information from accessible sources. In the Nordic countries, steps have been taken to counteract the tendency towards bias in public information policy. This has been done by means of the 'principle of public access', which affirms a duty to provide information on request. One can simply request to examine public documents. It is of course lawful to exempt certain documents from public disclosure, and there have been disagreements concerning the criteria for such exemptions. It is characteristic that, when the parliamentary ombudsman investigated the practice of the Norwegian Ministry of Justice in 1997, he found grounds to criticize 32 out of 35 investigated

rejections of applications for access to documents. This indicates that the arrangement can hardly be said to have attained perfection, and that there is a lack of transparency here too.

In the new article 100 of the Norwegian Constitution, the final sentence is original in such a connection, and it has aroused a certain debate. The sentence states that "The State authorities shall create conditions that facilitate open and enlightened public discourse". The critics contended that this was tantamount to 'setting the fox to mind the geese', calling upon the state to ensure guarantees for individuals and minorities against encroachment by precisely the state and the majority. Historically speaking, freedom of expression is a relatively recent concept rooted in the Age of Enlightenment. Normally, the social authorities – both clerical and secular – have sought protection from criticism and heresy by punishing 'false prophets'. Until quite recently, *the protection of authority* was the main ground for restrictions on freedom of expression. And in the new article it is precisely the same authorities that are being called upon to ensure protection of this freedom. How could that be?

In response to this, we would point out that the modern state is not a single entity or a collective will. In the modern society, the state is a large, amorphous institution encompassing many wills, where the various state bodies have different and potentially mutually conflicting responsibilities. It is therefore not so paradoxical as it may seem that the state is called upon to mind the state. What is more, freedom of expression is not only threatened by state or public bodies. It is not unusual today for commercial interests to attempt to manipulate information in the public sphere. This may be carried out by means of advertising and as a result of commercial undertakings acquiring major media shareholdings. Protection against these dangers to freedom of expression and freedom of information lies primarily in an institutional diversity that allows alternative information and critical voices to be heard.

An article of the Constitution stating that people shall be free to impart and receive information, ideas and opinions is excellent, but is not worth the paper it is written on unless there are institutional preconditions for an open and democratic public sphere. There must be schools whose purpose is to educate independent, knowledgeable and mature human beings. There

must be universities that are capable of generating knowledge and fostering critical reflection regardless of what the social authorities stand for. There must be archives and libraries where the general public can seek knowledge and receive guidance in finding relevant information. There must be channels to the public in the form of a free press characterized by diversity, so that public discourse can be maintained. There must be institutionalized culture in the form of publishers, periodicals, museums, theatres, cinemas and film producers. There must be meeting places in the form of cafés, discussion fora, etc., where people can associate with each other. What we are referring to here is what Jürgen Habermas called the "bourgeois public sphere" which emerged in Europe and North America in the 18th century in the wake of the Age of Enlightenment. Of course, the processes involving development of institutions of this kind, reduction of the protection of authority and the founding of an open society were not achieved overnight. The 19th century was a long period of upheaval in Europe in this respect. As I mentioned earlier, right up to our own times, there have been forces that have wanted to limit freedom and to control information and opinions.

The institutionalization of the public sphere results not only in the gradual development of such institutions. It also results in the development of norms for their independence. It is precisely through their independence that these institutions must legitimize themselves in relation to the public. Public disclosure provides the control that the public sector functions as it should. Such norms in combination with diversity help to solve the problem of who shall 'watch the watchers' – within the framework of the diversity, they are to watch each other.

What though is the role of the state and the public authorities in this context? It is a very major role indeed. In our Nordic society, the public authorities hold an extensive direct responsibility for institutions such as schools, universities, libraries and museums. The authorities also hold considerable responsibility for other major cultural areas through financial support schemes. In the Nordic countries the public authorities also play a major role in newspaper and book production through press subsidies and purchasing programmes. Of course, the degree of dependence on state support is not unproblematic. When press subsidies were introduced in 1974, the spokesman for the matter in

the Storting stated that it was reasonable to expect the press to provide something in return. He suggested that a supervisory state body should be set up to prevent the press from establishing itself as a separate estate, marketing its own views. In the event, no such body was set up. On the contrary, the fears of the spokesman were confirmed; the press established itself as a separate estate in spite of – or perhaps with the help of – the public press subsidies. The amorphous, formless, modern state may be said to be behaving according to the intentions of the 'infrastructure requirement' formulated as part of the constitutional provision.

There is no doubt that the digital revolution and the development of the Internet have had a revolutionary effect on freedom of expression and freedom of information. The situation is still somewhat chaotic, and we have not seen the full consequences. However, some features can be discerned. Firstly, it is easier to gain access to the public sphere, since anyone can in practice establish his own channel. This does not mean, however, that it is easier to make oneself heard. There has been an explosion of communications in what might be referred to as a grey zone between the public and the private sphere with a cacophony of different voices. It is also difficult to hold expressors in this grey zone responsible for their utterances. The Internet is also responsible for a flood of information. The problem is not that there is too little information, but that there is too much, while there is a lack of information concerning the information that is not available, and a lack of information concerning the quality of the new flood of information. In short, the situation is rather chaotic.

The situation has been compared to the situation in the early days of freedom of the press, when it was also difficult to separate the wheat from the chaff. There was a stream of anonymous pamphlets, some of them libellous, and it was difficult to identify the perpetrators. The way out of this chaotic situation went through what we have referred to as institutionalization by means of media, publishers and libraries and through the development of a critical public sphere, which gradually implemented norms for decency and for what could be placed before the public. This does not mean that there was not also an undergrowth of dubious publications, but it does mean that order was brought to the chaos, making it possible for individuals to find their bearings.

What we see today is that technical developments have once more presented the old institutional system with new challenges. This applies to schools, universities, the media, the legal system, culture in general, indeed the whole society. The old institutions may to some extent even be in danger of becoming out of date and irrelevant. The question is thus how the old institutions can adapt themselves to the new technological reality. How is one to integrate the new technology into the social corpus? This perspective places us in a transitional phase and, as is usual as regards transitional phases, this opens up new prospects, both negative and positive. It has been maintained, and I believe rightly so, that the libraries have a potential for adopting a central role in the new institutional system. But this requires that they both see and grasp the potential and, not least, that they receive the public funding that will enable them to exploit the potential.

The libraries, whether national libraries, public libraries, university libraries, school libraries or other institutional libraries, have been the knowledge banks of the modern civilisations based on the printed word. They have taken care of, systematized and disseminated knowledge and information. Their responsibility has been to make "the sources generally accessible", to use the wording of the German Constitution. The libraries have also been meeting places or free areas for people who have sought information or, for that matter, merely relaxation with a good book. They have been low-intensive meeting places that have lived their lives in relative peace and tranquillity, but that, precisely by virtue of the low intensiveness, have been able to function as meeting places for people from different walks of life. The local public libraries have been a constitutive element of local communities. They have indeed had a democratizing function.

The digital revolution has been revolutionary in all of the three areas referred to (taking care of, systematizing and disseminating information), and the libraries are already deeply engaged in the process of adapting to the new technology. Some are already well equipped to provide guidance in the chaotic world of information and communications technology. They stand with one leg firmly planted in literature and cultural heritage, and the other in the new technology. And it is precisely this that gives them a potential for the future. At the same time, the need for meeting places, or what we referred to as low-intensive, non-commercial free areas

where one can drop in when one likes, on one's own or in the company of others, is greater than ever in our fragmented society. It is typical that immigrants and other new residents easily feel at home in the public libraries, which demonstrates the socially constitutive power of the libraries.

Ragnar Audunson and Frode Bakken have described the library as "a burning glass that focuses the rays from the cultural and technological fields, from the local and the virtual, from different ethnic and social groups, from different areas of policy and walks of life." They recount a beautiful story from a library in an established middle-class neighbourhood in the west part of this city. The library was visited by a group of young people from one of the new suburbs. They had discovered that the library had good computer equipment. At the same time, an Internet group had been set up for senior citizens from the local neighbourhood. There were thus two groups that belonged to separate cultures. They came from different parts of town, belonged to different generations and were socially far apart. At first, the two groups competed for access to the equipment, but as time went on a cooperation developed whereby the young people from the suburb became instructors and guides for the elderly from the established neighbourhood. This story shows how the library's physical space, the meeting place itself and the virtual services can function best in an interaction with each other.

In his classic work, *The Open Society and its Enemies*, Karl Popper maintains that our civilisation has still not fully recovered from the shock of its birth, which represented "the transition from the tribal or 'closed society', with its submission to magical forces, to the 'open society', which sets free our critical powers". The fact that we have not come over the shock means that there are still forces that wish to return us to the closed society by taking control of the 'texts' that constitute our understanding of reality. The new information and communications technology has changed the conditions for the struggle for the open society. In some ways, it has made the struggle easier. In other ways, it has made it more difficult and opened up the prospect of a 'big brother is watching you' society. The question is: How to make use of the new technology to ensure that it serves the best interests of truth, democracy and the free formation of opinion? Notwithstanding the degree of freedom of expression and information in the different societies, as librarians, you stand

in the front line of the struggle for the open society in the Popperian sense.

Note

Extensive excerpts in English of the report from the commission appointed in 1996 to propose a new article 100 of the Norwegian Constitution on freedom of expression have been published by the Ministry of Justice and the Police and The Norwegian National Commission for UNESCO. The document is available on the Internet (http://www.unesco.no). The citations from Alan Wolfe are from Alan Wolfe, *Marginalized in the Middle*, University of Chicago Press 1996, page 235.

Keynote address presented at the World Library and Information Congress, 71st IFLA General Conference and Council, Oslo, Norway, 14–18 August 2005 in the Opening Session. Original available on IFLANET. http://www.ifla.org/IV/ ifla71/Programme.htm august 12, 2005.

Rising from the Wreckage: development of tsunami-affected libraries in Sri Lanka

Upali Amarasiri

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It is fortunate that, throughout history, large-scale library tragedies have been rare and far between, even though library catastrophes have occurred from Alexandria to Iraq, for reasons ranging from earthquakes to floods and from simple arson to aerial bombing. Every library disaster, like any other human experience, enriches us with its own unique lessons and the destruction of libraries due to the tsunami tidal waves that lashed the shores of the Indian Ocean countries on 26 December 2004 is no exception.

The tsunami became a much talked of event due to the huge destruction it left, and affected countries – including Sri Lanka – are still struggling to cope with its aftermath. If we look at the incidents of 9/11 as a comparison to the tsunami of 26/12, I would say that the contrast between the 3,000 lives lost in 9/11 and the 230,000 lives lost in 26/12 amply summarizes the violent nature of the tsunami story.

On the other hand, while in the middle of destruction, planning for rehabilitation and reconstruction, negotiating with varied parties and planning for the future, I realize how close we are to the 'lifelong literacy' theme selected by IFLA President Kay Raseroka, and how crucial and decisive this theme is for meaningful reconstruction and development programmes in a situation such as a tsunami. Her vision of the path towards the information society through skilfully harnessing technology, development skills, provision of content, support for the marginalized and protection of indigenous knowledge systems are also the main ingredients for a successful and professional recovery programme.

Sri Lanka has been hailed as an example to the developing world for its vast developments in the education and health sectors during the last 50 years. Our social indicators of life expectancy, literacy and mortality rates compare well with those in comparable developing countries and are even on par with many developed countries. Through free and compulsory education policies implemented in the 1940s, 98 percent of Sri Lankans have access to primary education and the literacy rate has been a constant 95 percent plus during the last few decades. In the health sector too we are among the best, having one of the lowest infant mortality rates and high life expectancy.

Even though there are many other aspects of the tsunami disaster and its aftermath which could be considered, I will limit my presentation to four areas, namely: what exactly happened; the devastation caused to libraries; rebuilding efforts; and lessons to be learnt.

What Exactly Happened

At 0758 hrs local time on 26 December 2004 the earth's crust deep under the sea off the west coast of Sumatra shifted violently,

lifting the seabed by some 15 metres. The seismic thrust, the world's biggest in 40 years, measuring more than 9.0 on the Richter scale, sent shock-waves through the Indian Ocean, unleashing tsunami tidal waves speeding at up to 700 kilometres per hour in every direction. The vast curtain of water roared across the ocean like a proverbial sea dragon or as fast as a jet plane. It took only 20 minutes to hit Aceh province in Indonesia, 80 minutes to reach Thailand and 90 minutes to reach Sri Lanka and India. Within a few hours it caused colossal destruction in a number of countries in Asia, namely, Indonesia, Sri Lanka, India, Thailand, Malaysia, Myanmar, Maldives and Bangladesh. The waves then travelled as far as East Africa, affecting Somalia, Tanzania and Kenya as well.

The Tsunami and Sri Lanka

It was generally believed that the Indian Ocean is a tsunami-free zone, as no significant tsunami had occurred in the area during the past few centuries. As a result the region had not established a tsunami pre-warning system similar to the one in the Pacific Ocean. Even the word tsunami was an alien term to Sri Lanka and many other countries in South Asia until December 2004.

Damage to Infrastructure

Sri Lanka, being an island situated facing the epicentre of the quake, paid a high price in terms of destruction to human lives as well as infrastructure and natural resources. Sixty percent of the coastal area was severely affected, destroying or damaging 80,000 houses. A total of 182 schools were damaged and government took over 282 schools to be used as relief camps for internally displaced persons. Four universities were partially damaged, as were three advanced technical training institutes and ten vocational training institutes. Damage to roads, railways, telecommunication facilities, electricity supply, tourist and fishing industry was also quite significant. In addition, the damage to sand dunes, lagoons and coastal vegetation has resulted in untold environmental destruction.

The public sector not only suffered loss to human lives and infrastructure facilities, but also had to contend with the loss of many valuable and vital records and documents pertaining to the public. These included the entire electoral registers in the Southern province and 600,000 deeds from the Surveyor General's Department. Private citizens lost valuable docu-ments, e.g. legal documents pertaining to land and building, identification papers, bank documents and education, birth, marriage and death certificates.

The loss of assets and damage to infrastructure facilities in Sri Lanka is estimated at USD 1,000 million or 5 percent of GDP, while the loss of employment is estimated at 275,000.

Two Catastrophes

For over two decades Sri Lanka has been suffering from an internal conflict. As a result, there is a de facto government in one part of the north and east administered by the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), which is the other party to the conflict with the Government of Sri Lanka. Although a ceasefire agreement has been in operation during the last three years, it is an uneasy truce. Not only has this war taken over 65,000 lives, but a large number of people have been displaced and still live in relief camps. The tsunami brought further misery to people who had already suffered from this conflict.

Damage to the Library Sector

Schools and School Libraries

The tsunami hit the coastal areas in Sri Lanka on a Sunday and obviously this helped to save the lives of thousands of school children and teachers. Had it been a normal school day the consequences would have been unimaginable, as large numbers of children from interior villages in close proximity also attend the schools in coastal areas which were destroyed or damaged by the tsunami.

Of the 9,790 schools in the country, nearly 500 were affected by the tsunami. A total of 3,304 teachers and 80,354 children have been affected. Although all the damaged schools did not have fully fledged school libraries, most had reasonably good medium sized libraries and others had book cupboards or book boxes.

It is estimated that approximately 1.2 million volumes of books and other reading material in school libraries were lost due to the tsunami. It is not possible to determine the exact amounts lost as accession registers and library card catalogues have also been destroyed. In addition, a large collection of textbooks, intended for distribution among school children at the beginning

of the new academic year in January, was also destroyed. As part of its welfare facilities Sri Lanka provides free textbooks to every school-going child from grade 1 to grade 10. Destroyed library materials included books, periodicals, newspapers, audiovisual materials and, in some schools, computers, diskettes etc. Some of the affected school libraries had been assisted by the recently concluded school library development and modernization project carried out by the government in collaboration with a multi-national aid agency.

Public Libraries

Of the 950 public libraries, 62 have been affected by the tsunami, with 28 libraries being completely destroyed. After the establishment of the first public library in 1825, Sri Lanka has developed a reasonably good public library network over the years. Early introduction of the adult universal franchise (1933), the establishment of a parliament democracy, people's participation in administration at every level, a high literacy rate (95 percent), free and compulsory education and the establishment of the National Library and Documentation Services Board (NLDSB) in 1970 have all helped in the development of the public library service in the country.

While developing the standard public library service, attention has been paid to developing special collections in public libraries that are beneficial to the economic activities of different areas. Accordingly special collections on tourism, fisheries, traditional handicrafts, jewellery making, coir industry, ornamental fish farming, spice growing and processing, etc., have been developed by some public libraries located in the coastal zone.

Effect on Local Collections of Libraries

Being an important centre of the sea trade in the ancient silk route, throughout history Sri Lanka has had a close relationship with other seafaring nations. The coastal area of Sri Lanka has a number of small ports that were busy trading centres for spices, gems, pearls and other exotic products. As a result, this area developed strong cultural ties with Chinese, Indonesians, Thais, Malays, Indians, nationalities from the Middle East and East Africa and, more recently, with the Portuguese, Dutch and English. Today one can identify traces of communities from these nations scattered along the coast of the country. More importantly, as a result of this interaction with other nationals, the coastal area enjoys a unique cultural heritage, which librarians make an attempt to save through local collections in the respective libraries. One can find collections dealing with different customs, food, theatre, cultural activities, vocabulary, specialized crafts and other industries in these areas, depicting their uniqueness. These local collections would have been a happy hunting ground for future anthropologists and other researchers to study the consequences of rare interactions of different nationalities in the bygone era.

Other Types of Libraries

Some of the libraries attached to Buddhist temples had very valuable collections of palm leaf manuscripts and other rare materials, including material on the indigenous medicine system referred to as Ayurvedha. Special mention must be made of the loss of a collection of priceless artefacts from the Sri Lanka Maritime Museum in the southern city of Galle. Galle, located on the ancient sea route, is rich ground for marine archaeological exploration. Sir Arthur C. Clarke, who is residing in Sri Lanka, started underwater exploration in Sri Lanka about four decades ago. From the collection of 3,600 objects salvaged from ancient shipwrecks during the last decade, 80 percent was re-taken by the ocean in the wake of the tsunami.

Nature of the Damage

According to eyewitness accounts, two powerful waves hit the shore within the space of a few minutes. The velocity was such that it either levelled the buildings to the ground or severely damaged them. The buildings that were able to withstand the power of the first wave were destroyed by the second wave, which was more powerful than the initial one.

Another feature of the tsunami was the inward and outward waves it created. The gush of water that came from the ocean rolled back to the sea at such a force, creating an inward wave from the land to the ocean. This retreating water not only caused damage to already weakened structures, but also took away books and other items to the ocean. The fishermen who were coming back from the sea that day reported seeing massive amounts of floating bodies, furniture and other debris in the sea.

Conservation Challenges Posed by the Tsunami

The other special feature of the tsunami is the difficulty of conservation and preservation of damaged library materials. Due to the disruption of the seabed the water was mixed with mud, sand and probably even minerals, along with other substances. Tests carried out at the conservation laboratory of the National Archives of Sri Lanka reveal that these damaged papers contain more acidic components than normal seawater-affected papers. Hence it is necessary to study this uncharted area further and find special treatment for tsunami-affected material.

Psychological Trauma

The number of dead and missing in Sri Lanka is 36,000. One third of the dead are children and there are many more dead women than men. The tsunami orphaned a total of 1,070 children and 3,700 lost either their mother or their father. The loss of dwellings, properties and the social fabric of the community further worsened the situation. Most of the survivors faced near death experiences, which will most likely haunt them throughout their lives.

Trauma of Librarians

The loss of libraries, library collections, known library users and sometime even their own relatives and friends created a deep psychological impact in the minds of librarians in affected libraries. Some had to find a temporary location and commence services from scratch, while others were required to get the damaged building repaired and restore damaged collections and furniture and equipment. Since library authorities such as schools and local councils were reeling with numerous problems also caused by the tsunami, librarians faced an extremely gruelling time when restoring services. Even the rescued library material caused health hazards to both users and librarians and became an additional burden.

Rebuilding Efforts

Disaster Management Committee

Immediately following the disaster the National Library sent an SOS to the international community outlining the general nature and details of the destruction. The excellent coverage Sri Lanka and the tsunami disaster received from the world media eased our task. This prompted UNESCO to send an official from the New Delhi office to assess the situation in Sri Lanka. Dr Ms Susanne Ornager, Information and Communication Expert of UNESCO, visited Sri Lanka in early January and toured the southern coast with a view to assessing the destruction.

During her visit the Sri Lanka Disaster Management Committee for Library, Information Services and Archives (SL DMC for LISA) was formed to coordinate the rebuilding and rehabilitation of tsunami affected libraries and government archival materials. The DMC incorporated all major stakeholders of the library and archival fields, including the National Library and Documentation Services Board, the National Library, the National Archives, the Sri Lanka Library Association, the National Science Foundation, major library training institutes and the relevant ministries. The National Library assumed the chairing, coordinating and secretarial functions of the committee. Russell Bowden, former 1st Vice President of IFLA, who is currently residing in Sri Lanka, also played an important role in this endeavour.

Task Forces

Task forces have been set up to assist the DMC in the following areas:

- immediate relief
- library furniture and building planning
- ICT planning
- education and training
- conservation
- selection of library material
- school library development
- public library development
- general library sector
- twinning.

Each task force consists 8–12 members from the library, IT, government and other relevant fields to advise and plan the assigned work. Through these task forces it has been possible to ensure a wider participation of librarians and experts from relevant fields.

Interaction with Others

The National Library made a quick survey of affected libraries and published details on the web, which is constantly updated with new information. This, together with photographs,

reports and comments from visitors to the scene, helps to keep the world community, especially the global library community, informed of the unfolding disaster in the library field. This is in contrast to the traditional pattern of getting to know details of disasters after the lapse of a considerable period of time.

Community Involvement

The National Library is in constant touch with the grass roots level in the planning and reconstruction of libraries and has invited all library committees, readers' circles and other groups attached to libraries to be involved in this process. Where library committees are non-operational, librarians and library authorities are instructed to establish such committees on a priority basis. Some libraries have reported that the formation of new library committees was needed because some members of the previous committees perished in the tsunami. The National Library and the DMC conducted a number of seminars with relevant officials, librarians and others to plan remedial measures.

Today, seven months after the tsunami, Sri Lanka is in the midst of the reconstruction phase. According to experts and numerous studies done on the reconstruction, it is envisaged that it will take a minimum of three to five years, if not more, to recover from the disaster.

Welfare of Children

The welfare of the tsunami-affected children has become a major social issue and the government had to introduce special legislation to deal with the situation. The Tsunami (Special Provision) Act No. 16 of 2005 of June 2005 made special provision with regard to the care and custody of children and young persons who have been orphaned or left with a single parent. The National Child Protection Authority is the guardian of such children, even though they may be in the custody of foster parents or in an institution.

Assistance Received

Response of the International Community

The response of the International community to the tsunami disaster is heartwarming. From UN agencies down to school children from distant countries, there was an instant response to the tragedy faced by fellow human beings. The UN organized a tsunami development forum, and assistance amounting to USD 3.2 billion was pledged for Sri Lanka. President Bill Clinton has been appointed as the UN goodwill ambassador to coordinate the tsunami relief efforts in the region.

Large sums of assistance have been received by non-governmental organizations to undertake relief and rehabilitation work. The general distrust towards offering help to governments has led to the proliferation of NGOs in the aftermath of the tragedy. In similar situations in many countries, government machinery has frequently been considered inefficient, bureaucratic, corrupt and non-people friendly. Although these are not necessarily true in the Sri Lankan context, the general opinion prevails.

Response to the Library Appeal

By end July 2005, total assistance received or pledged amounted to USD 1 million, details of which are posted on our website. About USD 25,000 was received from the library field and individual donors. Here I must specially acknowledge the generous support we received from the Korean Library Association, the Hungarian Library Association, the National Library for the Blind, UK, Weld Library District, Colorado, USA and Victoria University Library, Melbourne, Australia. The rest came from UNESCO, Australian Red Cross, Book Aid International and a few other non-governmental organizations. Most of the countries provided or pledged funds or other forms of assistance towards the government of Sri Lanka in general and therefore it is unlikely that special funding would be provided to the library fund.

Assistance from UNESCO

Through its office in New Delhi, UNESCO has been involved in our library rebuilding and rehabilitation activities from their inception. In April 2005 UNESCO managed to allocate USD 100,000 from the Information For All Programme (IFAP) to meet some of the immediate needs of affected libraries, based on a project formulated by the DMC. In addition to Ms Ornager, Mr Martin Hadlow, who headed the UNESCO temporary office in Colombo for a short period, and Mr Abdulaziz Abid of the Information for All Programme, helped us in numerous ways.

Immediate Relief Activities Undertaken

Provision of Book Boxes

The National Library provides reading material in a lockable box and with instructions on how to operate a basic lending service. These book boxes are given to coordinators of camps or transitional housing schemes and persons willing and able to function as librarians are selected from among the inhabitants.

Provision of Books and Other Reading Material

The National Library and other organizations have been successful in supplying a large stock of books and other reading material to libraries as well as refugee camps. Though many offers of books have been received, many are either used or have been weeded out by other libraries. Some of this material is unsuitable for small school or public libraries and some offers have had to be refused. Since most of these libraries are relatively small, it is virtually impossible to store unwanted or rarely used material without sacrificing valuable space.

Supply of Furniture and Equipment

Vast amounts of library furniture were lost due to the tsunami and these items are in great demand from all types of libraries. Apart from furniture lost due to the collapse of library buildings, being washed away by the waves and theft and vandalism after the incident, instances of refugees using school furniture as firewood have also come to light. During the past seven months the National Library managed to provide basic library furniture such as reading tables, chairs, book cupboards and book racks to a number of libraries, helping these institutions to restart basic services. Library furniture to the value of SLR 7 million (USD 70,000) has already been ordered for the second phase of distribution.

Publication Programme

A number of programmes have been initiated with the aim of publishing books suitable for tsunami-affected children. The National Library recently launched a programme entitled 'Tsunami Children's Book Project' to publish fifteen high quality children's books (seven in Sinhala, five in Tamil and three in English) and authors have been requested to submit suitable manuscripts for consideration for assistance.

The objective is to produce high quality children's books on themes such as courage, determination and overcoming life's obstacles. Already a large number of manuscripts have been received and it is hoped to publish the selected ones during the National Reading Month in October 2005.

2005 National Reading Month Campaign

Sri Lanka declared the month of October as the National Reading Month in 2004 and this year special attention will be paid to the tsunami-affected areas during the National Reading Month campaign. The theme for 2005 is 'Nation Building through Reading', and announcements have already been made for national and school level competitions for posters, photographs and essays on the theme.

Long Term Library Development

Rebuilding School Libraries

The rebuilding of affected schools and school libraries has been undertaken by various national and international organizations and 163 memoranda of understanding have already been signed between the government and donor agencies. According to the blueprint developed by the Ministry of Education, the minimum cost per school is approximately SLR 40 million (USD 400,000) and includes science laboratories, a multimedia unit, a fully-fledged computer learning centre, a large library and a gymnasium.

Rebuilding Public Libraries

Compared to the school sector the local government sector has been somewhat slow in reconstruction activities. While a number of new cities and towns have been planned in the area with the necessary infrastructure facilities, problems in funding and the non-availability of land have made the progress rather slow. This has directly affected the rebuilding of public libraries as well.

Library Building Plans

The National Library and the Disaster Management Committee are eager to develop new library building designs that are economical, attractive and functional. Some librarians are canvassing for tsunami-resistant library buildings; e.g. buildings on pillars. Already designs of buildings in

coastal areas have begun changing taking into consideration the effects of the tsunami.

The concept of developing special plastic containers to store valuable library material is also being discussed. UNESCO has promised to provide the services of an expert in library building to assist us and we have also commissioned local architects to address these issues and come up with new library designs.

Twinning

With a view to ensuring long-term sustainability, it is intended to twin each affected library with two other libraries. The ideal would be to twin an affected library with one overseas library and one local library. We hope that this new triangular model of twinning will lead to close cooperation of libraries at global level. The two supporting libraries are required to provide professional, material, monitoring and general assistance in any possible form within their existing capability.

Challenges and Lessons to be Learnt

Rebuilding the Social Fabric

The repair and rebuilding of the village-based social fabric in the coastal zone of Sri Lanka has become the principal challenge at present. People who have been bound together for centuries by family relationships, economic activities and social status have suddenly found that everything has disintegrated and are forced to live in different locations with different people in different surroundings. To these people, who have lost their self worth and self-esteem, it is important that relocation is undertaken with minimum disruption to the social fabric.

Keeping Libraries on the Agenda

In the post-tsunami era the primary concentration of the government, international organizations, NGOs and others has been on the immediate needs of the people and on infrastructure development. Hence, as both the government and NGOs have constantly reminded us, library development and reconstruction cannot be considered a priority. Within this environment it is a continuous struggle for the National Library and the DMC to include library reconstruction in the bigger picture.

Disaster Plan for Libraries

The need for an effective national disaster preparedness plan for libraries has been clearly shown by the tsunami disaster. We have individual disaster plans for some major libraries in the country, but not a national plan. This will be a priority in our activities in the coming months.

Need for a Rapid Response Team

The need for a rapid response team similar to the Red Cross, UNHCR and UNICEF should be seriously considered by UNESCO and IFLA, to face similar disaster situations in the future. Something in this line is crucial. An emergency aid fund known as Cultural Emergency Response was set up in The Netherlands in 2003 and made an initial grant of EUR 20,000 to the Iraqi government for the purchase of furniture and equipment for the library of the University of Baghdad. However, something more than just financial assistance is required. We have witnessed the serious effects on cultural property, including libraries, in a number of disasters in the last two decades, especially in developing countries, most recently in the earthquake that devastated much of northern Pakistan and occupied Kashmir in October 2005. Even the United States will need similar assistance after Hurricane Katrina devastated much of New Orleans and surrounding areas; in a statement published elsewhere in this issue of *IFLA Journal*, the International Committee for the Blue Shield "calls on the international community to give the fullest possible support to the efforts, official and voluntary, now being made by United States citizens and agencies to rescue the rich and unique heritage of New Orleans and other cities and towns in the region".

A Rapid Response Team, with adequate resources, should be able to visit the affected country or region at the very initial stage and team up with local librarians, archivists, archaeologists and others to face the emergency. Such a team could identify vulnerable resources, assess the damage and take remedial action. In such a situation this would be more beneficial than long-term assistance.

Conclusion

As I mentioned at the outset, large scale library tragedies are rare and far between. In recounting the events that occurred in my country, Sri

Lanka, I am certain that colleagues from Indonesia, Thailand, Malaysia, India, Maldives and Bangladesh also have their own stories to tell. While thanking those who have helped us in this hour of need, I must stress that still there are plenty of opportunities for others to join in this historic library rebuilding effort. A special word of appreciation should be recorded to my Sri Lankan library colleagues, who are shouldering a difficult task against many odds. I am confident that with our unshakable determination to overcome this terrible tragedy and move forward once again, with your blessings we will prevail and go on to achieve much more than the sea took away from us on that fateful day in 2004.

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Public Libraries and the Millennium Development Goals

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Introduction

On 8 September 2000 all the members of the United Nations agreed to fulfil eight Millennium Development Goals by 2015.

They committed to:

1. eradicate extreme poverty and hunger
2. achieve universal primary education
3. promote gender equality and empower women
4. reduce child mortality
5. improve maternal health
6. combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases
7. ensure environmental sustainability
8. develop a global partnership for development[1]

These are crucial goals. It would have been encouraging to see libraries clearly included as one of the goals because providing universal free public libraries would help these current goals to be accomplished. These eight goals are strategic. This paper will focus on how library services relate to them. Library services are more pertinent to some goals than others. This will be apparent through this paper.

Background

The UNESCO Public Library Manifesto states that

> the public library, the local gateway to knowledge, provides a basic condition for lifelong learning, independent decision-making and cultural development of the individual and social groups.[2]

This recognizes that public libraries are at the heart of their communities, providing free, accessible space, resources and services for everyone.

Libraries can help those who are marginalized by others. The Millennium Development Goals are about inclusion and working together at a global level to achieve a common vision. Libraries can help with this. Library staff have expertise to contribute to the global initiative of the Millennium Development Goals, in partnership with other groups of workers and thinkers.

Libraries are integral to community development. They provide access to information and works of imagination in a variety of formats and languages. Libraries contribute to social capital and social inclusion, making communities with libraries stronger than communities without them. Libraries have crucial roles in

facilitating democracy and civil rights. They are places for people who read, or who are learning to read, or who do not read. There is a space for each member of a community in a library. Libraries are integral to the Millennium Development Goals being achieved.

Australia is well along the path to achieving the Millennium Development Goals, as are quite a few other countries, particularly in Western Europe and North America. Like all countries, Australia still has some work to do, particularly on goals 7: 'Ensure environmental sustainability' and 8: 'Develop a global partnership for development', but other countries have the entire list to work on and much more difficult circumstances in which to do it.

Goal 1: Eradicate Extreme Poverty and Hunger

To 'eradicate extreme poverty and hunger' may seem to be beyond the role of libraries. The world already has the capability to end extreme poverty and hunger. Governments have decided this goal is a priority, and numbered it first among the Millennium Development Goals, because it affects the likelihood of other goals being achieved. Librarians, as members of the electorate or of political parties, and through their professional associations and institutional and individual initiatives, can encourage their governments to do what they have already decided to do. They can also support community initiatives, such as the Micah Challenge,[3] (an international Christian initiative), to remind governments what they have committed them-selves to do. This is library staff acting individu-ally on the basis of personal belief.

But libraries can help to 'Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger'. For some, this will mean raising awareness of this as an issue, or provid-ing a place where relevant information in appro-priate languages and formats can be found.

Public libraries are places where the whole com-munity can come and use the resources or, as in the Shidhulai Swanirvar Sangstra project in Bangladesh, libraries and technology can be brought to people in remote areas – in this example, by boat.[4] If there is no library, as is the situation in too many areas, the development of a library service will provide assistance and hope to people during the process of ending extreme poverty and hunger.

On a more immediately practical level libraries can provide information to assist with local efforts to eradicate extreme poverty and hunger. Libraries are able to provide local, national and regional information in the form of statistical summaries, economic forecasts, health reports and agricultural surveys and manuals. These resources may be made available electronically such as the World Bank e-library, or in print like the training and other publications produced by the National Agricultural Extension and Research Liaison Services (NAERLS) in Nigeria.[5]

Libraries are spaces for community discussion and the provision of information, and places to plan for the future. They can also be community centres where emergency relief is distributed and space for meetings and discussions.

Books and other library resources and services will not fill empty bellies, but each library has a role to help bring change in its community. This may include being involved with projects such as Digital Gangetic Plains in India, which used wireless technology to provide Internet connec-tions in rural areas, with the Internet Village Motoman in Cambodia, which has provided telecommunications to some villages for the first time,[6] or with the Warna Wired Village Project, which provides Indian farmers with agricultural information, critical for their daily business, over the Internet.[7] Libraries were not involved in these projects, but their inclusion would have expanded the range of people benefiting from these projects, particularly by including children, young people and women.

Goal 2: Achieve Universal Primary Education

To 'achieve universal primary education' without school or public libraries being involved would be very difficult. Over the last few years various research shows that

> A strong library program that is adequately staffed, resourced and funded can lead to higher student achievement regardless of the socio-economic or educational levels of the adults in the community.[8]

The IFLA/UNESCO School Library Manifesto states that

> The school library is essential to every long-term strategy for literacy, education,

information provision and economic, social and cultural development.[9]

They support the teaching provided in each school, and can be operated out of fixed buildings, tents or book carts.

In support of school libraries, public libraries provide access to a range of material to assist study, as well as an environment for studying outside school hours. Recent initiatives in public libraries in Bogotá, Colombia, through the Bibliored program provide, in the words of Luis Cardenas, a twelve-year-old library user, "the opportunity to learn, to know the world, to become someone, to dream, to travel in time and space – without spending money."[10] Luis's experience in the library led him to enrol in school, with the help of staff from the library. Velez White, who was responsible for implementing the library project says "Through the new libraries, people can enjoy access to information that will help them not only solve inquiries but socialize with their neighbors."[11]

Public libraries can provide a secure environment for homeless children to study in, a place to access resources when there are none at home or even at school. Story time sessions can help with the literacy of children – and possibly their parents.

As Margaret Makenzi, researcher for the Reading Tent project in Kenya writes,

> Books are depicted as rare and expensive [in many cultures]. To achieve sustainable human development requires people who are literate and able to think critically and analytically. The developing world is now more than ever aware of the value of universal literacy as a link between culture and development and as an instrument to equip its citizens with skills and knowledge required for development. Reading is key to development.[12]

Libraries are the key to providing access to reading materials. In Kenya this has been achieved through the use of reading tents, which

> serve as mobile libraries that are portable and travel from place to place encouraging voluntary reading and consequently the development of literacy. They serve as extension tools to places where there are inadequate or no library services.[13]

These tents are a cooperative project where a range of programs are run, to develop a culture of reading.

The idea of these tents could be taken elsewhere, providing a portable library service and space where children can sit in a protected environment and have books read to them, or read themselves. This is a way of reinforcing a culture of reading in communities which have significant numbers of people who cannot read to their children. These reading tents provide an opportunity for children to experience reading outside the context of school, as well helping people discover the importance of libraries for their community. This environment can support the whole community, as children learn, not only from their reading, but also from those within the community who cannot read, but who can nevertheless use the library environment to share their knowledge and stories.

As well as assisting with primary school education, public libraries can support all members of the community in lifelong learning. In her paper on the educational role of the national library of Trinidad and Tobago, Joan Osborne writes that

> at the start of the twenty-first century life long learning is set to become the policy agenda for all nations. The whole enterprise of education is perhaps mankind's most ambitious effort.[14]

This focus on learning ties in with 'lifelong literacy' as the key interest of immediate past President of IFLA, Kay Raseroka. Libraries can help people, from the very young to the very old, to develop the skills they need to be fully involved in the Information Society.

Even where there is existing library infrastructure, as in Namibia, there are still further options to be explored. Ellen Ndeshi Namhila informs us that

> Community Libraries throughout Namibia provide access to information and knowledge; they are the center for lifelong learning. ICT skills training for library staff and the provision of ICT equipment and software is necessary because these libraries exist all around the country and they are utilized on a daily basis by many people.[15]

Goal 3: Promote Gender Equality and Empower Women

Public libraries can help to 'promote gender equality and empower women' if they are open to the whole community. The resources selected would need to take into account the broad areas of women's work and interests, and the sometimes lower levels of literacy which women have.

Libraries and information services offer secure environments in which women and girls can obtain the information they need to take control of their lives and influence their societies. One area this may occur in is employment. IFLA states that

> Non-discriminatory employment in libraries and information services provides career opportunities for women, many of whom have attained positions of leadership.[16]

Libraries can provide a community space for everyone, provided they are open to all ages, all groups and all individuals in the community. This may be through the library providing a training and support role in agricultural or craft-artisan-based cooperatives specifically targeting women. Libraries may be able to provide women as trainers for cooperatives as well as teaching materials in appropriate formats as suggested by the International Cooperative Alliance.[17] The libraries may also be able to assist by providing education for women in areas such as health, local environmental issues and nutrition.

The National Library of Trinidad and Tobago has a program of Citizenship Education to give people the skills and confidence to be active participants within their democracy. Other libraries could take up this kind of role. As Osborne has written:

> Services are in place to benefit every citizen including the differently-abled community. The VIP services are provided through assistive technology products and computer aids which enable differently-abled persons to access information for all citizens of Trinidad and Tobago.[18]

This focus allows all the community to be able to contribute, rather than only the powerful. This initiative is targeting the whole community, not just women, but it would have the effect of empowering women as they become "active participants within their democracy".

Goals 4 and 5: Reduce Child Mortality and Improve Maternal Health

Libraries are places where information to empower communities to 'reduce child mortality" and 'improve maternal health', can be made available in written, spoken or electronic form. The information could be available in books, pamphlets, audio, audiovisual or web-based forms. There is an abundance of publications which could be made available this way, in numerous languages. There would be the potential for libraries within a state or country to provide an accredited set of information on health (or other issues) to public libraries. These could be selected at a state or national library level such as the LIAC (Legal Information Access Centre[19]) or di@yll (Drug Information at your local library[20]) initiatives in New South Wales. Both of these projects use experts in the selection of the plain language material provided in the sets of books and pamphlets which are distributed state wide, as well as having web sites associated with each project. This allows the expertise, as well as the resources, to be distributed over a broader area and for people to be able to receive the information they are after from their local public library.

By itself a library will not be able to make a great difference to the accomplishment of these goals, but by taking part in broader community initiatives great things can be achieved. Libraries can provide meeting places for community education, for one-on-one consultation with health experts, or for different groups within the community.[21,22]

Goal 6: Combat HIV/AIDS, Malaria and Other Diseases

Libraries with freely available information in appropriate formats can be key partners with health workers and health initiatives in promoting the behavioural changes needed to 'combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases'. There is a role here for works of fiction[23] as well as non-fiction in raising community awareness. As places for preserving community memory, public libraries can help preserve local knowledge about the changes which have come about, once

these diseases have been combated, but also for sharing stories to help encourage changes in behaviour to limit the spread of this disease. Information should be available in a range of accessible formats, including spoken and visual forms, as not everyone can read and some things are better listened to or watched than read. For example in Swaziland in 2000,

> a collection in a variety of formats, covering a wide range of subjects and appealing to a select cross-section of library users is available through a number of libraries in Swaziland. The Hlatikhulu public library has taken the initiative of distributing condoms as its contribution to the HIV/AIDS prevention efforts.[24]

At the 2005 IFLA conference Maitrayee Ghosh from the University of Mumbai suggested that public libraries should be proactive in providing information about HIV/AIDS including the use of "drama, song and dances", seminars, peer discussion, to provide information in "regional languages".[25] LIAC-like information kits could be provided for this area of health information as well.

Goal 7: Ensure Environmental Sustainability

In helping to 'ensure environmental sustainability', local libraries can provide information about how to integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programs to help reverse the loss of environmental resources. The library also needs to become involved in community discussions, as has happened with libraries and knowledge centres in the Northern Territory of Australia, and indigenous knowledge centres in Queensland, Australia. The Northern Territory Library and the State Library of Queensland held discussions with indigenous communities about the planned libraries and knowledge centres. These consultative processes allow services and resources to be tailored to the needs of each community, while also allowing a consistent level of service to be maintained across vast areas with people with diverse needs. They allow the inclusion of indigenous knowledge systems, for example in the image database used in the Northern Territory.

One of the performance measures for goal 7 is to 'achieve significant improvement in lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers, by 2020'. Ways in which libraries can engage with slum communities are already being explored. For example in Bilhai, India there is a rickshaw-based mobile library which visits six slum areas each week with books and toys for loan.[26] With increased funding, this has the potential for expanding the range of library services which could be made available to slum dwellers. It could then cover the full range of public library services, including recording oral histories and supporting local studies, story times, talks of interest to the community and a sharing of traditional knowledge. In the future, such a service could provide access to information technology through the use of solar powered laptops to help the community as a whole. Already there is a service like this in Northern Thailand where satellite-enabled elephant mobile libraries provide a library service to remote areas. The elephant mobiles are equipped with a computer, satellite dish and generator as well as boxes of books and various electronic equipment.[27] Donkey powered mobile libraries in Zimbabwe use solar power for access to the Internet. This allows the books and Internet access to be available in areas without fixed libraries or electricity.[28] The use of solar power is also a key factor for environmental sustainability. The donkeys (with the solar power) can take a library into a new area.

Libraries – and librarians – help to facilitate change within the community. In her description of libraries and their role in community initiatives Kathleen de la Peña McCook writes,

> Librarians have an important role to play in building community in neighborhoods, towns, cities, counties, states and the nation. People have great faith in libraries as fair and trusted institutions and in librarians as the honest and diligent keepers and disseminators of the human record.[29]

For places without librarians this is an idea waiting to be discovered. Librarians also have to be proactive in this role while working with the community and as part of the community to help bring about change. This is relevant for both developing and developed countries.

The sustainability of the community is a key aspect of environmental sustainability, and libraries as meeting and keeping places can play an important role, including in record keeping and providing information.

Libraries that address the specific needs of rural communities can assist with rural development programs. This means that planning for the provision of library services is done in appropriate languages and formats so that the people involved in the rural development programs can benefit. This is particularly important in locations where there are official languages which are not spoken or read by the whole community.

Goal 8: Develop a Global Partnership for Development

To 'develop a global partnership for development' requires a collective look at the big picture. An important aspect of the global partnership for development is the recognition and preservation of traditional and indigenous knowledge systems. Libraries can help communities have more control over the use of their knowledge about local plants through a local botanical database. Through libraries documenting (or assisting in documenting) the local flora, local knowledge such as remedies, warnings, and benefits can be recorded. This can help provide recognition to indigenous knowledge. Global partnerships, possibly between neighbouring countries, can help provide protection for intellectual property rights. These partnerships could expand the potential for people to benefit from communal intellectual property rights.

Libraries are the key to developing a 'learning for life' approach. This can include story telling, including the preservation of traditional stories, to literacy and the sharing and preservation of cultural practices such as are being recorded in the Northern Territory of Australia as part of the Libraries and Knowledge Centres collections. This initiative is at a local level, but the method used in the Northern Territory could be spread further afield.

The IFLA document on 'Promoting the Global Information Commons' states that:

> The ability for all to access and contribute information, ideas and knowledge is essential in an inclusive Information Society. This is the key to creating a globally inclusive information society: the ability for all to express their dreams, ideas and opinions and to take in those of others, across geographical, cultural, linguistic and political barriers. By enabling access to information

in all formats across such frontiers, and through time, libraries and information services foster understanding and communication.[30]

This brings together some of the ideas for global development.

There are existing initiatives such as the International Committee of the Blue Shield (ICBS), which covers museums and archives, historic sites and libraries and brings together the knowledge, experience and international networks of the four expert organizations dealing with cultural heritage.[31] This is another crucial tie-in for libraries at all levels and in all countries, as each has a role to play in the international preservation of culture. This preservation element can also help build environmental sustainability as people learn from the past, using some information and building on and changing other elements. There is also the need, as Okiy writes in the context of Nigeria, for public libraries to ensure that their services accommodate people who do not read.[32]

Many communities do not have access to libraries and it is difficult for them to imagine what libraries can provide. Before being asked what kind of library they think is best for them, communities should be informed about the possibilities.

Partnerships have been started between communities in Australia and East Timor, often at a local government level. For example, Leichhardt Council in New South Wales has been involved in a project to set up a public library in Maliana, East Timor. The project has been actively supported by the whole Council as well as the local community in Leichhardt. This project has teachers from Portugal as partners as well; they have set up an education resource centre for teaching the Portuguese language in East Timor.

Library Roles

Some of the roles which libraries can play in their communities, and their relevance to the Millennium Development Goals, are indicated in Table 1. The roles are not in order of priority.

An example of where libraries can focus on the Millennium Development Goals is in the reconstruction of the areas affected by the 26 December 2004 tsunami. In Sri Lanka there is a

Community roles	Millennium goals
Community information	Goals 1–8
Local studies	Goals 1–8
Story telling	Goals 1–8
Health information	Goals 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8
Legal information	Goals 3, 7, 8
Community space	Goals 1–8
Access to books and other printed matter	Goals 1–8
Access to audio-visual material	Goals 1–8
Meeting spaces	Goals 1–8
Literacy training	Goals 2, 3, 6, 7, 8
Access to librarians	Goals 1–8
Safe place to go	Goals 1–8
Makers of cultural records	Goals 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8
Preservers of cultural records	Goals 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8
Social inclusion	Goals 1–8
Learning the fun of reading	Goals 2, 3, 7, 8
PC access (Internet/databases/e-mail/word processing)	Goals 1–8
Employment opportunities	Goal 3
Environmental information	Goals 7, 8

Table 1. Summary of library roles and the Millennium Development Goals.

plan to partner each library which has been affected by the tsunami with two other libraries – one within Sri Lanka and the other in another country. The aim of these partnerships is to provide "professional, material, monitoring and general assistance in any possible form within their existing capability".[33] This kind of partnership would have excellent potential far beyond Sri Lanka. This would also help to further global partnerships.

Much aid and development money is going to areas affected by the tsunami. Perhaps a guaranteed percentage of this funding could be used to rebuild or start libraries. This idea of a percentage of development funds being used for libraries can be taken further. If library development could have a guaranteed percentage of all development funding this would permit the establishment and maintenance of public libraries worldwide. This is crucial for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. The funding would need to continue beyond 2015 to allow these yet-to-be-established libraries to become permanent parts of each community. This is not a new idea, however, perhaps it is time to revisit it.

There need to be clear time lines for developing new library services including planning for services and any infrastructure. It is important to keep in mind that whatever the cost of providing a public library service to a community, the cost of not providing it is even higher. Libraries are an economical way of facilitating change, learning and recording key local events. People

in developing countries have a right to access information, not just in the cities, but in the rural areas as well; both those who can read, and those who can't.

The eight Millennium Development Goals will all benefit from the inclusion of partnerships with libraries. As each country looks for ways to fulfil these goals, librarians and library associations need to be at the forefront of the discussion, offering skills and ideas and showing what is possible with libraries as key participants in this change. Without the proactive involvement of libraries these goals are going to be very hard to achieve. If librarians work with communities and health, environment and planning staff as participants in community-based planning, it may be possible to achieve these goals. Our governments have decided that the Millennium Development Goals are a priority. We need to decide if we want to work together to shape how these goals are achieved. Will the goals benefit our communities or will other priorities hinder our cooperation?

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Copyright and Book Piracy in Pakistan

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Introduction

Copyright is a legal term describing rights given to creators for their literary and artistic works. The kinds of works covered by copyright include: literary works such as novels, poems, plays, reference works, newspapers and computer programs; databases; films, musical compositions, and choreography; artistic works such as paintings, drawings, photographs and sculpture; architecture; and advertisements, maps and technical drawings (World Intellectual Property Organization, 2005).

According to *The Copyright Ordinance, 1962* [of Pakistan] 'copyright' means the exclusive right, by virtue of, and subject to, the provisions of this Ordinance:

(a) in the case of a literary, dramatic or musical work, to do and authorize the doing of any of the following acts, namely:

   (i)   to reproduce the work in any material form;
   (ii)   to publish the work;
   (iii)   to perform the work in public;
   (iv)   to produce, reproduce, perform or publish any translation of the work;
   (v)   to use the mark in a cinematographic work or make a record in respect of the work;
   (vi)   to broadcast the work, or to communicate the broadcast of the work to the public by a loudspeaker or any other similar instrument;
   (vii)   to make any adaptation of the work;
   (viii) to do in relation to translation or an adaptation of the work any of the acts specified in relation to the work in sub-clauses (i) to (vi) (Chaudhry, 2001, p. 21).

Copyright and its related rights are essential to human creativity, by giving creators incentives in the form of recognition and fair economic rewards. Under this system of rights, creators are assured that their works can be disseminated without fear of unauthorized copying or piracy. This in turn helps increase access to and enhances the enjoyment of culture, knowledge, and entertainment all over the world.

Book piracy is as old as the publishing industry itself. The extent of piracy continued to increase, particularly, in the second half of the previous century. An unprecedented increase has taken place after the emergence of new states as a result of de-colonization and a rapid growth of higher education in the newly independent states. Since all the modern sciences have developed in western countries their intellectual leadership is universally accepted. Western textbooks, other books and research journals are used as instruction materials for higher education throughout the world. The English language has become an almost international academic language anywhere. These factors have contributed to

the increasing trend of book piracy, particularly for academic purposes, and brought international conventions against book piracy.

Pakistan has experienced a rapid and enormous expansion of higher education in recent years. This necessitated the import of foreign produced textbooks as well as reference books. On the one hand, Pakistan has encountered the problems of scarcity of foreign exchange, inappropriate allocation of foreign exchange, strict import controls and high tariffs and, on the other hand, buyers in Pakistan are less able to purchase high-priced imported books. This situation resulted in the local reproduction of cheap editions in violation of copyright laws.

Literature Review

A number of efforts have been made in order to protect intellectual property rights at the global level. The most important of these are the Berne Convention for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works, 1886 and the Universal Copyright Convention, 1952.

The Berne Convention was adopted by an international conference held in Berne, Switzerland. The USA joined it only in 1988 (Feather and Sturges, 2003). Up to 1979 the Berne Convention went through eight amendments. There are four salient features of this convention: national treatment, preclusion of formalities, minimum terms of protection, and minimum exclusive rights:

National Treatment: Signatories to the Berne Convention have agreed to treat foreign copyright owners as legally equal to domestic copyright holders. This means that, for example, an American author publishing a book in Pakistan would have the same rights as a Pakistani author publishing in the same market.

Preclusion of Formalities: Under the Berne Convention, neither formal registration nor publication of a copyright notice can be required in order to procure a copyright. It is worth noting, however, that signatory nations retain the right to make formal procedures useful in challenge proceedings. For example, a copyright notice in the United States can be used to invalidate a defence of 'innocent infringement' by a copyright violator.

Minimum Terms of Protection: Nations party to the Berne Convention must extend copyright protection through the life of the author plus 50 years. However, nations may extend protection longer.

Minimum Exclusive Rights: Under the Berne Convention, copyright holders must be guaranteed six rights for the entire life of the copyright: translation, reproduction, public performance, adaptation, paternity, and integrity.

The Universal Copyright Convention was adopted at Geneva in 1952 and revised at Paris in 1971. Its main features are the following:

(1) no signatory nation should accord its domestic authors more favorable copyright treatment than the authors of other signatory nations, though no minimum protection for either domestic or foreign authors is stipulated;
(2) a formal copyright notice must appear in all copies of a work and consist of the symbol (c), the name of the copyright owner, and the year of first publication; a signatory nation, however, might require further formalities, provided such formalities do not favour domestic over foreign works;
(3) the minimum term of copyright in member nations must be the life of the author plus 25 years (except for photographic works and works of applied art, which have a 10-year term);
(4) all adhering nations are required to grant an exclusive right of translation for a seven-year period, subject to a compulsory license under certain circumstances for the balance of the term of copyright (*Encyclopedia Britannica*, 2002).

Pakistan is a member of both the Berne Copyright Union and the Universal Copyright Convention. Pakistan is also a member of the TRIPS (Trade Related aspects on Intellectual Property Rights) Agreement, which contains provisions of the Berne Convention.

The copyright law in Pakistan is governed by the Copyright Ordinance, 1962. The Copyright Rules, 1967 have been framed for the proper working of the Ordinance. Significant changes in the Ordinance were introduced through the Copyright (Amendment) Act, 1992 and the Copyright (Amendment) Ordinance, 2000. Key features of the Copyright Ordinance are outlined below.

The period of copyright of a published literary, dramatic, musical or artistic work is the life of the author and 50 years after his death.

Registration of copyright in Pakistan is not mandatory, it is however recommended, as the certificate issued upon registration may be used in court to subsequently establish ownership should the need arise. The Ordinance, therefore, enables a copyright owner to register his copyright with the Copyright Office and the certificate of registration is fully enforceable in a court of law and is prima facie evidence that copyright subsists in the work and that the registrant is the owner thereof.

The Ordinance allows reproduction of copyrighted material, without permission, for 'fair use' in the case of research, teaching, private study, criticism, review, news reporting, and judicial proceedings. In these cases up to 800 words or 40 lines can be copied. It is also allowed that up to three copies of a book can be made by or under the direction of the person in charge of a public or academic library for use by the public free of charge if such book is not available for sale. All these reproductions are allowed with the acknowledgements of original title and author.

The Ordinance also provides for enforcement of copyright, and allows three types of remedies to the person whose copyright has been infringed. These remedies are civil, criminal and administrative, which, though distinct and independent, can be availed of simultaneously.

Civil remedies include injunction, damages, accounts, delivery of infringing copies and damages for conversion. In the case of innocent infringements some of these remedies are not available, e.g., innocent infringers are not required to pay any damages to the copyright owner, but do have to cease the infringing activity or pay the owner a sum representing the reasonable commercial value of that use. An employer is vicariously liable under the Ordinance for the offences that his servants and agents may commit in the course of their duty and within their authority, even though he has no knowledge of the act of infringement and despite the fact that he has given a general order to his servants prohibiting the doing of acts which might amount to infringement. In the case where a copyright owner is unable to institute immediate regular legal proceedings against the infringer for sufficient cause, the Ordinance provides for special remedies to such owner. An application is made to the Court for immediate provisional orders to prevent infringement of copyright and for preservation of any evidence relating to such infringement.

Criminal remedies provide for imprisonment of the accused or imposition of a fine or both, seizure of infringing copies, and delivery of infringing copies to the owner of the copyright. In particular, there is an express provision in the Ordinance which deals with the offences by companies. According to this provision, if a company commits any offence under the Ordinance, every person who was in charge of and responsible to the company for the conduct of its business, as well as the company, will be deemed to be guilty of such offence and will be liable to be proceeded against and punished accordingly. However, if a person can prove that the offence was committed without his knowledge or that he exercised due diligence to prevent the commission of the offence, that person will not be held liable to any punishment. Further under the Ordinance a police officer is also empowered to seize without warrant for production before a Magistrate infringing copies of the work and the equipment etc. used in connection therewith.

Administrative remedies consist of moving the Registrar of Copyrights to ban the import and export of infringing copies in Pakistan. An application may be made to the customs officer (functioning under the Customs Act, 1969) for examination and detention of any consignment intended to be imported into or exported out of Pakistan which is suspected to contain infringing copies of any work which is the subject of copyright (Vellani and Vellani, 2001).

The 2000 amendments in the Copyright Ordinance provide strong tools to fight piracy. The Ordinance:

- provides for criminal penalties to up to three years imprisonment or a fine of PKR 100,000 (approximately USD 1,680), which are doubled for second or subsequent offences
- provides for civil *ex parte* search orders (without notice to the defendant), essential to enforcement against end-user piracy
- broadens the Registrar's authority to prohibit (seize, detain, etc.) the export out of Pakistan of infringing copies in addition to infringing imports coming into Pakistan, and includes goods to which infringing labels are applied as subject to this prohibition
- provides a new right in 'typographical arrangement' of a published edition of a work

The 2000 amendments contain one change that was extremely criticized by the international publishing industry. Section 36.3 provides that

the government can grant any "institution," including the National Book Foundation (NBF), which is part of the Education Ministry, reprint rights without authorization of the rights holder and without royalty.

In spite of international conventions and national laws, book piracy has been a common phenomenon in Pakistan. What are the causes of this grave situation? What should be done to combat book piracy? Some authors have tried to answer these questions. Mirza (1983) stated that the policies of the Pakistan government discouraged importers in the private sector to import foreign books. As a consequence, small printers and publishers got a chance to pirate books. Foreign publishers were also reluctant to give reprinting rights to local publishers. He mentioned that the Pakistan Publishers and Booksellers Association formed a sub-committee to start an anti-piracy campaign in the country. Haider (1993) mentioned that the high cost of books helped the pirates. He quoted a book importer who stated that "as far as textbooks are concerned about 80% of the sale is of pirated books" (p. 254). Haider (1996) stated that "piracy of printed word is gaining high degree of respectability on grounds that it promotes reading habits and boosts literacy by making affordable literature available to the people" (p. 308).

Sethi (1994) stated that:

> Laws in Pakistan relating to copyright are both strict and clear. However, implementation is problem because legal redress can be long and costly. There is, by and large, no infringement of local copyrights. But foreign works are difficult to protect from piracy for two main reasons: (a) foreign books are very expensive and invariably in short supply with booksellers at critical times in the curriculum year. Hence the pirate moves in to fill the vacuum at extremely low prices, (b) foreign publishers are not prepared to defend their copyright in Pakistani courts of law by hiring good lawyers and spending time and money chasing pirates (pp. 21–22).

Mirza (1992) ascertained that there is an urgent need to raise public awareness of copyright through a campaign, while special training courses be started for enforcement agencies. Steps may also be taken for the introduction of a course on copyright in higher secondary schools and for the education of special audiences such as teachers, scholars, mediamen, librarians, authors, publishers and booksellers.

The International Intellectual Property Alliance (IIPA) represents 1,300 United States companies producing and distributing materials protected by copyright laws throughout the world. The IIPA publishes annual reviews of copyright piracy of US materials by various countries. During 2004, the estimated total trade loss of US book industry amounted to USD603 millions in 67 selected countries. Pakistan has been on its piracy 'Watch List' since 1989. Figures for ten years of US losses due to book piracy in Pakistan are given in Table 1. In 2004, IIPA recommended that Pakistan be designated as a 'Priority Foreign Country' for extremely high levels of piracy and the Pakistani government's complete lack of attention to the problem.

The IIPA reviews of Pakistan from 1996 to 2005 stated that piracy of computer, business, medical and engineering texts, English language teaching materials, and reference materials such as dictionaries was widespread. Legitimate importers and booksellers reported a sharp decline in sales. Reprint piracy and commercial photocopying remained major problems. Entire books are photocopied and available for sale in stalls and bookstores. Trade bestsellers were pirated in large numbers and available everywhere. In

Year	Loss (USD million)
1995	30
1996	30
1997	30
1998	40
1999	42
2000	45
2001	44
2002	44
2003	44
2004	52

Table 1. Estimated trade losses of US book industry due to copyright piracy in Pakistan.

addition to saturating the domestic market, book piracy remained a net-export business to India, the Middle East, and even Africa. The publishing industry reported that some raids were run against book pirate operations since 2001. However, these raids had little or no effect on piracy. For example, for publishers, although the law now enables a judge to put someone in jail for 1 to 3 years, and fine them up to PKR 100,000 (USD 1,680), the maximum fine that a pirate has received from prosecutions for publishing piracy was PKR 15,000 (USD 253) in 2004; hardly a deterrent, and most cases resulted in far lower fines. No sentences involving imprisonment were meted out. The IIPA named Pakistan as the world's worst pirate country for published materials (per capita). The IIPA also criticized the fact that copyright law in Pakistan was not compatible with international conventions and agreements (International Intellectual Property Alliance, 2005).

In response to tremendous pressure from the US and the European Union, the Pakistan government is ready to take serious measures to curb piracy in the country. Most significant is the creation of the Pakistan Intellectual Property Rights Organization (PIPRO). A draft Bill for a PIPRO Act is ready for presentation to the Parliament. According to the Bill, the powers and functions of PIPRO will be to

(a) administer and coordinate all government systems for the protection of intellectual property rights;
(b) prescribe, regulate or implement measures and standards on any matter related to or connected with intellectual property;
(c) accredit or certify, and regulate any person as intellectual property agent;
(d) appoint such employees, consultants and experts as deemed necessary on terms and conditions prescribed by the federal government;
(e) levy such charges or fees as may be reasonable for services and facilities provided by PIPRO and its constituent offices;
(f) carry out such other works or activities as may appear to the organization to be necessary, with a view to making the best use of the assets of organization;
(g) engage, in conjunction with other authorities, international agencies or organizations, in any study or cooperation project related to intellectual property;
(h) enter into contracts for the supply of goods or materials for the execution of works, as

may be necessary for the discharge of any of its duties and functions;
(i) supervise and coordinate the working of all intellectual property offices including Patent Office, Trade Marks Registry and Copy Right Office;
(j) advise the federal government on policy relating to intellectual property rights;
(k) plan for future development and up-gradation of intellectual property infrastructure and capacity in Pakistan;
(l) initiate research in the field of intellectual property;
(m) advise the federal government regarding the international negotiations in the area of intellectual property;
(n) promote awareness about intellectual property issues in the public and private sector;
(o) propose and initiate intellectual property rights legislation for the protection of intellectual property rights in Pakistan;
(p) monitor the enforcement and protection of intellectual property rights and collect related data;
(q) coordinate the implementation of foreign-aided technical assistance projects on intellectual property;
(r) perform any other function relating to intellectual property assigned by the federal government;
(s) liaise with counterpart and related technical organizations in other countries;
(t) develop working manuals, references, materials and procedures in order to assist in improving the protection of intellectual property rights (MoC prepares draft of PIPRO Act, 2004).

Keeping in view the grave situation of the violation of copyright laws in Pakistan, on the one hand, and the readiness of the government to protect intellectual property rights on the other, a study was needed to unearth the causes of book piracy and suggest measures to improve the situation. The better protection of copyrights in the country will certainly raise the dignity of Pakistan in the global community.

Objectives

The objectives of this study were to:

- find out what international and national copyright conventions and laws are applicable in Pakistan

- determine the awareness level of the publishing industry about copyright laws
- determine the causes of book piracy in Pakistan
- find out who are the major beneficiaries of book piracy; and
- suggest measures to be taken against book piracy.

This study is limited to copyright and piracy issues of books and periodicals only. Other types of intellectual rights, e.g., trademarks, audio-cassettes, CD-ROMs, etc. are not included in the discussion.

Methodology

To achieve the objectives of this study a questionnaire survey of Pakistani publishers, book-sellers, importers and exporters of books was conducted. There was no comprehensive directory of the book trade in Pakistan. On the basis of some short directories and with the help of professional librarians the researchers prepared a list of 893 enterprises involved in the book trade in Islamabad, Lahore, Karachi, Peshawar and Quetta (federal and provincial capital cities). A simple random sample of 90 respondents (approximately 10 percent of the total population) was drawn. A questionnaire was sent to the selected booksellers. Eighty-three

useable responses (92 percent) were received and analyzed.

Data Analysis

The persons representing the book trade were asked to give their opinion about the causes of book piracy in Pakistan. They were provided with a list of eleven statements to demonstrate their views. The results revealed that the most common reason for book piracy was the 'High price of original edition thus low sale in the local market.' Eighty percent of the respondents were in favour of this statement. The next significant reason was 'High rate of profit' which pirates make from illegitimate publishing (33 percent). Other reasons (given in Table 2) got the attention of less than 30 percent of the respondents.

While looking at the beneficiaries, almost all parties involved in the book trade benefit from the piracy of books. On the one hand the availability of pirated editions helps the readers, who may not afford to buy high-priced original editions; on the other hand, publishers and booksellers earn considerable profits from book piracy. When asked about beneficiaries, a significant proportion (41 percent) of the respondents were of the view that publishers were the main beneficiaries. About the same proportion (39 percent) stated that the major beneficiaries

Rank	Causes	No.	%
1	High price of original edition thus low sale	66	80
2	High rate of profit	27	33
3	Non-availability of original editions	24	29
4	Inclusion of foreign books in syllabus	23	28
5	Easy and affordable reproduction technology	20	24
6–7	Inappropriate law for copyright violation	17	20
6–7	Legal action is complicated and time consuming	17	20
8	No supervisory mechanism to enforce copyright law	15	18
9	Difficulties in obtaining copyrights from foreign publisher/author	12	14
10	Difficulties in importing foreign books	10	12
11	Lack of communication between publishers/booksellers and the Copyright Office	5	6

Table 2. Opinion about causes of book piracy.

Rank	Major beneficiaries	%
1	Publishers	41
2	Booksellers	39
3	Readers	18

Table 3. Major beneficiaries of book piracy.

were the booksellers. Eighteen percent responded that readers got the most from book piracy (Table 3).

The respondents were asked various questions to measure their awareness of copyright laws and conventions and to seek their views about copyright related issues. The results are given in Table 4. A large majority of the respondents (92 percent) was aware that there was a copyright law in Pakistan. However, international copyright conventions were not well known to the respondents. Only 35 percent of them had any

knowledge about these conventions. In the view of 40 percent of the respondents, the existing copyright law was effective in curbing book piracy in Pakistan. Only 30 percent were of the view that international conventions were respected in the Pakistani book trade. A small number (19 percent) opined that copyright notices on the books could prevent book piracy. About half (47 percent) of the respondents were satisfied with the legal provisions in the Copyright Ordinance regarding book piracy.

Although many people in the book trade were earning well through book piracy, there was an overall consensus that something should be done to curtail this bad practice. This trend can be seen in the respondents' suggestions about measures to be taken against book piracy (Table 5). A significant majority (60 percent) suggested strict enforcement of the copyright law. About half (48 percent) of the respondents were of the view that the original editions of textbooks should be made available at subsidized prices. Another subject which got the attention of

Question	Yes (%)
Do you know there is a copyright law in Pakistan?	92
Do you know about international copyright conventions?	35
Is existing copyright law effective in curbing book piracy in Pakistan?	40
Are international copyright conventions respected in Pakistan?	30
Can copyright notice on the book prevent book piracy?	19
Are you satisfied with the legal provisions in the Copyright Ordinance regarding book piracy?	47

Table 4. Awareness and opinion about copyright laws.

Rank	Measures	No.	%
1	Strict enforcement of copyright law	50	60
2	Subsidizing original editions of textbooks	40	48
3	More efficient role of National Book Foundation in reprinting of essential books	26	31
4	Encouragement of local writers to write good books	21	25
5	Easy procedures for book import	16	19
6	Publicity of copyright laws	10	12

Table 5. Suggested measures to be taken against book piracy.

one-third of the respondents was the efficient role of the National Book Foundation in locally reprinting foreign books.

Recommendations

Based on the literature reviewed and data analyzed in this study, the following measures are suggested to protect copyright and eliminate book piracy in Pakistan:

- A public awareness campaign regarding the importance of copyright should be conducted using all possible means of mass media. This campaign might emphasize moral obligations as well as the legal provisions of copyright law. The readers may be informed about the disadvantages of pirated books, especially about the bad effects of their printing quality on the eyesight and understanding of the contents. National and international publishers' associations could sponsor this campaign.
- The mechanism of vigilance and enforcement of the copyright law needs many improvements as there are complaints of corruption on the part of law enforcing officials and of delayed judicial proceedings. More efficient and vigilant officials and prompt judicial proceedings resulting in strict punishment to the culprits may have a deterrent effect in general.
- Training should be arranged for police, Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) officers, customs staff, prosecutors and judges in dealing with the cases of copyright violation.
- The Pakistan Publishers and Booksellers Association can play an effective role in curbing book piracy. Membership of individuals found guilty of copyright violation after investigation may be cancelled.
- Non-availability of low-priced foreign books should be considered as the main cause of book piracy in Pakistan. Foreign publishers should supply textbooks at special prices for developing countries. For this purpose foreign publishers can open sub-offices in Pakistan.
- Foreign publishers must also be persuaded to legally confer copyright against reasonable royalties so that the local publishing industry can reprint their books cheaply in Pakistan.
- The role of the National Book Foundation should be enhanced by generous funding. Along with this, economical book production by academic institutions, like universities and professional colleges, and volunteer organizations may be encouraged.

- The establishment of the Pakistan Intellectual Property Rights Organization (PIPRO) by the Government of Pakistan in 2004 was a step in the right direction. This organization is still waiting for government funding and proper legislation. PIPRO has also been a victim of non-cooperation on the part of the Ministries of Education, Home, Commerce, Industry and Law.
- A research cell may be established by the book trade and the government to analyze factors causing book piracy and make suggestions on how can copyright be respected in the country.

Conclusion

It is a fact that no nation can develop when creativity and intellectual property are susceptible to damage and destruction instead of being protected and rewarded. Pakistan has a strict and clear copyright law but its implementation is not easy due to certain hurdles. On the readers' side, there is a lack of awareness regarding the benefits of the protection of copyright. Foreign textbooks are in large demand in higher education institutions but their high prices make them unaffordable for poor students. This provides room for piracy. Book pirates are free to fulfil the market's needs. The Pakistan government's failure to protect copyright provides the basis for massive pressure from the world community. By taking positive steps towards curtailing book piracy Pakistan can earn a good reputation and trade benefits internationally. However, the problem of piracy cannot be eliminated until local readers are provided with cheaper books. Foreign publishers, the Pakistan government, and book trade organizations must first resolve this issue to achieve positive results from any measures taken to protect intellectual property rights in Pakistan.

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Bioinformatics and the Library and Information Science Community

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Introduction

The 'first' convergence of computer and communication technologies in the latter half of the last century resulted in networks in general and the Internet in particular. The result of the first convergence, i.e. network technologies, is now converging with biomedical and genetic technologies to give rise to the second convergence. Consequently, an unprecedented increase in the quantity of information is being produced from genetic laboratories all over the world. This exponential increase in the quantity of information seems to be a phenomenon similar to that of the 'information explosion' after World War II, referred to by Bowles (1999, p. 156). The phenomenal quantity of information (or merely of data?) currently being produced as a result of the second convergence can therefore be called the 'second information explosion'.

In the light of this second information explosion and the coming of age of the information society in many parts of the world, the emergence in the last three decades of bioinformatics and its extensive literature warrants a closer look – despite the fact that bioinformatics has not been listed in the latest edition of one of the most updated and popular general schemes of classification used by library and information professionals worldwide, i.e. the 22nd edition of the Dewey Decimal Classification, 2003.

A Problem of Definition

The question that comes to the mind every time the term 'bioinformatics' is uttered is, 'what indeed is bioinformatics?' It is more than two decades now that this term has been used but a consensus definition still eludes, even when a large quantity of literature spanning many disciplines is being produced in both printed and digital form (Jeevan, 2002). The rise of undergraduate and advanced degree and training programmes in bioinformatics all over the world has been phenomenal (Altschul, 2005) and the situation of more supply than demand of trained manpower in this field in the United Kingdom has been examined by Den Besten (2003).

> In this burgeoning field, it is becoming increasingly difficult to establish what are or will be the essentials [of bioinformatics]. The readers of this volume will have a role in defining bioinformatics' future. (Altschul, 2005)

It is not that there have not been attempts to define the emerging subject. The origin of many subjects at the end of the last century and in the 21st century is cross-disciplinary in nature, and bioinformatics does not seem to be an exception to this phenomenon.

The cross-disciplinary nature of bioinformatics is evident in the words of Critchlow et al. (2000):

> Depending on who you ask, bioinformatics can refer to almost any collaborative effort between biologists or geneticists and computer scientists – from database development, to simulating the chemical reaction between proteins, to automatically identifying tumors in MRI images.

Attwood and Parry-Smith (2001, pp. 2–3) trace the context of evolution of the term as follows:

> During the last decade, molecular biology has witnessed an information revolution as a result of both of the development of rapid DNA sequencing techniques and of the corresponding progress in computer-based technologies, which are allowing us to cope with this information deluge in increasingly efficient ways. The broad term that was coined in the mid–1980s to encompass computer applications in biological sciences is bioinformatics.

The emergence of bioinformatics as a cross-disciplinary subject has been well recognized. Biologists and geneticists were the first ones who started on the path that we today call bioinformatics. People from many other subjects, such as computer scientists, mathematicians and statisticians joined the bandwagon. Librarians and information professionals are now joining them. The initial intended meaning of the term bioinformatics was the application of computers and associated machines for handling, storing and manipulating biological data. As Attwood and Parry-Smith (2001, p. 3) further point out,

> the term bioinformatics has been commandeered by several different disciplines to mean rather different things. ... In the context of genome initiatives, the term was originally applied to the computational manipulation and analysis of biological sequence data (DNA and/or protein).

Various definitions of bioinformatics and its component 'informatics' are available. A few definitions and descriptions of informatics and bioinformatics set the context for establishing the need for a cross-disciplinary definition.

Informatics has been defined in the research goals of the US Human Genome Project (HGP) as

the creation, development, and operation of databases and other computing tools to collect, organize, and interpret data. (Collins and Galas, 1993)

In Harrod's glossary, informatics is defined in three senses, as reproduced below:

> Informatics. 1. The processes, methods, and laws relating to the recording, analytical-synthetic processing, storage, retrieval and dissemination of scholarly information, but not the scholarly information as such which is the attribute of the respective science or discipline. 2. The study of the structure of knowledge and of its embodiment in information-handling systems. 3. The study of the handling and communication of information, particularly by automated and electronic means. (Harrod, 1990, p. 307)

The earliest definition of informatics by Mikhailov (1966), quoted in the second edition of the Oxford English Dictionary (OED), is reproduced below:

> Informatics is the discipline of science which investigates the structure and properties (not specific content) of scientific information, as well as the regularities of scientific information activity, its theory, history, methodology and organization. (Oxford English Dictionary, 1989, Vol. 7, p. 944)

The HGP definition of informatics seems to be very narrow, as it is focused only on databases, while all the senses in Harrod's glossary are much broader and put the term in context. Mikhailov's definition is the earliest of those quoted above, yet is broader than all the others.

Bioinformatics – an Umbrella Term?

Going through various definitions of this term, it appears that "the term 'Bioinformatics' is not really well-defined" (Weizmann Institute of Science, 200?) and many definitions are simply descriptions of activities carried out under this name. Some of the following identify subject areas where the term can be used, while others specify activities. It is used synonymously and interchangeably with computational biology, genetics, genomics, and molecular biology.

> This scientific field deals with computational management of all kinds of biological

information, whether it may be about genes and their products, whole organisms or even ecological systems. Most of the bioinformatics work that is being done can be described as analyzing biological data, although a growing number of projects deal with the organization of biological information. (Weizmann Institute of Science, 200?)

In its broadest sense, the term can be considered to mean information technology applied to the management and analysis of biological data; this has implications in diverse areas ranging from artificial intelligence and robotics to genome analysis. . . . However, in view of the recent rapid accumulation of available protein structures, the term now tends to be used to embrace the manipulation and analysis of three-dimensional (3D) structural data. (Attwood and Parry-Smith, 2001, p. 3)

According to Alpi (2003), bioinformatics is the science of managing and analysing biological data using advanced computing techniques. Other definitions include:

conceptualizing biology in terms of macro-molecules (in the sense of physical-chemistry) and then applying 'informatics' techniques (derived from disciplines such as applied maths, computer science, and statistics) to understand and organize the information associated with these molecules. (Luscombe et al., 2003)

Bioinformatics can be loosely defined as the application of computer technology to collect, analyse, organize and merge biological and genetic information which can be used for gene-based drug discovery and development. (Jeevan, 2002, p. 271)

The study of the information content and information flow in biological systems and processes. (Liebman, 1995)

Bioinformatics is the field of science in which biology, computer science, and information technology merge to form a single discipline. (Bioinformatics Factsheet, 2001)

the methods that are used to collect store, retrieve, analyse, and correlate this mountain of complex information are grouped into a discipline called bioinformatics. . . [It] encompasses the use of tools and techniques from three separate disciplines; molecular biology (the source of the data to be analyzed), computer science (supplies the hardware for running analysis and networks to communicate the results), and the data analysis algorithms which strictly define bioinformatics. (Richon, 2001)

These definitions are no older than a decade at most, and the field of bioinformatics has changed profoundly in these years. Altschul (2005) commented on the growth and development of bioinformatics in the Foreword to the collected papers of the National Conference on Bioinformatics Computing, held in March 2005 at Patiala, India. But it can safely be said, from the above definitions (strict, loose, functional, etc.) and descriptions, that bioinformatics is concerned primarily with all aspects of the life-cycle of genetic and related data and information after its generation, such as its retrieval, dissemination, interpretation, and interrelation with other information (largely biological), in "converting it into knowledge." (Liebman, 1995).

A diverse pattern emerges out of the above definitions that shows the variety of activities covered under this term. Therefore, it is like an umbrella term, with every activity dealing with genetic and associated information for various purposes being covered under the bioinformatics umbrella. People from many disciplines are now coming together under this umbrella. The need of the hour is to evolve a cross-disciplinary definition that incorporates the concerns of all disciplines that have been contributing to this emerging subject. Library and information professionals should bear this responsibility, as the realization of the importance of applying principles of knowledge organization and information retrieval (e.g. classification, metadata, vocabulary control, etc.) in the effective handling of the huge amounts of biological information generated in the laboratory – and by extension in the 'information society' – or, as in some definitions, the informatics aspect of bioinformatics, has become more important in the evolution of bioinformatics than finding genetic and associated data in the laboratory.

Governments in both developed and less developed countries have recognized the potential of bioinformatics. In less developed countries like India, the importance of coordination among

experts in the various disciplines associated with bioinformatics has also been recognized. For instance, in the sectoral road-map of 'Bio-informatics and IT-enabled Biotechnology' in the draft National Biotechnology Development Strategy (NBDS) of India, the following words highlight the dire need for interdisciplinary cooperation, though only two subject areas and their experts are named:

> One of the major challenges in optimum exploitation of bioinformatics for solving life science issues is the formulation of appropriate computational biology problems that can be addressed through IT tools. *This requires adequate appreciation of the scope and strength of bioinformatics by the biologists and basic understanding of the biological sciences by the information scientists [emphasis of the author of this paper and not of the NBDS draft].* The solution lies in having adequate leaders with expertise in both life sciences and information technology and strong institutional/program tie-up between specialists from both the fields. (India, Department of Biotechnology, 2005, p. 40)

The following excerpts from the *Bioinformatics Policy of India* (India, Department of Biotechnology, 2004) indicate that the Government of India, though not very clear on what constitutes bioinformatics activities, has aimed its bioinformatics programme at greater information access in the post-genomic era:

> Bioinformatics has become a frontline applied science and is of vital importance to the study of new biology, which is widely recognised as the defining scientific endeavour of the twenty-first century. The genomic revolution has underscored the central role of bioinformatics in understanding the very basics of life processes. (p. 3)

> The principal aim of the bioinformatics programme was to ensure that India emerged a key international player in the field of bioinformatics; enabling a greater access to information wealth created during the post-genomic era and catalysing the country's attainment of lead position in medical, agricultural, animal and environmental biotechnology. (p. 4)

The *Bioinformatics Policy* has also identified the following areas of work and work groups:

The Apex [Bioinformatics] Centre should compile a list of work areas for general guidance of the [bioinformatics] centres, keeping in view [. . .] and basic objectives of the Government of India. These would include:

- Identification of high priority research areas that need to be addressed.
- Identification of core interest areas of the Bioinformatics programme.
- Identification of high priority databases and software that need to be developed.
- Standardisation of course curriculum for bioinformatics education.
- Monitoring, analysing and publishing the market demand of different bioinformatics applications (tools) and utilities.

[. . .]

The Apex Centre, based on the reports of the individual centres, should evolve small functional work groups and foster closer interaction within these individual groups. [. . .] On the basis of the current trends of the [BTIS] network, suggested work groups include:

- Medical Science
- Commercial Biotechnology & Intellectual Property Management
- Computational Biology & Algorithms
- Biodiversity & Environment
- Plant Science, Agriculture & Veterinary Science
- Molecular Biology, Cell Biology & Structural Biology" (India, Department of Biotechnology, 2004, p. 17)

Organization of Data and Databases

Much genetic and related data and information is either born digital or is soon converted into digital form. Databases are created from primary data from genetic research, and with the increase in data and databases a system of organizing such databases into categories has arisen. According to Zdobnov et al. (2001), molecular biology databases are categorized as: bibliographic; taxonomic; nucleic acid; genomic; protein and specialized protein databases; protein families, domains, and functional sites; proteomics initiatives; and enzyme/metabolic pathways. Berendsen (2002) classifies databases as (a) archival and derived, and (b) structural,

and protein and nucleic acid sequence databases.

In whatever way these databases may be categorized, search tools are needed to retrieve the information they contain. Search tools such as the Entrez and Sequence Retrieval System (SRS) developed by leading database developers like the National Center for Biotechnology Information (NCBI) in the United States and EMBnet in Europe, are good efforts, but the data being generated at present is too much and will experience a manifold increase in the coming years. Databases in bioinformatics have been related to digital libraries; in the words of Jan Aalbersberg (1998),

> molecular biology databases – mostly consisting of gene and protein sequences – are examples of digital libraries that have increasingly complex applications associated with them. The development and use of these applications (i.e., the techniques, algorithms, and tools to analyse, compare, and classify the data in those biological databases) takes place in the field of bioinformatics.

The importance of principles of knowledge organization and information retrieval for effective handling of biological information and the processes related to it in bioinformatics have been clearly emphasized by Mount (2001, p. 46) as follows:

> Biological databases are beginning to use "controlled vocabularies" for entering data so that these defined terms can confidently be used for database subsequent searches. . . .

Further, he says,

> A genome database may also be interfaced with other types of data. This type of organization, termed data warehousing, can facilitate the search for novel relationships among the data by data mining methods . . . The ultimate step in genome analysis is to collect the information found on gene and protein sequences, alignments, gene function and location, protein families and domains, relationships of genes to those in other organisms, chromosomal rearrangements, and so on into a comprehensive database. This database should be logically organized so that all types of information

are readily accessible and easily retrievable by users who have widely divergent knowledge of the organism. This goal is best achieved by using controlled vocabularies . . . without ambiguity. (p. 525)

The above paragraphs give a clear indication that 'information' from these databases is increasingly required for correlation with already available information for solving problems in biology, agriculture (Keshav Mohan, 2002), genetics, medicine (Jeevan, 2002) and other subjects. This is also evident in the following:

> Ultimately, however, all of this information must be combined to form a comprehensive picture of normal cellular activities so that researchers may study how these activities are altered in different disease states. Therefore, the field of bioinformatics has evolved such that most pressing task now involves the analysis and interpretation of various types of data, including nucleotide and amino acid sequences, protein domains, and protein structures. (Bioinformatics Factsheet, 2001)

Global Action in a Global Electronic Village

Though databases and tools have been developed largely in the developed world, researches and material for research also continue in the less developed world. In a global electronic village, action at the international level is needed to address definitional, data warehousing, social and ethical issues in bioinformatics across disciplinary and political boundaries. The Inter-Union Bioinformatics Group (IUBG), established by the International Council of Scientific Unions in 1998, was a good effort, although no international body of library and information professionals was represented in it.

The IUBG report ((Berendsen, 2002) identified "four different aspects associated with primary data for which standardization should be considered: content, nomenclature, data format, and data exchange protocol". From this report is becomes clear again that the role of information content and its organization is the cutting edge in bioinformatics.

In a US Department of Energy (DOE) report on its Human Genome Project (1997) under the

heading 'modularity and standards' of databases, the following functions have been identified: authoring, publishing and archiving, cataloging (metadata), and data access and manipulation. Under these last two headings the following are mentioned:

Cataloging (metadata): This is the 'librarian' function. The primary function of a library is not to store information but rather to enable the user to determine what data is available and where to find it. The librarian's primary function is to generate and provide "metadata" about what data sets exist and how they are accessed (the electronic analog of the card catalogue). Other critical functions include querying, cross-referencing, and indexing.

Data access and manipulation: This is the "user interface". Because the data volumes are typically large, computerized methods for data access and manipulation must be provided, including graphical user interfaces (GUIs). (Human Genome Project, 1997)

In limiting the library and information profession only to the metadata function, in a restricted sense of the term (the Human Genome Project report says metadata does not include querying, cross-referencing and indexing) and excluding it from the other important functions of organizing, publishing and archiving, the report further damages the library and information profession by questioning the capabilities of its professionals as follows:

Currently, neither standards nor modularity are very much in evidence in the Project. The DOE could contribute significantly by encouraging standards. Database groups should be encouraged to concentrate on the "librarian" functions, and leave the publishing and archival functions to other groups . . . As part of the librarian function, investment should be made in acquiring automatic engines that produce metadata and catalogues. *With the explosive growth of web-accessible information, it is unlikely that human librarians will be able to keep pace with the ancillary information on the genome, e.g. publications and web sites [emphasis of the author of this paper and not of the HGP report].* The technology for such search engines is well developed for the web and needs to be applied specifically to genomic information for specificity,

completeness, and efficiency. Indexing and cross-referencing are critical database functions. It is often the case that the indexes which encapsulate the relationships in and between databases constitute a far larger data set than the original data. Significant computer resources should go into pre-computation of the indexes that support the most frequent queries.

Averting an Information War

From the excerpts from the HGP report in the previous section, two points are clearly established. First, it has excluded the library and information science community from functions other than those it has termed 'librarian' functions. Secondly, it has underestimated the capability of the library and information profession and its professionals in the mammoth task of organizing, analyzing, and interpreting genetic (and associated proteomic, structural) data into meaningful information and to relate such information to diverse bio-based disciplines.

A contradiction of sorts regarding the relationship between bioinformatics and the library and information community in the United States appears between the HGP report, on the one hand, and the establishment of the NCBI under the National Library of Medicine, on the other. The need for pinpointing 'what constitutes bioinformatics', noted by Stephen Altschul, of NCBI, has been reported earlier in this paper. Bowles (1999, p. 169), commenting on the wars between scientists and librarians in organizing the information produced during the first information explosion in the latter half of the 20th century, remarked that

the mistakes made in the past were most notably the absence of the librarian's voice in issues relating to automation and information. We cannot afford that voice to be silenced again, nor can we allow the information wars to claim another victim. The librarian must remain our primary gatekeeper of knowledge.

But have we, the academics, become any wiser? Are we not heading towards another information war, over genetic information? Library and information professionals and their professional bodies at national and international levels need to adopt a proactive role if we are to avert another information war in the near future.

A close look at the standardization issues mentioned in the IUBG report and the standardization functions of databases mentioned in the HGP report reveal that library and information professionals have traditionally been associated with many of the issues raised in both reports. It becomes clear, therefore, that the application of the principles of library and information service is now required to manage this mountain of data, to generate information from this data and to create new knowledge from it. In contrast to other players and stakeholders working in bioinformatics, the gravity of the situation has not been realized fully by the library and information community. The comments of Alpi (2003) that

> unfortunately, the level of bioinformatics exposure in most LIS graduate programs is limited

speaks volumes about the proactive role of LIS profession towards the emerging transdisciplinary subject of bioinformatics.

The voice of the library and information community is also required in relation to data access and social and ethical issues associated with bioinformatics. The IUBG also highlighted its concern about these issues as follows:

> Statement 3 on right to fair use of data: Scientific advancements rely on full and open access to data. Primary data that are accessible through the archival databases should not be subjected to any restrictions that would limit fair use of those data. Fair use includes the use for teaching and research purposes. (Berendsen, 2002)

Concluding Remarks

With the convergence of genetics and computers, the increase in the quantity of information being produced from genetic laboratories constitutes a 'second information explosion'. As a result of this convergence, bioinformatics has emerged as a transdisciplinary subject with literature on it being produced in many established disciplines. As a consensus cross-disciplinary definition of the subject still eludes, it has provided an opportunity to library and professionals to broaden their professional horizons in the information society by serving as primary gatekeepers of knowledge and information in diverse bio-based subjects, as well as generators of new knowledge from the mountains of biological data and information in collaboration with experts from other subjects and at community and institutional levels. This opportunity arises for two reasons: first, because of the growing recognition of the importance of information in 21st century society, that is increasingly being termed as an 'information society', and secondly, because librarianship and information work, among various 'information' professions, is the one that has traditionally focused on information *per se*, rather than on the technology used for its management or on other related aspects. The theory and the techniques that the library and information profession have developed need to be applied in the diverse bio-based disciplines that are coming under the bioinformatics umbrella and even further in the field of 'biomedical informatics' (Martin-Sanchez et al., 2004; Columbia University Department of Biomedical Informatics, 200?). In the words of Liebman (1995),

> bioinformatics is evolving to serve as a bridge between the observations in diverse bio-based disciplines, and the derivation of understanding or knowledge about how the system or process functions, or in the case of disease, dysfunctions.

The voice of the library and information community in evolving and shaping bioinformatics has not been adequate. The formation by the American Society for Information Science and Technology of a virtual Special Interest Group (SIG) on Bioinformatics to provide a forum for interaction between specialists in bioinformatics (e.g. scientists in computational molecular biology), information technology and information science, is a laudable effort (Paris, 2001). The Society has also published a special issue of its *Journal* on bioinformatics, with Bradley M. Hemminger and David Fenstermacher as guest editors (Volume 56, number 5, 2005). Nevertheless, the fact that the library and information community is not represented on interdisciplinary bodies like the IUBG is a matter of concern. The 'information wars' of the latter half of the 20th century should not be repeated between librarians and other players in the field of bioinformatics. In the evolving information society, the library and information community should work together with other subject experts to evolve a consensus definition of the subject and give it shape in such a way that it gains importance in all fields of life sciences.

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Globalization of Information and the Nigerian Librarian

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Introduction

Globalization has been defined by Stern (2000) as the growing integration of economics and societies through the flow between countries of information, ideas, activities, technologies, goods, services, capital and people. Ocampo and Martin (2003) define it as the growing influence exerted at the local, national and regional levels by financial, economic, environmental, political, social and cultural processes that are global in scope. Asouzu (2004) sees globalization as a new form of humanism which bridges the differences between human beings in all spheres of life; a concept, an idea which fundamentally seeks to express universal humanism designed to make the world a better place for all based on equal opportunities, rights and privileges.

These definitions highlight the fact that globalization is a world-wide phenomenon. It is multi-dimensional in nature and has significant impact on the world society economically, socially, politically, and culturally. Stern's definition goes further to say that globalization is still growing, integrating many more nations of the world.

Some scholars see globalization as a positive step towards development; for example, Rugumanu (1999) describes it as the triumph of capitalism on a global scale. Others see it as a paradox in the sense that it is equated with a vile and sinister form of inter-nationalization where a few powerful and greedy individuals and nations seek to subjugate and exploit an unsuspecting majority (Asouzu, 2004). This must be the reason why Ninsin (2000) calls it a new phase of imperialism. The policies, treaties, and agreements underlining globalization have been challenged and rejected by hundreds and thousands of demonstrators all around the world, giving rise to what could be called anti-globalization movements. Many people have questioned the insistence of the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund (IMF), and the World Trade Organization (WTO), the principal international bodies promoting globalization, on the benefits of austerity, trade liberalization and privatization measures underlining globalization. People have also questioned the impact of globalization on the commercialization, commoditization and privatization of information, which hitherto had been largely non-profit oriented. The International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) has drawn attention to the implications of globalization for libraries (IFLA, 2001). It is also believed to have serious potential risks and negative effects such as volatility of income, adverse effect on culture, adverse effect on the environment, disease spreading, emigration facilitation as a result of liberalized immigration laws, etc.

The term globalization is a recent coinage but the processes it

describes can be traced back to the later part of the Middle Ages (Yusuf et al., 2000; Stern, 2002; Ocampo and Martin, 2003; Asouzu, 2004). It is significant that such a catalytic phenomenon, which evolved centuries ago, has been sustained up till the present day by the scientific and cultural thinking of the Renaissance, the establishment of the great European nations and empires which have now culminated in the European Union and the expansion of capitalism.

According to Ocampo and Martin (2003), modern historians distinguish three stages of the development of globalization, namely, 1870–1913; 1945–1973; and from 1973 to the present day. The first stage was marked by a high degree of capital and labour mobility with a trade boom which caused much reduction of transport costs. The globalization of this first stage was halted by the First World War, which began in 1914. The second stage of globalization, which picked up from the end of the world wars, was characterized by a major effort to develop international institutions for financial and trade cooperation as well as a significant expansion of trade among industrial countries. This stage was also known for its widely varying models of economic organizations and limitations on the mobility of capital and labour.

The third stage of globalization, which is believed to have begun about 1973, is characterized by a number of issues which include: a gradual spread of free trade; a growing presence on the international scene of transnational corporations operating as internationally integrated production systems; the expansion and notable mobility of capital; a shift towards the standardization of development models; trade protection mechanisms and tight restrictions on the movement of labour, among other things. This third stage is still expanding, integrating more nations of the world and experiencing many more dimensions.

Globalization and the African Situation

In the globalized economic system, Africa is often referred to as a high-risk continent, especially with regard to security of property rights, regulatory frameworks and markets. Most countries of Africa have low Gross Domestic Product (GDP). This notwithstanding, African governments are still making tangible efforts to improve their Foreign Direct Investment (FDI)

climate in order to integrate with the global trading system.

According to Siddiqi (2003), many African countries, such as Nigeria, are opening up more industrial sectors by allowing foreign equity in privatization. They are also liberalizing capital markets with increasing scope for mergers and acquisitions. Countries such as Ghana, Botswana, Mauritius, Namibia and Tanzania have relaxed their capital controls, which hitherto had constituted a significant deterrent to FDI and international trade. Siddiqi further asserts that many of the 53 African states have become signatories to international trade and investment treaties which govern expropriation; settlement of disputes; and elimination of discrimination between local and foreign investors.

African countries have been evolving both continental and regional groupings to attract investment from the developed countries and multinational companies. For example, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi and Namibia have established one-stop investment centres to expedite approval procedures. The Eastern and Southern countries of Africa (excluding South Africa and Botswana) have adopted a common Road Map for investment facilitation embodied in the Cross Border Initiative (CBI); the West African Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU) and the Southern African Development Community (SADC) have finalized regional protocols to harmonize investment laws, which are incentives for both domestic and foreign investors.

Perhaps the most significant and sensitive step taken so far by African countries towards integration into the global economy was the formation of the New Partnership for African Development (NEPAD), a development plan which seeks to liberate Africa from the history of underdevelopment, poverty, war and corruption. According to the Alternative Information and Development Center (AIDC) (2002), NEPAD is essentially an attempt to negotiate with Northern powers the terms of Africa's integration into the world economy by ensuring that they invest their resources in the continent.

NEPAD evolved because of the bitter experiences of African countries over the last two decades in their implementation of IMF/World Bank Structural Adjustment Policies, which led to higher levels of poverty, unemployment and inequality in the continent. For example, South African integration into the world economy

through the adoption of the Gear Macro-Economic Policy led to loss of jobs for about one million workers and consequently higher levels of poverty. Moreover, the resulting financial crisis led to the devaluing of their currency. The same situation applied to Nigeria, whose currency continued to be devalued, thousands of workers were retrenched and the poverty which globalization was supposed to reduce or eradicate became more entrenched and widespread as a result of the implementation of globalization policies.

On the political scene, NEPAD reflects the perspectives and language of the World Bank anti-corruption and good governance initiative through which they maintain an enabling environment for private sector investment; hence NEPAD's Democracy and Political Governance Initiative and Economic and Corporate Governance Initiative. These are aimed at reducing corruption, enhancing democracy and achieving good governance.

NEPAD also identifies with the private sector, and more particularly with foreign investment, as the driving force of development. One can see it as an alternative strategy towards achieving sustainable and appropriate development which begins with inward oriented development based on the political, social and economic integration of African nations. Such integration, as exemplified in NEPAD and the African Union, has recently achieved long-awaited debt cancellation for some African countries and debt relief for others. This may further lead to the empowerment of the region in terms of investments in education, health, infrastructure, industrialization and the manufacturing sectors.

The purpose of this paper, therefore, is to highlight the position of the Nigerian librarian in the present globalized information system and to suggest ways of uplifting him to the status where he could maximize the benefits of globalization through ICT for nation building and for better, timely and more efficient information delivery.

Globalization of Information

The three stages of the development of globalization have been fuelled by successive technological revolutions and by advances that have cut the costs of transportation, information and communication. These brought about the shortening of distances, the development of new means of transport and real-time transmission of information, which started with the invention of the telegraph and expanded with the advent of the telephone and television. The development of information and communications technologies in recent years revolutionized access to information on a mass scale, thus reducing the costs involved. Some countries are known to be proficient in producing information technology materials and equipment, but are very low in IT usage. For example, Wong (2001), and Kenny (2003) assert that, although the Asian region accounts for a high share of global ICT production, it trails behind some other regions in ICT adoption and usage. It is believed, however, that with time the region will begin to make effective use of its ICT products. But the situation in the African region is rather different and pathetic. African countries neither produce ICT materials and equipment nor make effective use of those produced by others. The pleasant dream of having a large percentage of Africans involved in the production and effective use of information technology will take quite some time to materialize.

The globalized information system that culminates in Internet usage has contributed significantly to world economic growth (Qiang et al., 2004). Yusuf et al. (2000) express it in a different way, saying that financial globalization is reinforcing the impact of the communications revolution on global linkages. They give the example that 80 percent of all international data flows are generated by the financial services sector.

Considering these statements, one cannot help agreeing with Asouzu (2004) that globalization means different things to different people. One can also confidently assert that, whereas globalization has effectively impacted on information and communications technology, likewise the ICT revolution has contributed immensely to accelerating globalization, enriching its global perspectives. The two phenomena are working hand in hand to bring about changes in the integration of world affairs and especially in the global economy.

Qiang et al (2004) identify three channels of ICT contribution to the growth of the global economy, namely, Total Factor Productivity (TFP) growth in sectors producing ICT; capital deepening; and Total Factor Productivity (TFP) growth through reorganization and ICT usage. According to Qiang et al, the rapidly increasing computing power of new ICT products such as

memory chips raise the average TFP growth of the economy. This exemplifies the first channel. Capital deepening, which is the second channel, contributes to economic growth when higher levels of financial investment in ICT bring about new products and falling prices, thereby raising the productivity of the existing capital stock and of labour. By the third channel, ICT applications can create new markets, new products and new ways of organizing how society operates. Moreover, there are many ways in which ICT can reduce administrative procedures, disseminate information cheaply, efficiently and timely and trigger new business models which are more productive than the existing ones. In the same way, sectors such as retailing, financial services and transportation are benefiting immensely from ICT utilization.

When we talk about information technology in isolation, we tend to limit the revolutionary strength of the new technologies; but when we refer to it as information and communications technology – identifying the communication aspect – we capture its revolutionary totality in its widest possible sense. As a revolution, ICT has completely changed the face of the global economy in all its ramifications. It has increased competition globally, both in technological advancements and in the socio-economic sectors, leading to lower prices for ICT goods and services. It has provided a strong incentive to replace other forms of capital and labour with information technology. It contributes immensely to output, employment and export earnings; for example, in the year 2000, the White House estimated that more than 13 million Americans held ICT-related jobs and that the rate of growth in this sector was six times as fast as overall job growth (World Bank, 2002). In the same year, India's software industry alone employed 400,000 people and produced USD 8 billion in sales (*Economist*, 2001). Computers are largely responsible for this increased growth. Communications equipment and software have also contributed significantly (Jogenson, 2001). All the same, data shows that ICT contributions vary tremendously across regions. According to the IMF (2001), ICT benefits can accrue to producers, in the form of higher profits; to consumers, in the form of lower prices; and to labour, in the form of wages. Some regions are mainly producers, some are consumers, some are both producers and consumers. In Africa, Nigeria is neither a producer nor a consumer nation, but her large unemployed population can benefit immensely

from ICT-related jobs if only the country will embrace ICTs profoundly.

The Nigerian Librarian and the Globalization of Information

Information technology and the Internet have been seen by some observers as a possible means by which developing countries might 'leapfrog' past outdated technologies and in the process accelerate their economic growth (Miller, 2001). This could be possible to some extent, depending on the level of development a particular country has reached. In Nigeria, the 'leapfrogging' may not be much because use of the Internet is not yet sufficiently widespread to reach many consumers and businessmen, and the use of ICT is still in its developmental stage.

The low levels of development and use of ICT in Nigeria, as in most of Sub-Saharan Africa, could be attributed to a lot of things, including lack of dependable infrastructural framework, lack of a solid pool of skilled workers, inadequate number of personal computers, inadequate and unreliable telecommunication and electric power infrastructures, and poor financial systems which are unable to encourage the use of consumer credit to support commercial transactions. Zulu (1994) asserts that this problematic situation is further compounded by the fact that the information intermediaries (librarians, documentalists) who could play a crucial role in bridging the gap between ICT and the illiterate end-user are accorded low status and hence poorly rewarded.

So, the Nigerian librarian of the first decade of the 21st century finds himself in a dilemma. He is expected to launch himself into the world of computer networking, Internet surfing and cyberspace exploration and repackaging of information, thereby integrating himself into the globalized information system; but he cannot do so because he is severely handicapped.

Library automation, which has been adopted by most libraries in the developed parts of the world, is yet to take off in many libraries in Nigeria and the Nigerian librarian continues to wait to achieve his dream of library automation. Many Nigerian libraries which would have loved to join the rest of the world in the globalized information system, accessing information online using the online catalogue, are still using their card catalogues and operating manual

library systems. The Nigerian librarian should acquire, process, store, disseminate, and deliver information electronically if he is to be fully integrated as an information specialist in the Information Age, knowledgeable in the production, application and use of information online.

Thanks to the Nigerian Government's National Universities Network (NUNet) scheme, which aims at connecting all tertiary institutions and their libraries into a network connected to the Internet, Nigerian librarians may not have to wait for too long for their dreams to come true (Unonogbo, 1998). A few universities are already connected and are enjoying Internet services. Others will soon be connected. It is hoped that, before the end of this decade, the scheme will be completed and the major cities of the country will also be connected in a web of high-speed fibre optic networks. Computer literacy programmes, which have not yet become widespread, will be integrated into the day-to-day programmes of organizations, institutions and parastatals in order to equip people to use these new services.

It is hoped that, by the next decade, both library and business use of the Internet will expand rapidly in Nigeria because of the Federal Government's efforts to comply with WTO obligations such as trade liberalization and quota protection (Siddiqi, 2003). This may encourage more and more businessmen to begin to build up their own application software packages to accelerate business processes and consequently to make more profit. For example, the X-LIB computer software, which has become popular in Nigeria for the automation of library operations and services, was conceived and developed by staff of the Raw Materials Research and Development Council (RMRDC) of the Nigerian Federal Ministry of Science and Technology in collaboration with BERAM Ltd., a private computer company.

Nigeria may be a rich country with poor people and very low GDP; it is still a large country with a large population and an expanding middle class. Although its literacy level is low, it has many universities from which thousands of graduates emerge each year seeking employment. The 21st century Nigerian librarian has many challenges to tackle in this integration process. The large population of the country and their surge into the cities in great numbers will have to be checked by improving living conditions in the rural areas so that people will be comfortable to settle down there rather than move to congest the cities the more. This means that necessary infrastructures such as libraries and information centres must be put in place to support governments' rural development schemes.

Globalization in the 21st century is often associated with improved and enhanced productivity, high service quality, transparency, accountability and organizational efficiency (Miller, 2001). Information and communications technology, which is a special dimension of globalization, is a forceful tool for improving governance and strengthening democracy. Nigeria is now trying to transform and build up its democratic processes in governance, which need to be strengthened and enhanced by the forces of globalization. Nigerian librarians must be at the forefront if we are to achieve this, using ICT to strengthen and mobilize Nigerian democracy, which is still wavering and very unstable. Librarians must initiate and encourage the widespread use of the Internet, because the large population of the country is an asset in electronic commerce.

Another benefit of globalization to developing countries of the world is that it could facilitate poverty reduction (Yusuf et al., 2000) and at the centre of this is ICT application and usage. Since a large percentage of the Nigerian poor dwell in the rural areas, rural development should be given high priority in ICT application and usage by helping the rural people learn and participate in global information sourcing and delivery, which is currently providing jobs to millions of job-seekers all over the world. This globalized system of information delivery has also brought about the use of information to assist rural people in their economic activities such as farming, trading entrepreneurship, etc. For example, farmers can greatly increase their productivity by using information on improved technologies in agricultural inputs, on the weather and on markets. Traders and other entrepreneurs need to find marketing information and disseminate such about their businesses. The librarian, who is at the centre of information delivery, can supply such needed information and direct them on how best to apply and utilize the information procured (Iwe, 2003).

The Nigerian librarian must ensure that information technology, which has become a potent force in transforming social, economic, and

political life globally, is entrenched in the Nigerian system, because without it, there is very little chance of development (Hafkin and Taggart, 2001). Nigerian librarians must not just become computer literate; they must be knowledgeable in information and communications technology so as to be able to use electronic communications for networking to promote library services for national development.

Stern (2002) asserts that the three most important ways to achieve poverty reduction are: by universal basic education; social protection measures to deal with adjustment programmes; and connection to the global economy by all the regions of a country. In Nigeria, these three strategies are gradually being put in place. There is universal basic education (UBE) at the primary school level to ensure that everyone participates in and benefits from growth, development and globalization. There are social protection measures to cushion the effects of liberalization processes and structural adjustment programmes. There is open trade in all the parts of the country connecting all the regions directly to the global economy.

The non-automated nature of Nigerian libraries has prevented librarians from benefiting fully from the advances of new technologies. This can be noticed in many aspects of library practice and service; for example, resource sharing and interlibrary loan schemes, which constitute dimensions of library collaboration, have been tried in Nigeria using manual systems about 20 years ago, without success. But with the advent of the new technologies, collaboration and resource sharing among libraries would be facilitated and made more efficient through computer networking (Unonogbo, 1998). The Virtual Library System which has been made possible by the new technologies is yet to find root in Nigerian libraries. Desktop publishing, which has become increasingly popular in libraries in the developed parts of the world, is only now catching up with local publishers in Nigerian towns and cities, but is yet to take off in most Nigerian libraries. Stubley (1985) and Edkins (1990) assert that a wide range of print materials such as guides, notices, forms, bibliographies, labels, pamphlets, newsletters, posters, reports, lists, etc., which are often produced for use and changed regularly in libraries, can now be produced more cheaply and timely and changed as regularly as possible through desktop publishing applications. This is an advantage that Nigerian libraries are yet to develop in their systems.

The automation of library functions and services in Nigeria will bring about increased access to national and international resources through online searching. Ajibero (1998) agrees, when he says that the use of automated library systems in Nigeria will enable Nigerian libraries to become members of international bibliographic utilities such as OCLC and benefit from their services such as online cataloguing and interlibrary loan. Anafulu (1998) proffers that, with the long list of benefits accruing from globalization and the use of the new technologies, user expectations of Nigerian libraries will be high and Nigerian librarians will be expected to play new roles in society and display a long set of strategies for survival. It is very disheartening that most Nigerian librarians can only access the Internet outside their libraries; yet many of the new technologies are meant to be maximized within information environments, of which libraries are a part.

Conclusion

All through this paper there have been discussions on how globalization has impacted on information and communications technology, how ICT has contributed in globalizing economic, social and political understanding and cooperation among nations; and how the Nigerian librarian could be integrated into these global phenomena, achieving maximum benefits.

The use of ICT depends very much on a solid pool of skilled workers who are educated enough not only to appreciate advancements in technologies but also to use the different applications as directed. Moreover, a well-educated population is far more likely to capitalize on the productivity gains from ICT. This is the reason why most, if not all, cyber cafes in Nigeria are located in the cities and university towns. The local, state and federal governments of Nigeria should increase their budget allocations to education and information in order to improve the standard of education in the country and increase ICT application and usage.

Research in national development is important for understanding and absorbing internationally developed knowledge. The Federal Government of Nigeria should support research activities in library and information science in all its ramifications so as to equip the information specialists properly for the task of information delivery, which continues to become more and more sophisticated.

The globalization of information is rooted in information and communications technology. The positive impact on the structure of the economy can be seen in the digitization of information flows, communication processes, and coordination mechanisms. Meanwhile, the Federal Government of Nigeria is striving to complete the National Universities Network (NUNet), which will not only automate all academic libraries in the country, but also connect them to the Internet in a nationwide network. This will strongly entrench the Nigerian librarian in his professional position as an information specialist in information acquisition, processing, storage and delivery, as well as integrating him into the global information system. But the question may arise as to whether Nigerian librarians are skilled enough in the use and application of the new technologies to be able to deliver cheap, efficient and timely information to Nigerians. While continuing the NUNet Scheme, the Federal Government should also direct resources towards training and re-training Nigerian librarians to acquire the new skills they need for the proper use and application of the new technologies, so that lack of skilled manpower and expertise does not mar the progress of the programme. The Nigerian librarian who is professionally equipped in the processes of information delivery is equally equipped to face squarely the challenges of the profession in the new millennium, especially in relation to ICT application and usage for the achievement of a meaningful information system on a global scale.

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President's Report

Kay Raseroka, IFLA President 2003–2005

Dear members of IFLA,

I would like to begin this Presidential Report by referring to my initial commitment as a candidate for IFLA's presidency. My main pledge was to facilitate communication between different library and information worlds. This means to build on global communication that unites the electronic information rich with the oral information rich. I want to see the two worlds complement one another in creating an information rich society regardless of medium of transmission.

I also promised to uphold IFLA's core values and to support the members, striving to apply these in practice. These core values are our 'red thread' for all our activities as IFLA:

- freedom of access to information, and freedom of expression
- universal and equitable access to information, ideas and works of imagination for the social,

cultural, democratic and economic well being of all people
- high quality library and information services
- IFLA activities should be accessible for all, applying the principle of non-discrimination.

1. IFLA is Changing

The main focus of this Presidency has been to facilitate transition and change of IFLA, based on the outcome of consultations with members. This consultative process started with the brainstorming session in 2002 and has continued electronically as well as in various national and regional association conferences which I was fortunate to engage in. In addition, members' views were sought, on the paper *A Green Light for IFLA*.

The outcomes of these consultations reinforced the following prioritized areas of activity:

- Advocacy
- Partnerships and Alliances
- Continuing Professional Development.

Furthermore, members stressed the responsibility to identify and recognize diversity within the communities served by IFLA's libraries. They also asked for more programmatic coherence of IFLA activities. Last but not least, there was recognition that IFLA has an urgent need to diversify revenue streams and consolidate human resources to meet increased expectations of members.

This clearly pointed the way in which members wish to change IFLA, and upon which we embarked.

Well, some of IFLA's changes were not foreseen. We did not expect to work as a President with three secretaries-general, but it happened. It has caused delays in our planning process, but also made clearer than ever before, that the IFLA

administrative structure is exceptionally under-resourced.

As IFLA members we were galvanized into a quick response to the Indian Ocean Tsunami disaster. The empathy of IFLA members has laid a foundation for action under similar situations.

We acknowledge that the strength of IFLA is its members: colleagues and IFLA staff who sustain programmatic and administrative activities in various parts of the globe. I applaud the generous contributions of these dedicated professionals. Please join me in the expression of our gratitude and applause.

2. Achievements

The Governing Board has approved a more focused presentation of IFLA, based on three pillars: Society, Profession and Members. This new model for IFLA's operations, recognizes that IFLA's core functions relate to the societal contexts in which libraries and information services operate, IFLA's membership and professional matters. These three pillars are supported by the infrastructure offered by IFLA HQ, IFLANET and the Federation's governance structures.

The Society Pillar focuses on the role and impact of libraries and information services in society and the contextual issues that condition and constrain the environment in which they operate across the world. Those issues are addressed currently through FAIFE, CLM, Blue Shield, and our advocacy in the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) and other arenas. We need to place particular emphasis on the World Summit on the Information Society in which IFLA has invested so much and to such good effect. We must capitalize on that investment and those results so that we take full advantage of this second phase leading up to the November 2005 summit meeting in Tunis and to achieve the longer term goals.

The Profession Pillar focuses on the issues covered by the long established Core Activities – ALP, ICABS, PAC, UNIMARC – and the Sections and Divisions. They lie at the core of our professional practice and help libraries and information services to fulfil their purposes and to shape responses to the needs of clients in a rapidly changing global environment.

The Members Pillar is of course central to IFLA. It includes the services we offer to members, management of their membership of IFLA, conferences and publications. We must work together to make IFLA more vibrant and attractive and beneficial for members throughout the world.

The three pillars and the underlying infrastructure are interdependent and not mutually exclusive. They offer a way of understanding and presenting IFLA holistically to the library and information sector and to governments and the wider community. The pillars also provide the framework for IFLA's management and their focus will be reflected in program based budgeting.

The Management of Library Associations Section (MLA) has been drawn closer to IFLA's objectives and strategies. In acknowledgement of this fact, a representative of the MLA section was appointed as a member of the Governing Board.

MLA's valuable expertise, that contributed to the creation of a more equitable fee structure, is highly appreciated. We also recognize that the statutes should be revisited to reposition MLA, in IFLA's reorientation towards global advocacy.

The Governing Board acknowledges and accepts in principle that IFLA's core activities are central to the IFLA structure, both in terms of human resources and financial investment.

However, the necessary allocation of finance for sustained support of core activities through IFLA budgets is dependent on IFLA's willingness to develop a priority based program budgeting system.

We see an increase in active involvement of more members in the congress. Sections cooperate, even across divisions, to prepare interesting programmes. However, there is need for more programmatic interaction. New professionals have raised their voice during the brainstorming sessions, and have now formed a discussion group and found a shelter within the MLA section. The high speed with which this was achieved demonstrates that decisions in IFLA's bureaucracy can be implemented fast, if professionals so wish.

3. Advocacy

IFLA concluded that worldwide advocacy for libraries is what distinguishes IFLA from any national library association. IFLA is the only one that can do this. Global advocacy means that IFLA, as a federation of library associations, works first and foremost with and through the national library associations. That means that IFLA should work with active participating members, and have a good strategy and communication between the national, regional and the international levels on common advocacy issues.

Advocacy in Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) and Freedom of Access to Information and Freedom of Expression (FAIFE) contrives to demand our attention and resources.

The most successful activities in this area of advocacy have been in the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS). We presented ourselves well at the Summit in Geneva in 2003. It was a first step, that provided us with many learning experiences and forged invaluable teamwork, based on extensive support of library associations, institutional members and individual commitment to volunteerism. The sustained support, particularly of the Swiss colleagues, is warmly acknowledged. However, for future advocacy activities we will need to organize extensive resources (the WSIS 2003 cost an estimated 200,000 Euros).

We need to create international groups and manage knowledge as a means to monitor the global issues continuously. We need to cooperate with national library associations in the countries where international summits take place.

4. Professional Development

The core values have been vivified: they form a shared framework of operation. They are made visible in our statements and programmes. But it is time to ACT.

The challenge for us librarians is to stretch our frames of reference to creatively and imaginatively exploit all aspects of ICT for the benefit of humanity. We should be conscious of the fact that many, many people, all over the world, have no opportunity to make use of or benefit from the written word.

To achieve this goal, attention must be focussed on developing and maintaining lifelong information literacy, in its broadest sense, not only among information users, but also among librarians and other information workers.

In this way Libraries for Lifelong Literacy has been put on the agenda for all IFLA units.

The Presidential theme was further developed by a task force chaired by Cristóbal Pasadas, entitled the Presidential Committee for Life Long Literacies. The committee expects to complete its work by the end of September.

The theme has been discussed at various fora, such as UNESCO's Information Literacy Forum and in Alexandria in partnership with the U.S. National Forum on Information Literacy, UNESCO and IFLA.

By putting lifelong literacy on the world agenda of library associations and IFLA members, it has become easier for colleagues in developing countries to discuss these matters, in relation to development of local content in local languages through multimodal text.

The theme has also helped to promote a deeper understanding of literacy in many parts of the world and look beyond mere information literacy, which seems so closely related to ICT skills, forgetting about the critical faculties which are necessary for citizens in an information society.

Some issues related to world problems have been brought closer to the international library community, acknowledging that information and information services play a large role in these issues. One of them is sustainable development. IFLA members were present at the Summit in Johannesburg, but our advocacy was not yet well developed.

The issue of HIV/AIDS continues to challenge us all as it has strong links to lack of access to information and poverty.

A third issue addresses the role of indigenous knowledge systems and oral cultures. Application of intellectual property rights in these cases demands creative solutions from all of us through the CLM core activities. Fundamentally, local communities should have access to their own sources of knowledge, and have them protected. ICT could be helpful, on condition that

the local communities themselves have a say in its applications and are able to benefit from them. Contacts have been made with speakers who explained the implications of valuing indigenous knowledge systems on an equal basis as printed sources. But we haven't come very far in legal protection of these sources.

5. Partnerships

The true understanding that a library cannot on its own achieve good community service, and therefore has to look for partnerships, is also true for library associations, even more so at the international level. We have identified organizations which have a consultative status within IFLA, and the reverse, where IFLA has a consultative status, e.g. in the ECOSOC of the United Nations.

We have made progress in partnerships with publishers (IPA), and with organizations to protect cultural heritage, the Blue Shield.

We have successfully reached agreement on the principles of partnerships with the International Reading Association and the International Board on Books for Young People (IBBY).

At the same time, we have to face the reality that our human resources to follow up on first contacts are limited.

Efforts were made to reach out to other important partners at the international level, such as UNICEF. UNICEF, however, operates in a structure that works mainly through its national committees. So here is another task for national library associations, to make the necessary connections. In this way we can influence UNICEF programmes to enhance their support for children's rights to information, literacy education through collaborative activities with libraries and community resource centres.

Another effort to achieve global access was to partner with telecenters as a means of starting community based services. Contacts in Geneva at the WSIS resulted in a joint seminar during our Buenos Aires congress. But further involvement of IFLA members is needed to make it a fruitful partnership.

A special partnership could grow out of the contacts with e.g. African researchers, who are all over the world. Together with specialized librarians, they could help to give access to local content and community sources which are unknown by the local communities themselves.

Summing Up

Summing up this Presidency leaves some doubts about what has been achieved and what could be achieved in these circumstances. It is clear that we have not yet resolved our financial situation. We have recruited help in various ways to find funds, but more is necessary.

For my part, another worry is still the lack of continuity in IFLA. The development of the position of President-elect has ensured that there is continuity in the presidency. However, there are still problems of continuity in committees and the Governing Board. This is an issue that needs to be addressed when IFLA revisits the current statues.

As a Sort of Testament

We should all work to strengthen our Federation. We need to build the resources to undertake fully the priorities which IFLA members have signalled, especially a strong advocacy program, flourishing professional activities, valued membership benefits and an effective infrastructure. All members need to join with IFLA staff and elected leaders to help secure the required financial strength which will allow us to achieve these goals. All need to promote IFLA and its priorities.

Recommends:

- to work for a strategic plan
- to consolidate the expertise within the association
- to involve more IFLA members in IFLA advocacy and professional development.

Acknowledgments

Allow me, members of Council and Delegates, to pay tribute to President-elect Alex Byrne for his unstinting support in the partnerships we forged.

I pay tribute to the members of the Governing Board for their dedication to the well being of IFLA.

Our sincere thanks go to the IFLA staff at Headquarters and in the various parts of the world, for managing continuity and smooth flow of IFLA operations.

I had the opportunity of addressing members of IFLA in many countries in the five continents. I thank, most sincerely, the various host library associations and institutions that supported and welcomed me on these visits.

I would like to acknowledge and pay a special tribute to the Nordic Library Associations whose continuing financial support made it possible for me to fulfil my responsibilities as IFLA President.

Through their support I had the opportunity to address a number of audiences ranging from scholars in African Studies to library school students, and participants at the World Social Forum. And of course, amplified IFLA's as the global voice.

Last but not least I thank my institution, the University of Botswana.

Colleagues,

I'm confident that the incoming Presidents, Alex Byrne and Claudia Lux will follow up and continue the route of changing IFLA already taken.

To you as members, I would like to say:

'Take care of IFLA'. There is still a lot to be done. IFLA's well-being and future is in your hands.

Thank you for the wonderful opportunity of service that you provided to me.

Presented at the IFLA Council I meeting, Sunday 14 August, 71st IFLA General Conference, Oslo, Norway, 14–18 August 2005.

Kay Raseroka, IFLA President 2003–2005

Alex Byrne, IFLA President 2005–2007

Colleagues and friends, it is an honour and a pleasure to farewell our colleague and friend Mma Kay Raseroka who has been our President and leader for the past two years. As we are all aware, Kay has been an outstanding leader of the Federation and of the wider professional community. We will miss her wisdom and inspiration from the meetings of the Governing Board and when presiding over our Councils and other meetings but I am sure that we will continue to draw on her in the months and years to come.

As the first IFLA President from a country outside the United States or Europe north of the Alps, Kay has brought a fresh perspective to the work of the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions. In particular, she has brought an understanding of the challenges of life and professional work in developing countries, especially in the many nations located in the great continent of Africa. Her insights have

invigorated our discussions and shaped our priorities as we seek to make IFLA more relevant to the day-to-day concerns of our professional colleagues across the globe and our clients, the peoples of the world. They have assisted us to engage with the greatest international forum for our issues that has ever been available to us, the World Summit on the Information Society. Our success in raising our concerns and our priorities through the Summit processes over the past four years has been in no small way due to Kay's energy and determination.

Kay's concern for the well being of all peoples has been demonstrated in her choice of presidential theme. "Lifelong literacies" makes an important statement about our role in society as library and information professionals. It proclaims that we are involved with people throughout their lives, from cradle to grave. It recognizes that we provide information which can: assist mothers to prepare for birth and to care for their infants after birth; support the educational needs of the growing child; prepare graduates for their careers; improve agriculture; inform business and the work of government; and enable research to extend knowledge and deal with global and local problems including the scourge of HIV/AIDS which is devastating the population of sub-Saharan Africa, including Kay's own country Botswana, as well as other parts of the world.

But Kay Raseroka's presidential theme, "Lifelong literacies", goes beyond the provision of information by stating that we, as library and information professionals, and our institutions have a particular responsibility to promote understanding. Because that is what literacy is at root, it is the capacity to access and comprehend communication, to have the skills to access and understand information. We recognize that literacy is multidimensional and highly contextualized so it is appropriate for us to talk of lifelong literacies, to be concerned with the multiple forms of literacy illustrated in our support for reading programs, for information literacy, for programs to facilitate use of specialized information sources and, at least in some societies, with oracy.

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By choosing this theme for her presidential term, Kay Raseroka drew our attention to important global issues including the crucial importance of addressing major social problems. In doing this, she built on her many years of commitment to IFLA, its ideals and its programs. That contribution has been made in many ways including service on the Governing Board and the former Executive Board, work with the Section of University and Other Research Libraries and leadership in Division VIII to mention just a few examples. Kay's dedication has been demonstrated in so many ways that we in IFLA and in the library and information profession owe her a great debt which we recognize today and will continue to remember. It places Kay in the tradition of the great IFLA Presidents including the Norwegians Wilhelm Munthe and Else Granheim. As they responded to the needs of their times, especially Munthe in his magnificent reconstruction of the Federation in the chaos that followed the Second World War, Kay Raseroka's commitment to the Federation has helped to change it profoundly through her drive, along with others, to make IFLA more relevant, more vocal and more democratic.

But while doing so much for IFLA, Kay has not neglected her other life. Like the rest of us she is a volunteer who is not paid for her hours on long flights, time waiting in airport lounges, frustrations with authorities over visas, nights away from family (including her husband, Ben, who is here with us), and time spent preparing and delivering a host of speeches and professional papers. In between all of her work for IFLA, Kay has raised a wonderful family and has developed a very fine library at the University of Botswana where she is very highly regarded. Like all of us she has had to balance commitment to IFLA with the demands of a busy professional career and with the pressures and pleasures of personal and family life.

We will hold Kay in our hearts not just as a great professional but as a friend. Kay's warmth and charm have enriched our lives and have enlivened our interactions. Her addresses to our meetings and to conferences and seminars throughout the world have enthralled and inspired her audiences. Who can forget her presidential address in the splendid Teatro Colon in Buenos Aires last year when Kay responded with great dignity and humour to the very trying loss of the speaker system due to major power problems in the city, which unfortunately coincided, with her speech? That is our Kay, our friend and leader, always poised, always with the right words, always passionate about librarianship.

So, today we thank Mma Kay Raseroka for her commitment to IFLA and for leading us as our President. We wish her well in her future initiatives, for we know that they will be as inspirational and relevant as those we have seen to date. And we will not lose Kay from IFLA but will continue to call upon her guidance when required. So, it's au revoir, Kay, not goodbye! With heartfelt thanks from all of us.

Presented at the IFLA Council II meeting, Thursday 18 August, 71st IFLA General Conference, Oslo, Norway, 14–18 August 2005.

Partnership to Advance Library and Information Service: Presidential Address

Alex Byrne, IFLA President 2005–2007

Colleagues and friends, I am deeply honoured and humbled to stand before you as the incoming President of the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions. It is the highest possible honour and privilege to have been elected to the leadership of our global professional organization and to represent such an outstanding body of colleagues throughout the world. But is also very humbling to take on the responsibility of guiding the Federation in its important work for its members, the profession and society.

I am very conscious that I stand on the shoulders of giants, as Newton put it. Of the many great IFLA Presidents, including our immediate past President Kay Raseroka, I will single out only two, the Swiss Marcel Godet and the Norwegian Wilhelm Munthe. Godet was President through the dreadful years from 1936 to 1947 and kept IFLA going through the divisions and terror of the Second World War. On the eve of

that war, he reminded IFLA conference delegates that libraries must be places of free inquiry and that librarians must always work "à humaniser l'homme [to humanise humanity]" (IFLA 1939, p. 11). After he assumed the Presidency following the war, Munthe turned to the increasing international distrust evident as the Cold War developed and asked what was happening to freedom:

> The freedom from fear has totally vanished, and the freedoms of thought, of speech, of reading – which we librarians are mostly interested in – are gradually vanishing in one country after another . . . we must prepare for the worst, but we must also work for the best. And perhaps never have we librarians had a greater opportunity to make a positive contribution . . . (IFLA 1948, p. 11)

Sadly, sixty years later we might say the same in a world in which division between peoples is being fomented, distrust and fear are growing, and freedoms of thought, speech and access to information are being curtailed. We must unite against the marriage of ignorance and intolerance and their twin children, terror and state control. We must continue to proclaim the human right to know, the crucial importance of freedom of opinion, freedom of expression and communication and freedom of information. They are fundamental rights and they lie at the core of our profession.

Together with library associations and institutions, IFLA is actively working on the big issues for society which are relevant to library and information practice. We have engaged wholeheartedly with the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) and through CLM have become an influential voice in the deliberations of the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) and other fora dealing with major legal matters which affect our practice and our commitment to access to information. Despite limited resources, IFLA/FAIFE has become an influential and respected advocate for intellectual freedom including opposition to

the restrictions imposed in response to fear of terrorism. Through these strategies and in many other ways, IFLA is demonstrating the relevance of libraries and information services to both the daily life and the major concerns of society, our first pillar.

This work is advanced through the professional dialogue which we enjoy through IFLA and our associations. The fact that colleagues from some 140 countries come together annually at this Congress to share experience and pursue collaborative projects and programs is testimony to the strength of our profession. Through that interaction and collaboration we have developed a most impressive body of standards and guidelines which underpin our work. We also promote the advancement of library and information service throughout the world with particular emphasis on underdeveloped regions and ways of addressing the special needs of the most vulnerable including those with disabilities, children, women, minorities and Indigenous peoples. With the creation of the IFLA Relief and Development Partnership we have established a mechanism to provide modest assistance to those colleagues who have suffered or are in regions prone to disasters. This many-layered work which is pursued by our sections and core activities immeasurably strengthens the profession, our second pillar.

IFLA can promote and facilitate this work for society and for the profession because of the strength of our membership. As a membership organization, we need to deliver value to our 1700 plus members from 154 countries and the extended constituency of the hundreds of thousands who belong to our association members or work in our member institutions. We do that through pursuing the programs and projects of relevance to society and the profession but also by providing direct services to members through IFLA HQ, the regional offices, IFLA Journal and, most significantly, IFLANET. But, perhaps the most important benefit for our members is the opportunity for dialogue and cooperation that the Federation provides: this is a process to which we all contribute and from which we all benefit much, much more than each of us contributes. This third pillar, our members, is the core of IFLA's strength.

As an engineer by training, I know that strength derives from interrelationship, from assembling the right elements and joining them in effective

combinations. This is partnership. It is demonstrated throughout IFLA in the work of the sections and core activities, in the ways in which colleagues from throughout the world come together to work on important matters. It is also to be seen in our work with library associations, which has been especially visible in regard to WSIS, and the work of CLM. Our collaborative work is much strengthened by our longstanding partnership with many corporate partners and with our suppliers who we see in the Congress exhibition year after year.

But our partnerships extend beyond the Federation, as for example in our most important relationship with the Conference of Directors of National Libraries (CDNL) which is demonstrated through the IFLA CDNL Alliance for Bibliographic Standards and in the International Committee of the Blue Shield which links us with the peak bodies for the other memory institutions – the International Council of Archives, the International Council of Museums and the International Committee on Monuments and Sites. The importance of collaboration is also visible in our 57-year-old partnership with UNESCO and our growing relationships with other international governmental and non-governmental organizations. In the WSIS processes we have worked very closely with many NGOs representing civil society and much of our effectiveness can be traced to those relationships which have been fostered.

To be a strong partner, the Federation needs to be strong. That means that we need to make IFLA more efficient and robust, diversify the financial base, increase membership to extend our mandate and reach, develop a more effective advocacy capability. This is summarized in the three pillars model – our focus on society, the profession and members. It is very important that we keep doing the things which strengthen our profession including bibliographic standards, preservation and conservation, ALP and the work of the IFLA Sections. But it is also vital that we demonstrate our relevance to society by engaging more directly and visibly with the needs of society including universal and unrestricted access to information to promote community building and strengthening, linguistic and cultural diversity, health and education, research and freedom. IFLA can do much at the global level but that needs to be mirrored by action at national and local levels which brings us back to the importance of partnership.

Partnership is thus a key enabler for our work. We must work in partnership within our field, with those in cognate professions, with those with shared interests and with those who are influential. Thus, my presidential theme is partnership because we must work to develop even stronger collaboration across the IFLA Sections, with our members and especially the library associations, with other sections of the library and information service community across the world and with our colleagues in archives, museums, publishing, information technology and civil society. By working together we will do great things to assist the global network of library and information services to provide unrestricted access to information and thereby to respond to the needs of humanity including the strongly felt concerns of all peoples for freedom, security and development.

In accepting the great responsibility and honour of being the President of IFLA, I am delighted to be able to welcome my colleague and friend, Claudia Lux, to the position of President-elect. We will work in partnership with each other, with the other members of the Governing Board, with the Secretary General and IFLA staff, with officers and members and with others within and outside librarianship to strengthen the Federation, promote our values and achieve our goals. As Munthe put it, we have a great opportunity to make a positive contribution!

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Secretary General's Report

Peter Lor, IFLA Secretary General
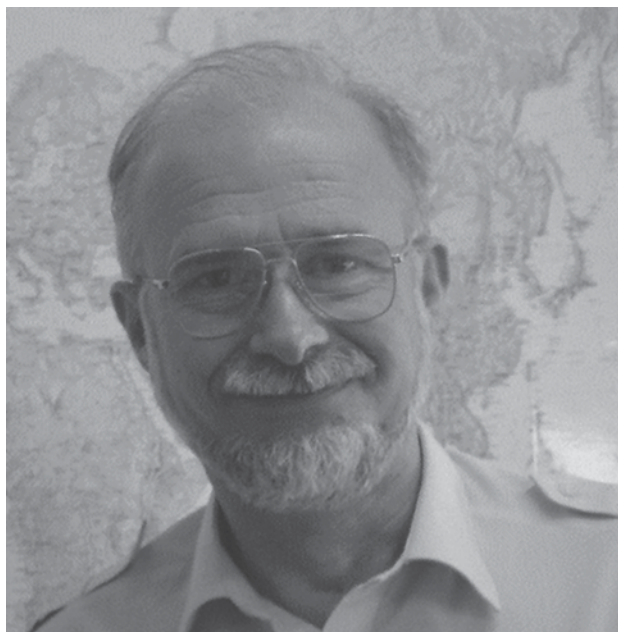
Dear Colleagues

I am honoured to present to you a brief report on IFLA's operations over the year since the 2004 World Library and Information Congress in Buenos Aires. It is also a challenge, as I have been your Secretary General for exactly six months, since 15 February 2005. Not everything I report on is based on first-hand experience. Time is limited. Therefore I have to be selective. I shall try to avoid topics that our President has already dealt with.

A Difficult Year

It is no secret that 2004 was a difficult year. It ended with the resignation, only eight months after assuming office, of my predecessor. The rapid turnover in this senior position has had some negative consequences, including some loss of momentum and continuity. 2004 was also a difficult year financially, as you will shortly hear from our Treasurer. This is related, among other factors, to our membership numbers. Since 2003 our membership is no longer growing from year to year. Instead, it seems to be hovering around 1750 members in 150 countries.

This trend is probably due to the difficult economic conditions that many libraries and associations have to face. Market conditions also affect our corporate partners. Here we have also seen a small but unfortunate decline.

At this point I would like to insert a small piece of "advertorial" matter: Please visit the exhibition! Our corporate partners and exhibitors make it possible for us to continue presenting an affordable and sustainable World Library and Information Congress. To continue supporting us they need a healthy flow of delegates visiting their booths.

Plenty of Good News, Too

The year 2005 is shaping up as a better year for IFLA. And in 2004 there was plenty of good news too. Let me mention some highlights:

World Library and Information Congresses

The 2004 WLIC in Buenos Aires was by all accounts a most successful and enjoyable congress. The congress on which we are now embarking looks set to be a great success too. During the past year work proceeded on the planning of four WLICs: Oslo 2005, Seoul 2006, Durban 2007, Québec 2008. It is worth mentioning here that the way the congress is organized is changing. In the new dispensation IFLA "owns" the WLIC and Congrex Holland handles the organization on our behalf, leaving a much smaller role for the national committee. The new system will enable IFLA to ensure greater continuity in terms of quality and branding, more emphasis on professional content, and it is hoped, increased income. In the new dispensation the responsibilities of the National Advisory Committee are greatly reduced. This will make the holding of a congress much less burdensome for the professional associations and institutions of the countries concerned. We hope that this will make it possible for us to hold congresses in countries in which the local profession has thus far hesitated because of the enormous commitment a congress would have entailed.

Peer Evaluation

A noteworthy "first" was the successful completion of a peer evaluation of FAIFE, our office for Freedom of Access to Information and Freedom of Expression, in Copenhagen. This exercise yielded a positive evaluation with constructive and useful criticism. It is the first in a series of peer evaluations of all the core activities. The evaluation of the Preservation and Conservation Core Activity (PAC) has also been completed and was considered and endorsed by the Professional Committee on Friday.

At the same time we are proceeding with a programme encompassing the evaluation of all our sections. This is an important mechanism for self-renewal. The evaluation process forces us to look afresh at what we are doing. We need to question not only how well we are doing things, but also why we are doing them, and whether we are doing the right things at all. In most cases this should bring about revitalization. In some cases, we may find that the raison d'être or justification for a section has eroded to the point where it is no longer sustainable. This point was already reached in March this year when the Governing Board decided to terminate three of our 47 sections because they had not succeeded in attracting enough nominations to their standing committees. The inability of these sections to reach the very low threshold (five nominations) was seen as an indicator of lack of sufficient interest and marginal sustainability to continue as a section. But of course this does not reflect any reservations about the importance of the issues addressed by those sections.

IFLA needs to constantly renew itself. Renewal means not only cutting back but also encouraging growth. We need to find new modalities for accommodating new groups and interest, without necessarily expanding and further complicating our structure and operations.

Review of IFLA's Business Processes

The imperative of renewal also applies to IFLA Headquarters and our regional offices. An externally facilitated review of business processes will be undertaken at IFLA HQ within the next three months. It will be extended as far as feasible also to regional offices and core activity offices. The review will look critically at

- what we are doing
- whether we are doing the right things

- whether we are doing the right things in the most efficient way
- whether we can free resources through greater efficiency and more appropriate workflows and structures
- what resources and structures we need for effective support of the Society Pillar, and specifically for advocacy
- what the gap is, if any, between the resources we can free and those we need.

There will be an external panel (comprising people not on the GB) to evaluate the process and report to the Board.

Building Capacity for Advocacy

The Business Process Review will feed into a more general restructuring process aimed at building IFLA's capacity for advocacy. For effective, well-coordinated and well-researched advocacy, IFLA needs a strong professional component at HQ. We need to strengthen the Society Pillar by positioning two of our core activities more centrally within our structure.

The two core activities in question are FAIFE (Freedom of Access to Information and Freedom of Expression) and CLM (Copyright and other Legal Matters). Each of them is at the centre of a network of information gathering and expertise. They have built up a significant capacity for environment scanning, policy analysis and evaluation, and for representation and intervention on our behalf. In March this year the Board decided that FAIFE should be integrated with IFLA HQ. This will mean a physical move of the FAIFE office to The Hague towards the end of 2006, by which time additional accommodation can be provided by the Royal Library, the national library of the Netherlands.

CLM does not currently have any paid staff. It is entirely run by volunteers, and the amount of advocacy they have done for us is truly astounding. Thanks to their efforts and those of other IFLA members and partners, IFLA now enjoys a high degree of acceptance in international forums. We no longer have to batter down the doors to get admitted to international meetings of the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO), the World Trade Organisation (WTO), the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) and similar bodies. The trickle of invitations to meetings at which the interests of our members, profession and our users are at stake or may be affected, has become a flood. It has

become too great for unpaid volunteers to cope with. Proposals are being developed to create a paid position for CLM, and this position too should be integrated into the developing structure for advocacy.

And a Great Deal More . . .

A great deal more is happening at IFLA. The carefully timed script for this Council Session does not allow me to elaborate on those here, but let me mention just a few more, in no particular order:

Successful implementation of the new system of membership fees, voting rights and section memberships for association members, which ensures a more equitable distribution of fees.

A bumper crop of publications: the number of book titles published per year in the "green-back" series (IFLA Publications) increased from four to six. This year's batch included books on disaster preparedness, continuing professional development and e-learning annual – important resources for the profession. Do go and have a look at our interesting range of titles at the Thomson booth in the exhibition.

Progress of the IFLA interlending voucher scheme: the number of vouchers in circulation continues to rise, as does the number of libraries using them, and the scheme is now paying for itself.

Increase in PAC regional centres: during the report period the number of regional centres of our Preservation and Conservation (PAC) core activity doubled, as five were added. Agreements were made with libraries in Benin, Chile, China, South Africa and Trinidad & Tobago.

IFLA's discussion lists increased to 45, covering a wide range of activities and interests. Libjobs, a mailing list for librarians and information professionals seeking employment, as 6,500 subscribers and Digital libraries close to 3,000. The total number of subscribers to our lists is close to 20,000.

IFLANET continued to expand. All submitted IFLA conference papers since 1994 can be found there, along with a large number of IFLA publications and documents. This year's conference pages are up in three languages, so far 181 papers and 165 translations. (A big thank-you to the volunteer translators!) It is an enormous amount of work and constitutes a significant information resource for the

library profession worldwide. A Google search facility has now been added to the site, for more effective searching.

Large project grant from SIDA: The Swedish aid agency SIDA has made a significant grant to FAIFE and ALP. They will receive a total of 23 million SEK over five years for a range of projects aligned to SIDA's objectives. This is a vote of confidence in IFLA, and also a challenge for us, because project grant funding usually does not fully cover the infrastructural costs and overheads of running the agencies concerned, hence we need to raise more funds to be able to conduct the grant-funded projects successfully.

Challenges

This brings me to the next section of my report: our challenges. For the coming year I expect that we need to address at least six major challenges:

Funding

We need to diversify our resource base. Too much of IFLA's income comes from membership fees. We need to develop other sources of income, for example from conferences, workshops, education and training programmes, consultancies, project grants, bequests and gifts. The Treasurer will speak about this shortly.

Advocacy

The President and I have already touched on advocacy. To play an effective advocacy role with limited resources, we need to leverage the enormous expertise and capacity of our members. This requires better coordination, greater support of networking activities, and a capacity for research, representation and intervention. In the coming year we must make a breakthrough in restructuring ourselves for effective support of the Society pillar.

Information and Communications Technology

IFLANET is a very important strategic asset for IFLA. We urgently need to modernize our web site and make it more of a communication medium for two-way traffic. Our administrative systems also need to be better integrated one with the other, and with IFLANET. IFLA urgently needs to invest in its ICT capacity.

Membership Development

IFLA needs to grow its membership. Libraries worldwide benefit from our work. We need to recruit more of them. We also need to make sure that we retain our existing members. Can we add more value? What are members getting from IFLA that non-members do not? We need to communicate better about what IFLA is doing for you as members, for the profession, and for society.

Communication

Communicate, communicate, communicate! Information is the life-blood of any voluntary association, and IFLA as a federation of associations and institutions is no exception. IFLA needs a communication strategy to communicate better within and among its various organs and units, with its membership and with its broader constituency.

Strategic Planning

We have elements of strategic planning in place (core values, professional priorities, and medium term plans for our professional units), but we lack an integrating strategic framework. IFLA needs a robust, flexible and economical strategic process that will yield a manageable set of high-level strategic directions or strategic thrusts.

Conclusion

It is with some hesitation that I have put this "menu" of challenges before you. Hesitation, because I am raising expectations and next year I will have to appear before you again and report about what we have achieved in addressing the challenges!

At the end of February, three weeks after I joined IFLA, I posted a general message on IFLA-L. In it I listed three things that had impressed me:

The wide range and international reach of IFLA's activities
The dedication of so many colleagues who are prepared to serve the profession and society actively as members and officers of standing committees and other IFLA structures
The professionalism of the IFLA staff at IFLA Headquarters, in regional offices and core activities

The intervening months have brought more insights and a better understanding of our context, but in general these initial impressions have proved valid. Like most other organizations in our profession, IFLA will never have enough money. But we do have enormous human resources, not only in our dedicated staff, but also in our membership. Since I joined IFLA I have made a point of personally signing letters to members, in particular, those written to members who have been elected to serve on Standing Committees. So many have replied to these letters, saying how excited they are at their election, how they are looking forward to the SC meetings, and how keen they are to contribute to the work of IFLA.

To me, that exemplifies our strength.

I conclude therefore with a word of thanks to IFLA's greatest resource, its people: the President and President-elect, Governing Board, officers and members of committees, Divisions and Sections, IFLA members and my colleagues on the IFLA staff. Thank you!

Presented at the IFLA Council II meeting, Thursday 18 August, 71st IFLA General Conference, Oslo, Norway, 14–18 August 2005.

Committee on Copyright and other Legal Matters (CLM)

Winston Tabb, Chair

In 2002, when IFLA's Professional Committee decided, in concert with Members of the Association, to develop an explicit list of professional priorities, there was immediate and unanimous agreement that one of those priorities should relate explicitly to intellectual property, since laws in this area have such a major impact on IFLA's core value of providing "universal and equitable access to information, ideas and works of imagination." So one of IFLA's eleven professional priorities is "Balancing the Intellectual Property Rights of Authors with the Needs of Users," and CLM is the body within IFLA charged to work with IFLA's national associations and organizations such as the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), World Trade Organization (WTO), and UNESCO in the drafting of appropriate treaties and legislative models which attempt to bring balance between the rights of authors and the needs of users.

CLM was created by IFLA in 1997 to advise IFLA and its members not only on matters with respect to copyright and other areas of intellectual property but also on economic and trade barriers to the acquisition and use of library collections, disputed claims of ownership of library materials, repatriation, subscription and license agreements, and a wide range of other legal matters of international significance to libraries and librarianship.

The members of the Committee, who were appointed last year and are now ending the first year of their three-year terms, come from countries from all parts of the world – the chair plus 22 members from 22 countries on 6 continents. These members are assisted by a small cadre of expert resource persons who provide legal and strategic advice and without whom our progress would be severely constrained. In this context I am pleased to report the addition in the past year of three expert resource persons: Teresa Hackett, representing eIFL, a not-for-profit organization headquartered in Rome that has a special program devoted to advocacy for

access to knowledge in c. 50 transition and developing countries; David Mann, representing the World Blind Union, with which IFLA CLM is working to secure adequate access for print-disabled people; and Luis Villarroel, Copyright Advisor to the Minister of Education in Chile, who has shown particular interest in provisions in copyright law that will benefit libraries. Strategic partnerships with organizations like eIFL and the World Blind Union are indispensable if we are to serve IFLA's members effectively, and we very much appreciate their support. I want publicly to thank all of my CLM colleagues who have worked hard to help us achieve IFLA's goals within our broad area of responsibility.

In the two years since my predecessor, Marianne Scott, last reported on CLM to this Council, your committee has been extraordinarily busy. CLM representatives have participated in several meetings at UNESCO, including sessions focused on the proposed UNESCO Convention on the Protection of the Diversity of Cultural Contents and Artistic Expressions and the recent quadrennial session of the Intergovernmental Copyright Committee. We have also been active in The Netherlands at discussions involving the Hague Convention on Exclusive Choice of Court Agreements. The CLM chair serves as an ex officio member of the IFLA IPA Committee, which has met seven times since the Council meeting in Berlin to discuss areas of mutual concern such as open access, library access for print-disabled people, and legal deposit of electronic publications. CLM was invited by WIPO earlier this year to participate in a regional workshop in Hong Kong focused on 'The role of libraries as information providers in the digital era.' And we are preparing to participate actively in the forthcoming Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization whose actions, as those of you who attended our Oslo program on 'Libraries and Free Trade Agreements' heard, may have significant impacts on libraries, especially in developing countries. Documents relating to most of these activities can be found on the IFLA CLM website, so I will not elaborate further. Instead, I would like to use the balance of my time to talk about three specific activities

that have engaged our sustained attention this past year and to highlight two major needs to support our increasing effectiveness.

Public Lending Right

At the second Council meeting in Buenos Aires, a resolution was introduced with regard to 'public lending right,' a right that has long existed in some countries but by no means all, that enables authors in those countries to receive some form of compensation when their works are lent. Because the issue was quite complicated, unfamiliar to many delegates, and of particular relevance at that time only to countries within the European Union, the President declared that the Governing Board would consider the matter and take appropriate action. Subsequently the Governing Board decided to forward the resolution to CLM, requesting the Chair to look into the issue, in cooperation with the Chairs of Division 8 and the Section on Public Libraries, both of whom are also members of the Governing Board, and to report to the Governing Board. Following receipt of this directive, the Chair asked Barbara Stratton, CLM member and Senior Copyright Adviser to CILIP, to take the lead in preparing the requested report, which she did. After extensive consultation with CLM members and with the Chairs of Division 8 and the Public Libraries Section, the chair submitted the final report to the Governing Board on March 1, and it was approved at the GB meeting later that month. The report and a very informative background paper on PLR were subsequently posted on the IFLA CLM website, where they remain publicly accessible to any reader. The two documents combined cover 15 pages so I cannot begin to do them justice here. But let me summarize by saying that we decided from the beginning that the report should flow from IFLA's values, including universal and equitable access to information; from the IFLA/UNESCO Public Library Manifesto (1994), which declares that the "public library shall in principle be free of charge; and from the IFLA/UNESCO Guidelines for Public Library Service Development (2001), which state that "funds for payment of public lending right should not be taken from libraries' funds for the purchase of materials . . . [but that] librarians should participate in the development of public lending right schemes to

ensure they are not financed from library budgets."

It was in this context that the CLM report boldly affirms first that "IFLA does not favor the principles of 'lending right,' which can jeopardize free access to the services of publicly accessible libraries, which is the citizen's human right. IFLA endorses freedom of access to information, and will continue to resist all circumstances that could hamper this access."

However, CLM also felt that it was crucial in the report to acknowledge that a number of countries, particularly in Europe [e.g., all delegates to this Congress received a brochure about 'The public lending right in Norway,' which was established in 1947], have already made PLR a statutory requirement, and to provide practical advice to librarians in countries where such a right exists or might be introduced about how to influence the design of such a scheme to ensure that the financial and administrative support for PLR does not come from library budgets. Again, limitations of time preclude my mentioning each recommendation within this section of the report, but I must call attention to the one relating explicitly to developing countries. The report states that "Lending right should be rejected in the greater public interest in situations where a country cannot afford to fund PLR without diverting resources earmarked to fund more fundamental public services. In particular, lending right should not be established in countries that are not considered high or middle income by the World Bank."

On such a complex issue where national laws govern and vary widely throughout the world, we realized that it would be impossible to produce a report that could completely satisfy everyone, but I am pleased that our final product boldly upholds IFLA's core values, builds on previous IFLA and UNESCO statements, and received consensus approval from the Governing Board and CLM, including the CLM member who introduced the PLR resolution in Buenos Aires. CLM will use this report as a basis for maintaining a 'watching brief' throughout the world to ensure that our principles are not violated, and will provide information and support, to the extent our resources permit, to national associations in countries where these principles appear to be in jeopardy.

The Right to Read for Print-Disabled People

CLM is working closely with the Libraries for the Blind Section, with WIPO, and with the International Publishers Association to secure for print-disabled readers throughout the world broader access to library materials, including legislation within national copyright laws that will enable libraries to produce and borrow a vastly broader range of such materials than are now available. WIPO has worked with the World Blind Union to produce a 'draft law' that we must encourage countries lacking such enabling legislation to adopt. This report is to alert you that the Chair of the Libraries for the Blind Section and I will soon be writing to IFLA's national library association members to explain these issues and seek your support for changes in national copyright laws needed to provide equitable access for print-disabled readers.

Access to Knowledge Treaty – 'A2K'

Less than a year ago, President Raseroka and I were invited to Geneva to participate in a unique gathering of librarians, policy makers, Nobel-prize winning scientists, software developers, international aid and consumer organizations and other NGOs to debate the future of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO). A declared intent of this gathering was to craft a Declaration on the Future of WIPO that would prod both the Member States and the WIPO Secretariat into concerted efforts to take a "more balanced and realistic view of the social benefits and costs of intellectual property rights as a tool . . . for supporting creative intellectual activity." An important theme of the Declaration was the inappropriateness of a 'one size fits all' approach to intellectual property that often leads to "unjust and burdensome outcomes for countries that are struggling to meet the most basic needs of their citizens." But equally important was the theme that the development agenda for WIPO is not only an agenda for developing countries, but one also for developed countries. Since knowledge is a universal right and equitable access is an indispensable underpinning for all democratic societies, A2K is about North and South, not North v. South, and the Geneva Declaration called for WIPO's 182 Member States to adopt an A2K Treaty. The Geneva Declaration, of which IFLA was one of the first signatories,

has now been endorsed by more than 700 institutions and individuals. It was launched at last fall's meeting of the WIPO General assembly, at which government delegates from Brazil and Argentina proposed the establishment of a 'development agenda' for WIPO. In response WIPO scheduled a series of three meetings – in April, June and July 2005 – and invited Member States and accredited NGOs, including IFLA and eIFL, to begin developing that agenda. All of us are deeply indebted to Barbara Stratton and CILIP and to Teresa Hackett and eIFL for their relentless efforts at each of these Geneva meetings to ensure that the needs of libraries remain front and center in the debate about the WIPO development agenda. Their interventions at each of the sessions are posted on the CLM website, and I urge you to read them. I also urge you to familiarize yourselves with the 'Library-related Principles for the International Development Agenda of WIPO,' also posted on our site. These principles were drafted by the US library associations, under the leadership of CLM expert Robert Oakley, and have now been endorsed by IFLA, IALL and many other groups. The specific goals in this document were the subject of lively discussion among the large number of delegates to this Congress who attended the CLM program on Monday, a discussion we hope to continue online after this conference since it is critical that we be aware of the issues that are most critical for libraries in your country as we work in Geneva to secure A2K for all.

It was quite disappointing that after three meetings covering nine days, resistance from the US and Japan foreclosed the possibility of consensus either on substantive or procedural matters relating to the development agenda. But we will not, we must not, give up. IFLA will be present at a meeting of NGOs being quickly convened by WIPO in September to consider next steps. We will continue to keep IFLA members aware of our activities via the CLM website.

Needs

In closing, I want to mention briefly CLM's two major needs, which may seem obvious after this report. The first is the need for strong support of our efforts from associations and librarians at the national level. WIPO is driven entirely by official representatives from the Member States.

IFLA and other NGOs are sometimes permitted to be present and speak, but not always; and we are never permitted to vote. Therefore it is critical that your representatives hear from you before they go forth to Geneva. To help us become more effective we need you, and we will shortly be writing to all IFLA national association members asking for names and email addresses of your copyright advisors and copyright committees so that we can develop a streamlined advocacy network. Second, CLM suffers from having no staff support and no funding from IFLA. All of the activities I have described above have been undertaken by our volunteers at their expense or the expense of their home organizations. We have received the strongest possible moral support from IFLA's leaders, and the Governing Board will be con-

sidering later this week a proposal in principle for securing stable staff support for the crucial efforts I have describe. As both the President and President-Elect have said, we have done a good job in recent months of opening doors that were previously closed to us; now we as an association must ensure that we are able to send through those doors effective advocates for libraries in all part of the IFLA community.

Colleagues, it is an honor to serve this association and its members. I thank you for the privilege, and for your continuing support of CLM's critical mission.

Presented at the IFLA Council II meeting, Thursday 18 August, 71st IFLA General Conference, Oslo, Norway, 14–18 August 2005.

Committee on Free Access to Information and Freedom of Expression (FAIFE)

Paul Sturges, Chair

1. During the period August 2003 to August 2005, the FAIFE Core Activity was under new Chairmanship for the first time, following Alex Byrne's two distinguished terms of office. Continuity was assured by the presence of Susanne Seidelin as Director of the FAIFE Office, with the assistance of Stuart Hamilton, research student at the Danish Library School. A new FAIFE Advisory Board, consisting of Barbara Schleihagen, Frode Bakken, Bob McKee and Ellen Tise (representing the Governing Board), was appointed in 2003 and will remain in office until August 2007, with the exception of Ellen Tise who is leaving the Governing Board. Ellen's excellent contribution to the work of the AB should be noted here. In August 2004, at the Buenos Aires WLIC, the existing Committee's period of office came to an end. The Governing Board selected a new Committee on the basis of the Chair's recommendations from the nominations received after a call for names. New members of the Committee attended the FAIFE meetings in Buenos Aires and made positive contributions on the subject of how they could most effectively forward FAIFE's mission. As a result, a mid-term Committee meeting was scheduled on March 14th 2005 in The Hague. A reasonably well-attended meeting resulted and it has been resolved to hold a debate meeting to re-examine any aspects of the FAIFE activity that Committee members wish on 18th August 2005, during the WLIC in Oslo.

2. FAIFE is fortunate that, because it has from its foundation had full-time staff, it has been able to develop a strong and consistent programme. The programme includes both a global, research-based approach to library-related access and expression matters, and a response capacity for matters of immediate concern. The Advisory Board has proved its value in relation to both of these, but particularly in relation to FAIFE's response capacity. This small, expert and highly committed group meets three times a year (at WLIC, and in December and March in the Hague). Attendance has always been 100 percent, and all members have made substantial contributions to discussion. More than this, however,

they have proved their capacity to provide swift electronic communication between meetings. This has made them a highly reliable resource of ideas and criticism in support of the Director and Chair. The existence of an Advisory Board with a proven capacity to provide immediate support has been highly important, but the growing ability of the Committee to provide long-term guidance on FAIFE policy and activities is also much appreciated.

3. Finance has proved a great concern over the period under review. Quite simply, FAIFE has only the bare minimum of core funding from assured sources to pay for staff, premises, office expenses, etc. This problem has diverted the attention of staff and officers towards fund-raising to the potential detriment of the activity's mission. We are happy to report that Swedish SIDA has agreed to provide a substantial grant spread over the next few years to support a range of projects that fit with their own mission (which fortunately meshes very effectively with that of FAIFE). However, obtaining the grant required a great deal of time and energy, and it must be stressed that this is project funding. At more or less the same time as the prolonged negotiations were taking place with SIDA, FAIFE entered into the IFLA Peer Review process. As the pilot review, FAIFE spent time working on methodology as well as applying it. The review was thorough, frank and very positive. We believe that it demonstrated that IFLA, and the professional community, get very good value from the money spent on FAIFE. We look forward to the results of the review process when applied to other IFLA activities.

4. One of the great benefits that will follow from the SIDA grant is that it calls for a closer working relationship between FAIFE and ALP, which are in effect the joint recipients of the grant. The grant conditions call for a training seminar for staff and officers of both activities in Uppsala in October 2005. FAIFE welcomes this opportunity to cement a fruitful link between our financial sponsors and a core activity (ALP) whose work complements our own to such a great extent. Another considerable benefit of the grant is that it supports FAIFE's intention to

develop its activities with a more specific focus on matters such as women's access to information and the better dissemination of information relating to the HIV/AIDS pandemic. Amongst other effects, this will allow important new programme input from FAIFE to future WLICs.

5. Whilst comment on FAIFE activity and, it is important to recognize, criticism of FAIFE concentrates on FAIFE's response to issues of current concern, it is vital to draw attention to FAIFE's long term, global programme. This is expressed through its published World Report series (the World Report published every second year and the Theme Reports published in the alternate years). The FAIFE Office cannot be praised too much for this evolving body of meticulously assembled baseline data on freedom of access to information and freedom of expression worldwide as it impinges on library and information work. Obtaining the responses from the professional community for these volumes has proved extremely demanding, but we express our hearty gratitude to everyone who has sent information for the World Reports and written articles for these important and highly informative volumes. This report provides yet another opportunity for us to call on the professional community to tell us about the situation in their own countries.

6. On the question of FAIFE response: a number of carefully researched responses have been made on issues of current concern, in the form of press releases. The important thing to note is that we do not put out a press release unless we have reports about the problem from more than one independent source, and that the releases are made on the responsibility of the Chair of FAIFE and of the Secretary General of IFLA, and when appropriate, after consulting

President and/or President Elect. Although the unfavourable comment received in relation to some of these releases gives us cause to check that we have responded fairly and in line with IFLA and FAIFE's mission, we are encouraged that criticism does not come only from one specific direction. In addition to responding to reports of cases in specific countries, FAIFE also responds to broad problems of immediate concern and has, for instance, directed considerable effort towards the question of the detrimental effects of the anti-terror legislation (most notably the USA PATRIOT Act) planned and passed in many countries. FAIFE is not merely a responding activity, but I believe that its response capacity is effectively and responsibly used.

7. The future of the FAIFE activity is clearly within a broader IFLA advocacy capacity that it is planned to develop. All those connected with FAIFE welcome this and believe that FAIFE's accumulated expertise has a great deal to offer to advocacy throughout the range of IFLA's concerns. Close cooperation with ALP is already in the process of being cemented. Cooperation with CLM is natural and will be fruitful. Beyond that there is great potential for synergy in many areas. FAIFE is already engaging with the issues that are high priorities for IFLA. For instance, the 2004 Theme Report directly supported the Presidential Theme of 'Libraries for Lifelong Literacy'. The physical and financial integration of advocacy will undoubtedly call for difficult decisions in relation to FAIFE (located away from IFLA HQ, in Copenhagen, as it currently is). We believe that with the proven goodwill from all directions this can be a harmonious and successful process.

Presented at the IFLA Council II meeting, Thursday 18 August, 71st IFLA General Conference, Oslo, Norway, 14–18 August 2005.

NEWS

IFLA/FAIFE Statements

IFLA, WSIS and Intellectual Freedom in Tunisia

On the occasion of the launch of the IFLA/FAIFE and the International Freedom of Expression Exchange Tunisia Monitoring Group (IFEX-TMG) reports on the current state of intellectual freedom in Tunisia:

- IFLA restates its strong commitment to the fundamental human rights to know, learn and communicate without restriction.
- IFLA opposes any form of censorship and violations of these rights, and consequently we look upon the human rights situation in Tunisia with deep concern.
- IFLA confirms its wholehearted commitment to the success of the WSIS process and expresses its concern that the policy positions of the host nation might undermine the credibility of the process. We therefore urge the Tunisian government to remove barriers to

open access to information for all its citizens that are imposed by its policies.

As a participant in the WSIS process IFLA has successfully put libraries on the agenda. The aim is to promote a fair and just knowledge and information society which is vitally supported by libraries and information services. Libraries are essential to a transparent, accountable, and democratic Information Society in which they help to create a well-informed citizenry and lay a basis for good governance. IFLA shares the common vision of an Information Society for All adopted by the World Summit on the Information Society in Geneva in November 2003. That vision promotes an inclusive society in which everyone will be able to create, access, use and share information and knowledge. This means providing the opportunity for people to seek, receive and impart information and ideas without restriction, in accordance with Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Furthermore, IFLA regards libraries as a living expression of this principle and therefore:

- IFLA looks forward to outcomes from WSIS that fully endorse the principle of intellectual freedom and recognize the importance of libraries as instruments of this freedom.
- IFLA urges national, regional and local governments as well as international organizations to invest in library and information services as vital elements of their Information Society strategies.

To achieve this goal, IFLA stresses the importance of removing barriers to open access to information for all, whether these barriers are social, structural, economic or legal, and seeks to draw attention

to the politico-legal and extra-judicial impediments imposed by governments.

Consequently,

- IFLA urges the Government of Tunisia to remove the impediments to freedom of access to information, freedom of expression and freedom of association before, during and after the meeting of the World Summit on the Information Society in Tunis in November 2005.

The full IFLA/FAIFE report on the mission to Tunisia can be requested via e-mail from the FAIFE Office: sha@db.dk. It is now available on IFLANET: www.ifla.org/faife/faife/tunis-report2005.htm.

The official mission report, produced by the IFEX-TMG is available from IFEX's website: http://campaigns.ifex.org/tmg/TMGSept2005Report.doc

Background

On the 6th to the 11th of September IFLA/FAIFE joined a mission to Tunisia organized by the Tunisia Monitoring Group (TMG) a volunteer group of 14 members of the International Freedom of Expression Exchange (IFEX). The aim of the mission was to assess the human rights situation in the country prior to the WSIS PrepCom III meeting in Geneva 19–30 September, and to the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) itself to be held in Tunisia 16–18 November. FAIFE's role was to assess the situation concerning freedom of access to information and freedom of expression and the role of libraries in the country.

26 September 2005

Development Agenda for WIPO

The following statement was issued by the IFLA Committee on Copyright and other Legal Matters (CLM) and Electronic Information for Libraries (eIFL) at the IFLA World Library and Information Congress, Oslo, 16 August 2005:

International library organizations call for an end to deadlock in discussions for a Development Agenda for WIPO

Are the UN's richest members committed to access to knowledge for all? IFLA and eIFL welcome the broad agreement on the need for a 'Development Agenda' for WIPO following the third session of the specially convened Inter-Sessional Intergovernmental Meeting (IIM) in Geneva, July 20–22, 2005. Together with many public interest NGOs, IFLA and eIFL supported proposals by the Group of Friends of Development submitted to the 2004 General Assemblies and elaborated upon during the IIMs.

"We are deeply disappointed, however, that after nine days of discussion not only did the delegates fail to agree on any of the substantive issues, but due to resistance from the US and Japan a consensus on how to handle the discussions in the future was rendered impossible," says Mr. Winston Tabb, Chair of IFLA CLM. "We share in the frustration of many government delegates from developing countries that the IIMs are thus unable to make recommendations and will instead leave it to the 2005 General Assemblies to decide on the future of this important process," echoed Ms. Rima Kupryte, Director eIFL.net.

A key component of the Development Agenda proposals is a call for a Treaty on Access to Knowledge. An 'A2K' treaty is important for libraries since our business is to enable people to find and use knowledge and information. This ability is essential to development and relies on exceptions and limitations to copyright. In the last decade international treaties, supranational directives from the European Union, national legislation and the terms of some Free Trade Agreements have created a trend towards the monopolization and privatization of information by eroding the exceptions and limitations to copyright, especially in the digital environment.

Fair access to information for all is essential to nurture education and stimulate innovation. A treaty is necessary to redress the balance and establish an international framework setting out the norms by which copyright protects user rights while maintaining adequate protection for rights holders.

"This is not an issue just for developing countries, but one also for developed countries since knowledge is a universal right, and equal access is an indispensable underpinning for an inclusive, democratic society," said Winston Tabb and Rima Kupryte today in a joint statement.

Further information:

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IFLA Position on Internet Governance

The following statement was issued by IFLA on 6 September 2005

1. As the peak international professional association concerned with information and library services, IFLA is concerned that Internet governance and management should facilitate unrestricted access to information and freedom of expression and should enable social and economic development and cultural creation by and for all the peoples of the world.

2. IFLA opposes any measures which would lead to control of information access and free expression by commercial, governmental or sectoral interests. Measures which may be necessary to ensure the reliable operation of the Internet, control spam, support intellectual property protection and enable individuals to protect their privacy must not be used to limit the rights expressed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, especially those in Article 19.

3. IFLA supports the development of the Internet as a reliable multilingual system which will be available to all and will facilitate unrestricted access to information by all peoples in their languages of choice.

4. In regard to the proposed approaches to the governance of the Internet, IFLA supports a multi-stakeholder approach which involves governments, civil society and business and which offers a path for increasing participation by those interests in all countries as the capacity to participate develops. IFLA consequently endorses both the forum and the principles for global public policy and oversight proposed in the WGIG report.

5. Consistent with these principles, IFLA favours a model which will enable all of the key stakeholder interests to influence governance of the Internet though appropriate participation. It appears that this goal might be achieved best, and without causing undue administrative overheads, by implementing modified versions of model 1 (with direct representation of all stakeholders on the proposed Global Internet Council) or model 2 (with effective representation of the proposed forum in the decision making processes).

6. As a voice for the 2.5 billion registered library users across the world and an ECOSOC accredited international professional organization, IFLA is available to assist with the development of effective models for Internet governance.

Alex Byrne, President

Pastors for Peace Convoy

IFLA/FAIFE responds to the Cuban Library Association's concerns regarding the Pastors for Peace Convoy.

IFLA/FAIFE has consistently promoted freedom of access to information in Cuba as in other countries and has called on both the Cuban and US Governments to remove any obstacles to unrestricted access to information.

IFLA/FAIFE is therefore most concerned to learn from the Cuban Library Association (ASCUBI) and other sources that the Pastors For Peace Convoy was recently stopped at the US Mexico border by the US Commerce Department.

According to the organizers of the caravan, which every year takes donations of the American people to Cuba, officials from the US Department of Commerce seized a large proportion of humanitarian aid destined for Cuba, mostly computer equipment. It is understood that the seizure was being made under the terms of the continuing US embargo on Cuba and that it includes informational materials which are formally excluded from the embargo. At the time of writing, this aid is not being allowed into Mexico to continue its journey on to Cuba.

IFLA/FAIFE once again calls upon the US government to eliminate obstacles to access to information and professional interaction imposed by its embargo and any other US Government policies. We urge the US Government to put policies in place to facilitate the sharing of both information and information technology with the people of Cuba.

We draw attention to our previous statements on this issue, notably the Resolution adopted at IFLA Council held at the World Library and Information Congress in Boston, USA on Friday 24th August 2001 http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla67/resol-01.htm

We also restate our previous concerns about US efforts to isolate Cuba including policies restricting professional interaction: IFLA/FAIFE Press release, 8 May 2003: http://www.ifla.org/V/press/faife-cuba03pr.htm; IFLA/FAIFE Press release 12 June 2003: http://www.ifla.org/V/press/faife120603 pr.htm

9 August 2005

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Membership

New Members

We bid a warm welcome to the following 31 members who have joined the Federation between 5 August and 21 October 2005.

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We are also pleased that EBSCO Information Services, one of our longest-standing Bronze Corporate Partners, has increased its committment to IFLA by becoming a Gold Corporate Partner.

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Secretary: Filiberto Felipe Martínez-Arellano, Director University Center for Library Science Research, National Autonomous University of Mexico, Torre II de Humanidades, Piso 12, CD Universitaria, MEXICO 04510 DF, Mexico; Tel. +(52)(55) 56230327; Fax +(52)(55) 55507461; E-mail: felipe@cuib.unam.mx

Peter Lor, IFLA Secretary General (at left) and Herbert Gruttemeier, Head of International Relations, INIST-CNRS, signing a new contract in Oslo for INIST to host IFLANET for another year.

Future IFLA Conferences

WLIC Seoul, Korea, 2006

Call for Poster Presentations

An alternative approach for the presentation of projects/new work will be available for conference participants. An area on the conference premises has been designated for the presentation of information regarding projects or activities of interest to librarians. Presentations may include posters, leaflets (etc.) in several of the IFLA working languages (English, French, Spanish, German and Russian), if possible. Further advice on poster sessions may be obtained from IFLA Head-

quarters. The Professional Committee of IFLA will review all submissions.

Colleagues interested in presenting a poster session are invited to complete the application form and to send it with a brief description of not more than 200 words of the session (in English, French, Spanish, German or Russian). The form can be found on IFLANET: http://www.ifla.org/IV/ ifla72/call-poster-pr2006.htm

Time Schedule

The Deadline for receipt at IFLA Headquarters of the application

form and a detailed description of the poster session is 15 February 2006. Early April 2006 IFLA Headquarters will inform applicants of the final decision of the Professional Committee.

Shanghai Pre-Conference, 16–17 August 2006

Theme: Library Management and Marketing in a Multicultural World

Hosts: IFLA Management and Marketing (M&M) Section; Shanghai Pudong New Area Government.

Organizers: Shanghai Library; Shanghai Pudong New Area Library; Shanghai Life Sciences Library, Chinese Academy of Sciences.

Special Supporter: Communication and Cooperation Committee, China Society for Library Science

English is the working language. Chinese–English simultaneous interpretation will be available during the Opening Ceremony.

Registered participants are entitled to attend the Opening Ceremony of the 3rd Shanghai International Library Forum on August 17, 2006 free of charge. The theme of the Third SILF is 'Management Innovation and Library Services'.

Call for Papers

Participants are invited to submit papers via email by June 15, 2006 to the Conference Secretariat at Shanghai Library. Deadline for the abstract of papers is December 1, 2005. E-mail: ybao@libnet.sh.cn. Fax: 86–21–6445 2003.

Original papers on all aspects of library management and marketing are solicited for submission to this conference. Topics of interest include but are not limited to:

- Impact of globalization on library management and marketing
- Information technology and library management and marketing
- Changing libraries in a multi-cultural world
- Case studies of advanced library management and marketing
- How to promote library services

Please furnish the following information:

a. Title of paper
b. Abstract describing the content of the paper (no more than 300 words)
c. Author(s) and Organization
d. Author presenting the paper (in case of multi-authors)

e. Means of communication including e-mail address, phone and fax

Contact: Zhang Yijing, Shanghai Library. E-mail: yjzhang@libnet.sh.cn

IFLA Satellite Meeting: Scholarly Information on East Asia in the 21st Century

Organized by the Council on East Asian Libraries (CEAL) of the Association for Asian Studies. Sponsored by the IFLA Asia and Oceania Section (RSCAO), the Korean Library Association (KLA), and the Korean Education and Research Information Service (KERIS).

Call for Papers

The Council on East Asian Libraries invites the submission of proposals for papers to be given at the Preconference Meeting on Friday, August 18, 2006 at KERIS Headquarters in Seoul.

Topics should address issues such as:

- publishing trends of scholarly information in East Asia;
- issues related to the digitization of nonroman scripts and digital collections;
- cooperative collection development and resource sharing on East Asia;
- technical processing and cooperative cataloging of East Asian material;
- preservation and storage;
- information technology for East Asian materials;
- cooperative reference service;
- instruction and information literacy;
- outreach and user studies.

An abstract of no longer than 200 words should be submitted by January 1, 2005. Papers must be original; written in English, or with an English translation attached; and between 3000 and 6000 words in length. The submission deadline for papers is May 1, 2006. Presentations should be made in English, and should not exceed 20 minutes

in length. The Preconference Planning Committee, in consultation with RSCAO, KLA, and KERIS, will select the best papers in January 2006. Successful applicants will be sent a formal letter of invitation by mid-February 2006.

Abstracts and papers should be sent by email or fax to:

Philip Melzer, Team Leader, Korean/Chinese Cataloging Team, Regional and Cooperative Cataloging Division, Library of Congress. E-mail: pmel@loc.gov. Tel +1 202–707–7961. Fax: +1 202–707–2824.

or

Joy Kim, Curator, Korea Heritage Library, East Asian Library, University of Southern California. E-mail: joykim@usc.edu. Tel. +1 213–740–2329.

Asia and Oceania Section Open Session

Theme: Open Access – Promoting Implementation in Asia and Oceania

The Asia and Oceania Section will hold a 2-hour Open Session at the World Library and Information Congress to be held in Seoul, Korea, 20–24 August 2006. Papers will focus on practical rather than theoretical aspects of Open Access, and on Open Access resources (materials, software, information).

Contacts: Professor Gary Gorman, RSCAO Chair. E-mail: gary.gorman @vuw.ac.nz; Ms Premila Gamage, RSCAO Secretary. E-mail: premi lagamage@gmail.com

Rare Books and Manuscripts Section Open Session

Theme: West by East – East by West: Cultural and technological exchange – Old technology, new technology, collecting and describing rare materials

Inspired by the early invention of printing in Korea and the booming technological developments in Asian countries in recent years, the programme will focus on the integration of materials from other cultures, in particular the view of countries like Korea and Japan on Western cultures: the 'Occidentalism' in the East compared to the 'Orientalism' in the West. The IFLA Rare Books and Manuscripts Section invites librarians, academics and other interested parties to participate in the 2-hour open session on this theme.

Further information from: Section Secretary, Jan Bos. E-mail: jan.bos@kb.nl

Science and Technology Libraries Section Open Session

Call for Papers

Libraries have been in the forefront of change when it comes to the digitized information delivered over the networks. Today's developing digital library and wireless technologies, and their associated open standards are converging to create 'the ubiquitous library'. Ubiquitous library services will be always available at the fingertips of the users. Smart objects, such as books tagged with RFID, will convey added information and make objects situation-aware.

There will be numerous entrance points to the library, seamless interaction, and additional communication channels between humans and information systems in the omnipresent library.

As dynamic engines, libraries can continue to play a part in defining their own future. We are therefore interested in exploring the concept of 'the ubiquitous library'. We are looking for leading edge technological solutions in libraries that demonstrate the application of the concept. The papers can address technology applications and/or standards, case studies, and/or principles involved in matters regarding the library as always present. The theme of this program will thus be 'Workings of the Ubiquitous Library'.

Three to four papers will be selected for presentation. Proposals for papers must be submitted by 15 January 2006 to irma.pasanen@tkk.fi. The proposal should include a title, a 200–400 word abstract and relevant biographical information of author(s) / presenter(s). Successful proposals will be identified by 15 February 2006 and the full paper is due by 1 May 2006.

Please note that all fees, including registration for the conference, travel, accommodation, etc. are the responsibility of the authors of accepted papers.

For additional information, please contact: Ray Schwartz. E-mail: schwartzr2@wpunj.edu

For more information about the concept of 'the ubiquitous library' please see:

http://www.lib.umd.edu/deans/ublibreport.pdf
http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/portal_libraries_and_the_academy/v005/5.3lowry.html
http://www.inforum.cz/inforum2005/pdf/Obst_Oliver.pdf

Also, the article that was published in the *New York Times* Technology Section, October 5, 2005 might be of interest. By Pamela Licalzi O'Connell. Connections: Korea's High-Tech Utopia, Where Everything Is Observed. New Songdo City, a large 'ubiquitous city' being built in South Korea, is being viewed as an opportunity to show off technological prowess and attract foreign investment. http://www.nytimes.com/2005/10/05/technology/techspecial/05oconnell.html?ex=1129 089600&en=cc33c7d0bd28c6ad&ei=5070&emc=eta1

New IFLA/PAC Agreement

Signature of new agreement between IFLA and the Bibliothèque national de France (BnF) regarding the hosting of IFLA's Preservation And Conservation (PAC) Programme by the French national library. From left to right: Marie-Thérèse Varlamoff, Director IFLA/PAC; Agnes Saal, Directeur General BnF; and Peter Lor, IFLA Secretary General.

Grants and Awards

IFLA Honours and Awards

We are inviting IFLA Members and Personal Affiliates to submit nominations for an IFLA Honour and/or Award. All nominations should be accompanied by a citation. The case for an Honour would be strengthened if there were multiple nominations for a candidate. The Executive Committee will consider nominations in confidence in March 2006. The awards will be announced and conferred during the World Library and Information Congress in Seoul in August 2006.

Following are the categories of Honours and their criteria:

Honorary Fellow

A rare and unusual award for long and distinguished service to IFLA. The expectation is that it would be awarded only four or five times a decade.

IFLA Medal

Awarded for distinguished contribution either to IFLA or to international librarianship. The expectation is that, on average, two such medals would be awarded each year, one of which would be to someone from the country hosting the WLIC/IFLA Congress that year.

IFLA Scroll of Appreciation

Awarded to the WLIC/IFLA Congress host committee for that year. No nominations are therefore

required for this. But it is also awarded to individuals who have given distinguished service to IFLA, such as long serving core activities staff, for whom nominations are required.

IFLA Certificate of Service

Awarded to those retiring from IFLA activities who have served eight years or more in the capacity of an IFLA officer. Such service does not need to be consecutive.

All authorised representatives of Members and Personal Affiliates are eligible to make nominations. Nominations for awards to be conferred in 2006 are therefore invited, in confidence, on the form you can find on IFLANET http://www.ifla. org/III/eb/Call-Honours-Awards. htm

This form may be posted or sent by fax to:

Honours and Awards, IFLA, PO Box 95312, 2509 CH The Hague, Netherlands. Fax: +31 70 3834827.

Nominations may also be sent by e-mail to: magda.bouwens@ifla.org provided that full details as required on the form are provided.

Nominations must arrive no later than 1 February 2006. Please note that late submissions will not be considered.

This call for nominations is being issued on IFLANET, IFLA-L and in IFLA Journal. It is not being posted separately. Previous recipients of IFLA Honours are listed at: http://www.ifla.org/III/eb/honmem.htm

Neither the Executive Committee nor the Secretary General will enter into correspondence on individual nominations.

Peter Johan Lor, Secretary General

Hans-Peter Geh Grant

The Hans-Peter Geh Grant is awarded annually to enable a librarian from the geographic region previously called the Soviet Union, including the Baltic States, to attend an IFLA Seminar or Conference in Germany or elsewhere for becoming acquainted with new international developments in the field of information.

The amount of the Grant is EUR 1,135.

The Grant is administered by IFLA Headquarters under the supervision of the Governing Board. The selection is made by a Jury consisting of the Sponsor, Dr Hans-Peter Geh, and the Secretary General of IFLA.

The applicants should be either IFLA Personal Affiliates or employees of IFLA Members.

The applications must be accompanied by a Statement of Intent in English, French or German (not more than 3 pages), which should include:

- the reasons for application specifying the seminar or conference the applicant wishes to attend
- a proposed budget, including financial sources from elsewhere
- a curriculum vitae

Deadline of application: 1 February 2006.

The application form you can find on IFLANET: http://www.ifla.org/III/grants/grant03.htm

IFLA Headquarters, PO Box 95312, 2509 CH The Hague, Netherlands. Fax: +31 70 3834827. E-mail: ifla@ifla.org.

Dr. Shawky Salem Conference Grant

The Dr. Shawky Salem Conference Grant is an annual grant established by Dr Shawky Salem and IFLA. The aim of the grant is to enable one expert in library and information science who is a national of an Arab country to attend the IFLA Conference. Candidates should not have attended an IFLA conference previously.

The grant is to meet up to a maximum of USD 1,900 the cost of travel (economy class air transportation) to and from the host country of the conference, registration, hotel costs and a per diem allowance.

IFLA will act as administrator to the grant and will provide the Secretary of the jury.

The deadline for receiving applications is 1 February 2006.

The selection of a grantee will be made before 1 April of the relevant year by a jury consisting of members appointed by Shawky Salem and by IFLA. The grantee will be informed of his or her selection by the Secretary of the Jury in April every year.

The application form you can find on IFLANET at: http://www.ifla.org/III/grants/grant04.htm

IFLA Headquarters, PO Box 95312, 2509 CH The Hague, Netherlands. Fax: +31 70 3834827. E-mail: ifla@ifla.org.

Gates Foundation Access to Learning Award

The Council on Library and Information Resources (http://www.clir.org/) welcomes applications for the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (http://www.gatesfoundation.org/) Access to Learning Award for 2006.

Each year, the program presents an award of up to USD 1 million to a public library or similar organization outside the United States that has an innovative program offering the public free access to information technology. Preference will be given to institutions that the Gates Foundation has not funded in the past. US libraries are not eligible to apply.

A library offers free public access if it allows all members of the public, including children and young adults, to use its facilities free of charge (without membership or Internet fees). Organizations should show how they make information technology available to the public free of charge and what kinds of technology training they offer to the public and staff. Preference will be given to organizations that reach out to underserved populations, such as poor or disabled patrons, or those from minority groups.

A library's programs are considered innovative if they provide access to information technology and services that were previously unavailable to the community. The programs could be relatively new, small ones or long-term, larger initiatives.

Program guidelines, an application form, and a list of previous recipients are available at the CLIR Web site: http://www.clir.org/

Deadline for applications: 28 February 2006

Winners of the 2005 ASIST SIG III International Paper Contest

The American Society for Information Science & Technology (ASIST) International Information Issues Special Interest Group (SIG III) is pleased to announce the winners of its sixth International Paper Contest:

1st Place: Lukman Ibraheem Diso (Nigeria): Information Technology Policy Formulation In Nigeria: Answers Without Questions.

2nd Place: Sanjeev Kumar and Nandini Dutta (India): Designing a National Fashion Information System: A Perspective Plan.

3rd Place: M.G. Sreekumar and T. Sunitha. (India) Seamless Aggregation and Integration of Diverse Datastreams: Essential Strategies for Building Practical Digital

Libraries and Electronic Information Systems.

4th Place: Selenay Aytac (Turkey): Multilingual Information Retrieval on the Internet: A Case Study of Turkish Users.

5th Place: Alma Beatriz Rivera-Aguilera (Mexico): XML Markup and Retrieval in Magazine Articles: Exploratory Results and Implementation Issues.

6th Place: Akshay Mathur (India): ICT and Rural Societies: Opportunities for Growth.

The theme of this year's paper contest is 'Bringing Research and Practice Together – the Developing World Perspective.' The six winning papers were selected from 30 papers by 39 authors from 12 developing countries received for this year's competition. The contest has also seen its first winner from Latin America.

Thanks to the generous donations from Elsevier, SIGs, Chapters, LIS Schools, and many other organizations and individuals, we have raised USD 9,000 to support the International Paper Contest. Each of the eight winners will be awarded a two-year individual membership in ASIST. In addition, the first place winner will be rewarded a minimum of USD 1,000 to attend the 2005 ASIST Annual Meeting, October 28–November 2, in Charlotte, North Carolina. These winning papers and other submitted papers for the competition will be considered for publication by Elsevier's *International Information and Library Review*, which is edited by Toni Carbo.

Congratulations to the winners! The Contest Committee worked really hard in selecting the winning papers. This year's paper contest was organized by Liwen Vaughan (Chair) from University of Western Ontario, and Duncan Omole at World Bank.

This year's judges are:

K.T. Anuradha, National Centre for Science Information, India
Yunfei Du, Wayne State University
Nathalie Leroy, United Nations

Merlyna Lim, Social Construction of Technology (SCoT) Research Group, Indonesia
Ifeanyi Njoku, Federal College of Fisheries and Marine Technology, Nigeria
Duncan Omole, The World Bank
Jadranka Stojanovski, Rudjer Boskovic Institute Library, Croatia
Jun Wang, Beijing University, China
Julian Warner, Queen's University of Belfast, Northern Ireland
Yin Zhang, Kent State University

Their effort makes it possible to develop and sustain this international network of digital scholars and experts on digital libraries and information technology in developing countries. More information about the paper competition is available from the SIG III website (http://www.asis.org/SIG/SIGIII/) under Paper Contest.

IFLA/OCLC Early Career Development Fellowship Awards, 2006

The winners of the IFLA/OCLC Early Career Development Fellows for 2006 were announced during the Oslo Conference by Phyllis B. Spies, Vice President, OCLC Collection Management Services. They are:

- Ms. Maria Cherrie, Librarian, Trinidad & Tobago National Library and Information System Authority, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad & Tobago
- Mrs. Janete Estevão, Head Librarian, O Boticário Franchising S/A, São José dos Pinhais, Paraná, Brazil
- Mr. Festus Ngetich, College Librarian, Kenya Highlands Bible College, Kericho, Kenya
- Mr. Roman Purici, Director, Information Resource Center, U.S. Embassy, Chisinau, Moldova
- Mr. Salmubi, Head of Library, The State Polytechnic of Ujung Pandang, Makassar, Indonesia

The IFLA/OCLC Fellowship supports library and information science professionals from

countries with developing economies. 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. Since the first class arrived in 2001, 28 fellows representing 23 different countries have participated.

IFLA Publications

IFLA Cataloguing Principles: Steps towards an International Cataloguing Code, 2. Report from the 2nd Meeting of Experts on an International Cataloguing Code, Buenos Aires, Argentina 2004. / Principios de Catalogación IFLA: Hacia un Código Internacional de Catalogación, 2. Informe de la 2a Reunión IFLA de Expertos sobre un Código Internacional de Catalogación, Buenos Aires, Argentina 2004. Edited by/Editado por Barbara B. Tillett and Ana Lupe Cristán. München: Saur, 2005, 227 p. ISBN 3–598–24277–8. (IFLA Series on Bibliographic Control; vol. 28.) Price: EUR 78.00 (IFLA Members EUR 58.00)

This book contains the proceedings of the second IFLA Meeting of Experts on an International Cataloguing Code, which was held in Buenos Aires, Argentina in August 2004. A large number of international cataloguing experts met on that occasion – just days before IFLA's General Conference was held – to discuss the use of cataloguing rules throughout Latin America and the Caribbean.

The first event in the series (Frankfurt, Germany, 2003) formed the start of a process towards an International Cataloguing Code that will continue through 2010. The proceedings of that meeting were brought together in IFLA Series on Bibliographic Control; vol. 26 (2004).

Future meetings will be held in Cairo, Egypt (December 2005) and Seoul, Korea (August 2006). Their proceedings will also be included in the IFLA Series on Bibliographic Control.

Continuing Professional Development – Preparing for New Roles in Libraries: a Voyage of Discovery. Sixth World Conference on Continuing Professional Development and Workplace Learning for the Library and Information Professions. Edited by Paul Genoni and Graham Walton. München: Saur, 2005, 307 p. (IFLA Publications; 116) ISBN 3–598–21844–3. Price: EUR 78.00 (IFLA Members EUR 58.00)

The papers collected in this volume have been selected from the proceedings of the Sixth World Conference on Continuing Professional Development and Workplace Learning for the Library and Information Professions, held in Oslo in August 2005.

Since the first one in the series was held in Chicago in 1985, this Conference has become established as the leading international meeting dedicated to the practice and theory of continuing professional development for library and information professionals.

It is testimony to the importance of the conference that the call for papers for this sixth edition attracted in excess of eighty submissions from all over the globe! Nearly thirty of these have been brought together in the current volume.

This collection presents a comprehensive overview of current continuing professional development theory and practice for those who manage and work in library and information services. Papers by academics and practitioners describe numerous innovative responses to emerging continuing education and training needs, including workplace learning, individual learning and learning organizations.

IFLA Guidelines for Online Public Access Catalogue (OPAC) Displays. Final Report May 2005. München: Saur, 2005, 61 p. ISBN 3–598–24276-X. (IFLA Series on Bibliographic Control; vol. 27). Price: EUR 34.00 (IFLA Members EUR 26.80)

Existing Online Public Access Catalogues (OPACs) demonstrate differences in the range and complexity of their functional features, terminology, and help facilities. Many libraries already have OPACs and many of them have a need for guidelines that help them to design or redesign the displays for their OPACs, taking their users' needs into account. This book provides such guidelines, recommendations and a corpus of good practice to assist libraries in this process.

The audience for these guidelines is librarians charged with customizing OPAC software and vendors and producers of this software. The guidelines are mainly designed for general libraries with collections of resources in the humanities, the social sciences, and the pure and applied sciences. They are intended to apply to any type of catalogue, independently of the kind of interface and technology used.

This is the Final Report of a Task Force on the matter, which was approved by the Standing Committee of the IFLA Cataloguing Section.

The Virtual Customer: a new paradigm for improving customer relations in libraries and information services. Edited by Sueli Mara Soares Pinto Ferreira and Réjean Savard. München: Saur, 2005, 385 p. (IFLA Publications; 117) ISBN 3–598–21845–1. Price:

EUR 128.00 (IFLA Members EUR 96.00)

For several years the concept of «virtual client» or «virtual customer» has been part of the world of libraries and information services. This publication contains the proceedings of a satellite meeting on this topic, organized by IFLA's Management and Marketing Section and held in São Paulo in Brazil in August 2004.

It contains papers from more general points of view such as the democratization of access to digital information to more specific questions such as virtual libraries and new services, not forgetting user and librarian education, web site design, more specialized information, etc. The readers of these proceedings will find among these pages a very stimulating content which will guide them towards better services for virtual clients.

Papers are presented in the original language of their presentation (Portuguese, French, Spanish and English) with summaries in these four languages.

For publications issued by K.G. Saur, contact:

K.G. Saur Verlag, PO Box 701620, 81316 Munich, Germany. http://www.saur.de. Tel: +49–89–76902–300. Fax: +49–89–76902–150/250. E-mail: saur.info@thompson.de.

IFLA/FAIFE World Report 2005: Libraries, National Security, Freedom of Information Laws and Social Responsibilities. 406 p. (IFLA/FAIFE World Report Series, no. 5) Price: EUR 27.00 including handling and postage.

This fifth volume in the IFLA/FAIFE World Report Series updates and expands upon previous World Reports in 2001 and 2005. Summary reports in 2002 and 2004 examined libraries, conflicts and the Internet, and libraries and lifelong literacy.

The IFLA/FAIFE World Report series is unique. It is the only source

based on a systematic data collection process that provides an overview of how libraries around the world are tackling barriers to freedom of access to information and freedom of expression. This year's edition includes 84 country reports submitted by IFLA members. The main findings are that the state of intellectual freedom in many parts of the world remains fragile, and that libraries are striving to do their best to provide access to information to their users, even if this is extremely problematic in some countries.

In particular, the 2005 World Report finds that:

- While Internet access across the international library community is slowly increasing, many parts of the world, especially Africa and Asia are still struggling with the problems of the digital divide.
- The use and acceptance of Internet filtering software in libraries is increasing, fuelled by the problems of providing safe Internet access for children. Since the last World Report the use of filtering software has increased and more library associations are in favour of using it.
- Although anti-terror legislation is not currently a problem for libraries in the countries of many IFLA members, the consequences of the war against terror are affecting library users in places such as the USA, the Netherlands and Syria. Librarians in other countries around the world are concerned about the possible future effects of anti-terror legislation.
- Violations of intellectual freedom that affect library users continue to occur around the world. Censorship, restrictions of press freedom and governmental restriction and surveillance of Internet use were reported in many countries including China, Egypt, Italy, Nepal and Uzbekistan. In Turkmenistan it was reported that libraries have been closed under presidential order, on the grounds that 'no one reads'.
- Libraries are making laudable efforts to raise awareness of HIV

and AIDS and women's access to information in many parts of the world, although in many countries the library service is yet to engage in these important areas.

IFLA/FAIFE's World Report Series is an extremely important instrument that helps the international library community move towards providing more equitable access to information for our users. The World Report 2005 helps measure our progress in tackling barriers to accessing information and identifies the outstanding issues that must be confronted if libraries are to play a full part in the information society.

The report is available from the FAIFE Office or IFLA Headquarters. For further information on the 2005 World Report or the rest of the series please contact the following:

Professor Paul Sturges, Chair, IFLA/FAIFE Committee, Loughborough University, UK. E-mail: R.P.Sturges@lboro.ac.uk

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Designing and Building Integrated Digital Library Systems - Guidelines. Bente Dahl Rathje, Margaret McGrory, Carol Pollitt and Paivi Voutilainen under the auspices of the IFLA Libraries for the Blind Section. The Hague, IFLA Headquarters, 2005. 67 p. 30 cm. (IFLA Professional Reports: 90) ISBN 9077897054.

These Guidelines provide libraries for the blind with a broad overview of matters to be considered in planning and implementing an integrated digital library system. While the publication was prepared for libraries for the blind, apart from

content dealing with 'accessibility' and 'copyright and related legal matters' which are particularly relevant to libraries serving print-disabled populations, the Guide-lines can be used by any library seeking information about what to consider when implementing an integrated digital library system.

For more information on ordering these guidelines, see: http://www.ifla.org/V/pr/index.htm.

Blue Shield Statement on Hurricane Katrina

The International Committee of the Blue Shield (ICBS) expresses its sorrow and solidarity with the American people and in particular with the population of Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama for the loss of lives and for the terrible disruption of their livelihood caused by hurricane Katrina and the ensuing floods.

Although the highest priorities must be accorded to minimizing the loss of life and to the humanitarian activities intended to re-establish decent living conditions for the hundreds of thousands of people whose homes and means of subsistence have been wrecked by this natural disaster, the International Committee of the Blue Shield must express its profound concern for the fate of the cultural heritage in the affected states.

ICBS wishes to emphasize that the cultural heritage of a community reflects its way of life, its history and identity, provides the link between its past, present and future, and contributes substantially to its economic sustainability and welfare. A community cannot function effectively in the larger societal context if deprived of its identity through the loss of its cultural heritage.

ICBS, therefore, calls on the Federal Government of the United States of America, and on the Governments of the States of Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama to swiftly draw up and implement plans to ensure the survival and restoration of historic buildings and sites, museums collections, books in libraries, and documents in archives. ICBS also calls on the international community to give the fullest possible support to the efforts, official and voluntary, now being made by United States citizens and agencies to rescue the rich and unique heritage of New Orleans and other cities and towns in the region.

Paris, 12 September 2005

Further information about ICBS is available from its website: http://www.ifla.org/blueshield.htm

Plans for European Digital Libraries

The European Commission has unveiled its strategy to make Europe's written and audiovisual heritage available on the Internet. Turning Europe's historic and cultural heritage into digital content will make it usable for European citizens for their studies, work or leisure and will give innovators, artists and entrepreneurs the raw material that they need. The Commission proposes a concerted drive by EU Member States to digitize, preserve, and make this heritage available to all. It presents a first set of actions at European level and invites comments on a series of issues in an online consultation (deadline for replies 20 January 2006). The replies will feed into a proposal for a Recommendation on digitization and digital preservation, to be presented in June 2006.

Full text at: http://copyrightandculture.com/main.php?page=news/10_05/eu_plan_digital_libraries.

Marco Marandola IFLA CLM marandol@tiscali.it

Other Publications

African Journal of Information & Communication Technology

Vol 1, No 1 (2005) of the *African Journal of Information & Communication Technology* has just been published by UTSePress and is available at http://epress.lib.uts.edu.au/journals/ajict.

The *African Journal of Information and Communication Technology (AJICT)* is a peer reviewed international journal providing a publication vehicle for coverage of topics of interest to those involved in computing, communication networks, electronic communications, information technology systems and bioinformatics. It is international in focus but with a particular orientation towards developing countries and especially the nations of Africa.

The papers in this first issue of the AJICT come from different countries around the world: China, Italy, Germany, Norway, South Africa, United Kingdom and the USA. They deal with emerging technologies and address new and existing areas of information and communication technology (ICT). The editors reflect the international orientation and are Professor Johnson I Agbinya (Chief Editor – University of Technology, Sydney,

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Australia), Professor H. Anthony Chan (Editor – Department of Electrical Engineering, University of Cape Town, Rondebosch, South Africa) and Professor Donald A. Adjeroh (Editor – Lane Department of Computer Science and Electrical Engineering, West Virginia University, USA). They note in the Preface:

> This Journal is international. Yet we call it 'African' Journal to emphasis that the fruits of ICT can serve people of all nations including the developing countries in Africa. The title also underlines the fact that people in developing countries, such as those in Africa and elsewhere, can serve not just as a consumer of research results in information and communication technology, but equally

as a source of ideas and solutions to some of the difficult problems in this area. We therefore encourage authors to include tutorial materials in each paper to make it understandable to a diverse audience. In addition to sharing the general ICT research problems, the Journal will also include papers on ICT research problems relevant to the specific needs of developing countries. We are pleased and honoured to be of service in editing the Journal and to ensure it is available as an open source periodical of high quality, dealing with contemporary and emerging technical, policy and regulatory matters in ICT.

AJICT is the second journal published by UTSePress and joins

Portal: Journal of Multidisciplinary International Studies http://epress. lib.uts.edu.au/journals/portal/, which has recently completed its second bibliographic year by publishing Vol 2 No 2. *Portal* has become well established as a peer reviewed journal in the burgeoning field of international studies and is distinctive for both its multidisciplinary character and its preparedness to publish multilingually.

Other titles are in preparation including some in the fields of history, indigenous knowledge, cultural studies and information management. UTSePress supports the open access movement through its commitment to open access and universal availability.

Alex Byrne

Obituaries

Anne Clyde

I am very sorry to advise you that a great friend and colleague to many of us in IFLA and the library and information profession, Professor L. Anne Clyde, died suddenly in Reykjavik. It is a most untimely loss of an outstanding library educator, vigorous proponent for school libraries and strong IFLA supporter.

Anne Clyde was the 2003–2007 Chair of the IFLA Section of School Libraries and Resource Centres and Professor in the Department of Library and Information Science at the University of Iceland, an Associate of the Australian Library and Information Association, a Fellow of CILIP and a Member of the Australian College of Educators. In an outstanding academic career, Anne held academic positions in three Australian states, at the University of British Columbia in Canada and at the University of Iceland. She has taught and researched in many other places in Australia and Iceland and beyond, including projects in North America, Europe

and Namibia. Her extensive list of publications include *Weblogs and Libraries* (2004), *An Introduction to the Internet* (1994, twelfth edition 2004), *Managing InfoTech in School Library Media Centers* (1999), *School Libraries and the Electronic Community: The Internet Connection* (1997), and *Computer Applications in Libraries* (1993).

Anne's work has spanned many aspects of the library and information field, especially school librarianship where she has made an extensive and notable contribution. Besides her leadership in the IFLA Section of School Libraries and Resource Centres, Anne has contributed enormously to the International Association of School Librarianship for which she was most recently Webmaster.

I know that I speak for many, many colleagues throughout the world in expressing our great sadness at losing Anne and our gratitude for the ways in which she has enriched our lives. We join with her family, friends, colleagues and students in mourning Anne and in

celebrating her achievements. We should lift a glass of good wine to her as she would have liked us to do.

Alex Byrne

Cynthia Durance

For those of you who worked with and cared for Cynthia Durance, our former colleague from both the National Library and then the National Archives, it is with great regret that we pass on the sad news of her passing on September 7. She died, suddenly, of a blood clot in the lung, yesterday afternoon, after a successful battle with cancer. She will be greatly missed.

Cynthia was appointed Director of the Cataloguing Branch of the National Library of Canada, in 1975, coming from her position as Assistant Librarian, Planning at the University of Waterloo Library. Previously, she had worked at Dalhousie University and at Sir George Williams University as Reference Librarian and then in 1969, as Head of the Serials Department at the Carleton University Library.

In her early years, as head of the MARC Office, Cynthia was involved in the development of MiniMARC in the NLC, spearheading Open Standards and, later, contributing to the development of the MIKAN system of the former NA.

Cynthia was active in both IFLA and the ICA. She chaired a number of national committees and working groups and was well known throughout the country for her work fostering systems, and the development of the Canadian library resource sharing network through the development of bibliographic and communications standards. She believed in the vision of universal access for Canadians and championed the development of key standards such as MARC, the ILL protocol and Z 39.50 for search and retrieval. She developed a reputation as a worldwide leader in bibliographic and communications standards and systems.

Nous avons le grand regret de vous annoncer le décès de Cynthia Durance. Celle-ci a oeuvré à la Bibliothèque nationale ainsi qu'aux Archives nationales. Son décès est le résultat d'une embolie pulmonaire et fait suite à un combat pourtant réussi contre le cancer. Les collègues qui l'ont côtoyée et appréciée se souviendront d'elle avec beaucoup d'affection.

En 1975, Cynthia fut nommée directrice de catalogage à la Bibliothèque nationale du Canada. Elle avait préalablement travaillé comme bibliothécaire adjointe pour la planification à l'université Waterloo, comme bibliothécaire de référence aux universités Dalhousie et Sir George Williams et à partir de 1969 comme chef du département de publications en série à la Bibliothèque de l'université Carleton.

À ses débuts à la BNC, en tant que responsable du Bureau MARC canadien, elle a participé au le développement du MiniMARC et a été à l'avant-garde de l'introdution des « normes ouvertes ». Plus tard, lors de son passage aux AN, elle a contribué à la mise en place du système MIKAN.

Cynthia a été très active au sein de l'IFLA et du CIA. Au Canada, elle a présidé plusieurs comités ainsi que de nombreux groupes de travail. Elle s'est fait connaître, partout au pays, pour son travail avec les systèmes et pour le développement, d'un réseau canadien destiné au partage des ressources entre les bibliothèques, grâce à l'élaboration de normes bibliographiques et de communication. Elle s'est identifiée à la vision d'un accès généralisé pour tous les Canadiens. Et c'est dans cet esprit qu'elle a profondément marqué le développement de normes importantes comme le format MARC, le protocole PEB et le Z 39.50 pour la recherche et le repérage. Elle a été un leader sur la scène internationale dans le domaine des normes bibliographiques et de communications ainsi que des systèmes.

Ralph Manning

INTERNATIONAL CALENDAR

2006

January 30–February 1, 2006. Tallinn, Estonia.
BOBCATSSS 2006 Symposium Information. Innovation. Responsibility: Information Professional in the Network Society. *Further information:* Sirje Virkus, Coordinator of the BOBCATSSS 2006 Tallinn Team. E-mail: sirvir @tlu.ee. Website: http://www.db. dk/bobcatsss

February 6–7, 2006. Melbourne, Australia.
Open Road 2006 Conference: Challenges and Possibilities. *Contact:* bwacek@slv.vic.gov.au or phone +61-3-8664-7046 for further information. Website: http://www.openroad.net.au/co nferences/2006/

February 7–9, 2006. Bielefeld, Germany.
8th International Bielefeld Conference 2006. *Theme:* Academic library and information services – new paradigms for the digital age. *Further information:* Dr Norbert Lossau, Library Director, Chief Information Officer Scholarly Information, Bielefeld University Library. Tel.: +49 – 521 106–4050. Fax.: +49 – (0) 521 106–4052. E–mail: norbert.lossau@ uni–bielefeld.de. Website: http:// www.ub.uni–bielefeld.de.

May 21–26, 2006. Nairobi, Kenya.
International Association of Agricultural Information Specialists (IAALD). Managing Agricultural Information for Sustainable Food Security and Improved Livelihoods in Africa. *Further information:* Dr. Joseph Kiplang, Moi University, School of Information Sciences, Department of Library, Records Management and Information Studies, PO Box 3900, Eldoret, Kenya. Tel. Mobile: +254–722 223872. Office: 254–53–43620 Ex 333. Fax: 254–53–43047. E-mail: jkngetich@yahoo.co.uk.

May 29–June 4, 2006. Dubrovnik and Mljet, Croatia.
Libraries In The Digital Age (LIDA) 2006. Course web site: http://www.ffos. hr/lida/; Course e-mail: lida@ ffos.hr

August 16–17, 2006, Shanghai, China.
WLIC Pre-Conference: *Theme:* Library Management and Marketing in a Multicultural World. *Contact:* Zhang Yijing, Shanghai Library. yjzhang@libnet.sh.cn

August 22–28, 2006. Seoul, Korea.
World Library and Information Congress: 72nd IFLA General Conference and Council. *Theme:* Libraries: dynamic engines for the knowledge and information society. *For more information:* IFLA Headquarters, POB 95312, 2509 CH, The Hague, The Netherlands. Tel. +31 70 314–0884. Fax: + 31 70 3834827. E-mail: IFLA@ ifla.org. Website: http://ifla.inist. fr/index.htm.

2007

2007. Durban, South Africa.
World Library and Information Congress: 73rd IFLA Council and General Conference. *Theme:* Libraries for the future: progress, development and partnerships. *Further information from:* International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA), PO Box 95312, 2509 CH The Hague, Netherlands. Tel. +31 (70) 3140884. Fax: +31 (70) 3834827. E–mail: IFLA@ifla.org. Website: http://ifla.inist.fr/index. htm.

2008

August 10–14, 2008, Québec, Canada.
World Library and Information Congress: 74th IFLA General Conference and Council. *Further information from:* International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA), PO Box 95312, 2509 CH The Hague, Netherlands. Tel. +31 (70) 3140884. Fax: +31 (70) 3834827. E–mail: IFLA@ifla.org. Website: http://ifla.inist.fr/index. htm.

ABSTRACTS

Francis Sejersted. **Freedom of Information in a Modern Society.** IFLA Journal 31 (2005) No. 4, pp. 301–306

In 2004 the Norwegian Parliament adopted a new article on the freedom of expression in the Constitution. The problems confronting a liberal society as considered in this connection are discussed. Special attention is given to the conditions for the freedom of information in a modern society. The problems of the information policy of the public authorities are given special attention, as are also the problems and possibilities caused by the new technological development. The importance of the institutional setting and the need for diversity are emphasized.

Upali Amarasiri. **Rising from the Wreckage: development of tsunami-affected libraries in Sri Lanka.** IFLA Journal 31 (2005) No. 4, pp. 307–314

Describes the devastation caused to public, school and other kinds of libraries and public records by the tsunami which hit the coasts of Sri Lanka and other Asian countries on 26 December 2004. Outlines the rebuilding efforts now under way, including the establishment of a national disaster management committee for library and information services and archives, the involvement of local communities and the response of the international community. Notes that the rebuilding of the village-based social fabric in the coastal zone of Sri Lanka is the principal challenge at present. Emphasizes the need to keep libraries on the reconstruction agenda and to establish an international rapid response team able to team up with local librarians, archivists, archaeologists and others in countries affected by similar disasters to identify vulnerable resources, assess the damage and take remedial action.

Ellen Forsyth. **Public Libraries and the Millennium Development Goals.** IFLA Journal 31 (2005) No. 4, pp. 321–329

Public libraries can make a major contribution to the achievement of the eight United Nations Millennium Development Goals. This paper examines actual and potential uses highlighting the importance of libraries to community development, and provides some examples, such as mobile libraries in slums and reading tents, where libraries are already assisting with Millennium Development Goals being achieved.

Khalid Mahmood and Muhammad Ilyas. **Copyright and Book Piracy in Pakistan.** IFLA Journal 31 (2005) No. 4, pp. 330–338

Pakistan has to face a tremendous pressure from Western countries due to widespread book piracy. This study presents the results of a survey of the book trade regarding copyright and book piracy in the country. International conventions to which Pakistan is a signatory and national copyright law and its implementation are described. American views on the situation of copyright in Pakistan are summarized. The survey reveals that the high price of foreign books is the main cause of book piracy. Local publishers and booksellers are the major beneficiaries of book piracy. Suggestions are given to protect intellectual copyright in Pakistan. Concludes that measures to minimize book piracy will not be successful until books at low price are available for local readers.

H.P.S. Kalra. **Bioinformatics and the Library and Information Science Community.** IFLA Journal 31 (2005) No. 4, pp. 339–347

Discusses the emergence of bioinformatics in the last three decades as a result of the convergence of networks and genetics. Though a variety of definitions and descriptions of bioinformatics are available, a cross-disciplinary definition eludes. The paper emphasizes that the core activities of library and information science can be of immense value in advancing the theoretical foundations of this emerging subject, as well as developing the mechanisms and tools for quality biomedical information in a timely manner. The creation, management, and dissemination of biomedical knowledge and information for both specialists and for laymen is a challenge and an opportunity for library and information professionals to broaden their professional horizons and to generate new knowledge in the process.

Josephine I. Iwe. **Globalization of Information and the Nigerian Librarian.** IFLA Journal 31 (2005) No. 4, pp. 348–355

The globalization of information is strongly identified with information and communications technologies (ICTs). The Nigerian librarian may be constrained from maximizing ICT usage and application but has many opportunities and new possibilities for the future in a globalized economic system. The paper suggests that the local, state, and federal governments in Nigeria should increase the budget allocations and resources allocated to education and information as investments in the human capital required to maximize the benefits of ICT applications in a globalized system.

SOMMAIRES

Francis Sejersted. **Freedom of Information in a Modern Society. [La liberté de l'information dans une société moderne]**
IFLA Journal 31 (2005) No. 4, pp. 301–306

En 2004, le Parlement norvégien a adopté un nouvel article sur la liberté d'expression dans la Constitution. Ce document aborde les problèmes auxquels est confrontée une société libérale dans ce cadre. Une attention particulière est accordée aux conditions de la liberté de l'information dans une société moderne. L'auteur traite ainsi des problèmes de la politique menée par les pouvoirs publics en matière d'information, ainsi que des problèmes et des possibilités qu'entraînent les nouveaux progrès technologiques. L'accent est mis sur l'importance du cadre institutionnel et sur le besoin de diversité.

Upali Amarasiri. **Rising from the Wreckage: development of tsunami-affected libraries in Sri Lanka. [Renaître des décombres: le redéveloppement des bibliothèques ruinées par le Tsunami au Sri Lanka.]**
IFLA Journal 31 (2005) No. 4, pp. 307–314

Cet article décrit les ravages causés aux bibliothèques publiques, scolaires et aux autres bibliothèques ou archives publiques causée par le tsunami qui a frappé les côtes du Sri Lanka et d'autres pays d'Asie le 26 décembre 2004. Il évoque les efforts de reconstruction en cours, y compris la fondation d'un comité national de gestion des catastrophes pour les services de bibliothèques, les services d'information et les archives, ainsi que l'implication des communautés locales et la réaction de la communauté internationale. Il remarque que la reconstruction du tissu social fondé sur les villages dans les régions côtières du Sri Lanka est actuellement le principal défi. Il insiste sur la nécessité de maintenir les bibliothèques à l'ordre du jour de la reconstruction et de mettre en place une équipe internationale capable de réagir rapidement en s'associant aux bibliothécaires, archivistes, archéologues locaux, etc. dans des pays affectés par des catastrophes similaires afin d'identifier les ressources vulnérables, d'évaluer les dégâts et de prendre des mesures pour y remédier.

Ellen Forsyth. **Public Libraries and the Millennium Development Goals. [Les bibliothèques publiques et les objectifs de développement pour le Millénium.]**
IFLA Journal 31 (2005) No. 4, pp. 321–329

Les bibliothèques publiques peuvent apporter une contribution essentielle pour atteindre les huit objectifs de développement pour le Millénaire définis par les Nations Unies. Cet article examine les applications réelles et potentielles, soulignant l'importance des bibliothèques dans le développement communautaire, et fournit quelques exemples, notamment celui des bibliothèques itinérantes dans les bidonvilles et des tentes de lecture, là où les bibliothèques aident déjà à réaliser ces objectifs de développement pour le Millénaire.

Khalid Mahmood and Muhammad Ilyas. **Copyright and Book Piracy in Pakistan. [Copyright et piratage des livres au Pakistan.]**
IFLA Journal 31 (2005) No. 4, pp. 330–338

Le Pakistan subit une pression considérable de la part des pays occidentaux en raison de la pratique très répandue du piratage des livres. Cette étude présente les résultats d'une enquête sur le commerce des livres portant sur le copyright et le piratage des livres dans le pays. Elle aborde les conventions internationales dont le Pakistan est co-signataire, ainsi que la législation nationale sur le copyright et son application. Elle résume les opinions américaines à propos de la situation du copyright au Pakistan. L'enquête révèle que le prix élevé des livres étrangers est la cause principale du piratage, dont les éditeurs et libraires locaux sont les principaux bénéficiaires. L'auteur fait des suggestions pour protéger les droits intellectuels sur le copyright au Pakistan. Il conclut en disant que les mesures en vue de réduire le piratage des livres seront sans effet tant que des livres à bas prix ne seront pas mis à la disposition des lecteurs locaux.

H.P.S. Kalra. **Bioinformatics and the Library and Information Science Community. [La bioinformatique et la communauté des sciences bibliothécaires et de l'information.]**
IFLA Journal 31 (2005) No. 4, pp. 339–347

Cet article engage une discussion sur l'émergence de la bioinformatique, résultat de la convergence des réseaux et de la génétique, au cours des trois dernières décennies. Bien qu'une variété de définitions et de descriptions de la bioinformatique soient disponibles, il n'y en pas de définition interdisciplinaire. L'article insiste sur le fait que les activités essentielles de la bibliothéconomie et des sciences de l'information peuvent avoir une importance considérable pour faire avancer le fondement théorique de ce sujet émergent, ainsi que pour développer en temps utile les mécanismes et les outils en vue d'une information biomédicale de qualité. La création, la gestion et la propagation des connaissances et des informations biomédicales aussi bien à l'intention des spécialistes que des profanes constituent un défi et une opportunité pour les professionnels de la bibliothéconomie et des sciences de l'information susceptible d'élargir leurs horizons professionnels et de générer dans le même temps de nouvelles connaissances.

Josephine I. Iwe. **Globalization of Information and the Nigerian Librarian. [Le bibliothécaire nigérian et la globalisation de l'information.]**

IFLA Journal 31 (2005) No. 4, pp. 348–355

La mondialisation de l'information se confond fortement avec les technologies de l'information et de la communication (TIC). Le bibliothécaire nigérian peut être limité dans la maximalisation de l'usage et de l'application des TIC, mais de nombreuses possibilités nouvelles s'offrent à lui pour le futur dans un système économique globalisé. L'auteur estime que les gouvernements locaux, d'états et fédéraux au Nigeria devraient augmenter les budgets et ressources alloués à l'éducation et à l'information ainsi que les investissements en capital humain nécessaires pour optimaliser les bénéfices des applications TIC dans un système globalisé.

ZUSAMMENFASSUNGEN

Francis Sejersted. **Freedom of Information in a Modern Society [Informationsfreiheit in einer modernen Gesellschaft].**
IFLA Journal 31 (2005) Nr. 4, S. 301–306

Im Jahr 2004 hat das norwegische Parlament eine neue Klausel zum Recht auf die Meinungsäußerung in der Konstitution verankert. Zudem werden in diesem Artikel auch die Probleme angesprochen, mit der sich eine liberale Gesellschaft in diesem Zusammenhang konfrontiert sieht. Insbesondere geht es dabei um die Voraussetzungen für die Informationsfreiheit in einer modernen Gesellschaft. Auch die Probleme der Informationspolitik sowie die Schwierigkeiten und Möglichkeiten, die sich aus der neuen technologischen Entwicklung ergeben, kommen schwerpunktmäßig zur Sprache. Der Autor unterstreicht die Wichtigkeit der institutionellen Implementierung und weist auch auf den Bedarf für Diversität hin.

Upali Amarasiri. **Rising from the Wreckage: development of tsunami-affected libraries in Sri Lanka [Die Auferstehung aus der Asche: Der Wiederaufbau der vom Tsunami betroffenen Bibliotheken in Sri Lanka].**
IFLA Journal 31 (2005) Nr. 4, S. 307–314

Der Artikel beschreibt die Zerstörungen der öffentlichen Bibliotheken, der Schulbibliotheken und anderer Bibliotheken sowie der Staatsarchive durch den Tsunami an den Küsten Sri Lankas sowie weiteren Ländern Asiens am 26. Dezember 2004. Er skizziert die heutigen Bemühungen um den Wiederaufbau, einschließlich der Gründung eines landesweiten Katastrophenausschusses im Zusammenhang mit den Bibliotheks- und Informationsdienstleistungen sowie den Archiven, die Beteiligung der örtlichen Gemeinschaften und auch die internationalen Reaktionen. Der Artikel weist darauf hin, dass der Wiederaufbau der dörflichen Sozialstruktur in der Küstenregion von Sri Lanka zurzeit die größte Herausforderung darstellt. Er weist deutlich auf die Notwendigkeit hin, die Bibliotheken auch längerfristig in den Wiederaufbau einzubeziehen und ein internationales Rapid Response – Team ins Leben zu rufen, das schnell reagieren kann und gleichzeitig in der Lage ist, mit den Bibliothekaren vor Ort, den Archivleitern, Archäologen und anderen Personen in den Ländern zusammenzuarbeiten, die von ähnlichen Naturgewalten heimgesucht worden sind, um empfindliche Ressourcen identifizieren, die Schäden aufnehmen und entsprechende Maßnahmen in die Wege leiten zu können.

Ellen Forsyth. **Public Libraries and the Millennium Development Goals [Die öffentlichen Bibliotheken und die Entwicklungsziele im neuen Jahrtausend].**
IFLA Journal 31 (2005) Nr. 4, S. 321–329

Die öffentlichen Bibliotheken können einen wichtigen Beitrag zur Realisierung der Entwicklungsziele der Vereinten Nationen für das neue Jahrtausend (United Nations Millennium Development Goals) leisten. Der vorliegende Beitrag untersucht die tatsächlichen und die potenziellen Anwendungen und betont die wichtige Rolle der Bibliotheken bei der Entwicklung des Gemeinwesens. Hierfür zitiert die Autorin auch einige Beispiele, wie die mobilen Bibliotheken in Slums und die Lesezelte, wo die Bibliotheken bereits heute zum Erreichen der Entwicklungsziele des Jahrtausends (Millennium Development Goals) beitragen.

Khalid Mahmood and Muhammad Ilyas. **Copyright and Book Piracy in Pakistan [Das Urheberrecht und die Buchpiraterie in Pakistan].**
IFLA Journal 31 (2005) Nr. 4, S. 330–338

Pakistan wird aufgrund der weit verbreiteten Buchpiraterie von den westlichen Ländern stark unter Druck gesetzt. Die vorliegende Studie beschreibt die Ergebnisse einer Umfrage im Buchhandel, die sich mit dem Urheberrecht und der Buchpiraterie im Land befasst. Zur Sprache kommen dabei auch die internationalen Staatsverträge mit Pakistan als Vertragspartner sowie das nationale Urheberrechtsgesetz und seine Implementierung. Zudem zitiert der Artikel übersichtsweise amerikanische Meinungen zur Situation des Urheberrechts in Pakistan. Die Umfrage zeigt, dass die hohen Preise für ausländische Bücher in erster Linie für die Buchpiraterie verantwortlich sind. Es sind vor allem die Verlage im Land und der Buchhandel, die von der Buchpiraterie profitieren. Zudem werden Vorschläge zum Schutz des geistigen Urheberrechts in Pakistan unterbreitet. Schlussfolgernd weisen die Autoren darauf hin, dass die Schutzmaßnahmen

gegen die Buchpiraterie erst dann erfolgreich sein können, wenn den Lesern in Pakistan preisgünstige Bücher zur Verfügung stehen.

H.P.S. Kalra. **Bioinformatics and the Library and Information Science Community [Bioinformatik und die Fachgemeinschaft in der Bibliotheks- und Informationswissenschaft].**
IFLA Journal 31 (2005) Nr. 4, S. 339–347

Der Artikel befasst sich mit dem Aufkommen der Bioinformatik in den letzten dreißig Jahren infolge der Annäherung des Netzwerkprinzips und der Genetik. Obwohl eine Vielzahl von Definitionen und Beschreibungen für die Bioinformatik vorliegen, fehlt immer noch eine fächerübergreifende Definition. Dabei wird die Tatsache unterstrichen, dass die Kernaktivitäten der Bibliotheks- und Informationswissenschaft bei der weiteren Ausarbeitung der theoretischen Grundlagen dieses jungen Fachgebiets ausgesprochen wertvoll sein und durchaus zur Entwicklung der Mechanismen und Werkzeuge für eine anspruchsvolle und rechtzeitige biomedizinische Information beitragen können. Die Beschaffung, Verwaltung und Weitergabe der biomedizinischen Kenntnisse und Informationen an Spezialisten und Laien ist eine Herausforderung und bietet gleichzeitig den Professionals im Bibliothekswesen und in der Informationswissenschaft die Möglichkeit, ihren professionellen Horizont zu verbreitern und sich dabei neues Wissen anzueignen.

Josephine I. Iwe. **Globalization of Information and the Nigerian Librarian [Die Globalisierung der Information und das Bibliothekswesen in Nigeria].**
IFLA Journal 31 (2005) Nr. 4, S. 348–355

Die Globalisierung der Information wird eng mit den Informations- und Kommunikationstechnologien (ICTs) verknüpft. Die Bibliothekare in Nigeria haben nicht immer die Möglichkeit zur unbegrenzten ICT-Nutzung und Anwendung. Trotzdem bieten sich ihnen eine Vielzahl von Situationen und neue Möglichkeiten im Hinblick auf die Zukunft in einem globalisierten Wirtschaftssystem. Die Autorin ist der Auffassung, dass die örtlichen Behörden, der Staat und die Regierungen in Nigeria mehr Gelder und Ressourcen für die Bildung und Information zur Verfügung stellen sollten. Das wäre ihrer Meinung nach eine notwendige Investition in das menschliche Kapital, wenn die Vorteile der ICT-Anwendungen in einem globalisierten System optimiert werden sollen.

RESÚMENES

Francis Sejersted. **Freedom of Information in a Modern Society. [Libertad de información en una sociedad moderna.]**
IFLA Journal 31 (2005) Nº. 4, pp. 301–306

En 2004, el Parlamento de Noruega incorporó un nuevo artículo sobre la libertad de expresión a la Constitución del país. En esta publicación se abordan los problemas a los que se enfrenta una sociedad liberal a este respecto, y se presta especial atención a las condiciones para la libertad de información en una sociedad moderna. También se abordan detenidamente los problemas de la política de información que imponen los organismos públicos, así como las dificultades y oportunidades que resultan de los nuevos avances tecnológicos. Por otro lado, se resalta la importancia del escenario institucional y la necesidad de la diversidad.

Upali Amarasiri. **Rising from the Wreckage: development of tsunami-affected libraries in Sri Lanka. [El resurgir tras la devastación: desarrollo de las bibliotecas afectadas por el tsunami en Sri Lanka.]**
IFLA Journal 31 (2005) Nº. 4, pp. 307–314

En esta publicación se describe la devastación que han sufrido las bibliotecas públicas, escolares y de otro tipo, así como los archivos públicos, a causa del tsunami que alcanzó las costas de Sri Lanka y de otros países de Asia el 26 de diciembre de 2004. También se mencionan las tareas de reconstrucción en curso, incluida la creación de un comité nacional de desastres para servicios de archivos de bibliotecas y de información, así como la participación de las sociedades locales y la respuesta de la comunidad internacional. El artículo destaca que la reconstrucción del tejido social, compuesto por aldeas, de la zona costera de Sri Lanka es, en este momento, el reto principal. También resalta la necesidad de que las bibliotecas estén presentes en la agenda de la reconstrucción, y de formar un equipo internacional de respuesta rápida capaz de colaborar con los bibliotecarios, archiveros, arqueólogos y otras figuras locales de los países afectados por desastres similares para identificar los recursos vulnerables, evaluar el daño y tomar medidas encaminadas a su resolución.

Ellen Forsyth. **Public Libraries and the Millennium Development Goals. [Bibliotecas públicas y los objetivos de desarrollo del Programa Millenium.]**
IFLA Journal 31 (2005) Nº. 4, pp. 321–329

Las bibliotecas públicas pueden influir significativamente en la consecución de los ocho objetivos de desarrollo del Programa Millenium de las Naciones Unidas. Este documento examina los usos reales y potenciales de las bibliotecas, y resalta la importancia de las mismas para el desarrollo de la comunidad. También proporciona algunos ejemplos, como las

bibliotecas móviles en suburbios y las carpas de lectura, donde estas entidades ya están ayudando a alcanzar los objetivos de desarrollo del Programa Millenium.

Khalid Mahmood and Muhammad Ilyas. **Copyright and Book Piracy in Pakistan. [Derechos de autor y piratería de libros en Pakistán.]** IFLA Journal 31 (2005) Nº. 4, pp. 330–338

Pakistán debe afrontar una enorme presión por parte de los países occidentales debido a la proliferación de la piratería de libros. Este estudio presenta los resultados de un estudio del mercado editorial en relación con los derechos de autor y la piratería de publicaciones en dicho país. También se describen los convenios internacionales que ha firmado Pakistán, las leyes nacionales de propiedad intelectual y su implantación. Asimismo, se resumen diversas opiniones de Estados Unidos acerca de la situación de los derechos de autor en Pakistán. El estudio revela que los altos precios de los libros extranjeros son la principal causa de la piratería de libros. Los editores y libreros locales son los principales beneficiarios de la piratería de libros. El documento aporta sugerencias para proteger la propiedad intelectual en Pakistán. El autor

concluye que las medidas para minimizar la piratería de libros no tendrán éxito hasta que se baje el precio de los mismos para que los lectores locales puedan comprarlos.

H.P.S. Kalra. **Bioinformatics and the Library and Information Science Community. [Bioinformática y la comunidad de la biblioteconomía y la ciencia de la información.]** IFLA Journal 31 (2005) Nº. 4, pp. 339–347

Este documento debate el surgimiento de la bioinformática en los últimos 30 años como resultado de la convergencia de las redes y la genética. Aunque el autor aporta una serie de definiciones y descripciones de la bioinformática, no ofrece ninguna definición multidisciplinar. El documento resalta que las actividades principales de la biblioteconomía y la ciencia de la información pueden tener un enorme valor a la hora de aportar los fundamentos teóricos de está disciplina emergente, así como para desarrollar los mecanismos y herramientas para ofrecer una información biomédica de calidad de manera puntual. La creación, gestión y distribución del conocimiento y la información sobre biomedicina, tanto para los espe-

cialistas como para los ciudadanos de a pié, es un reto y una oportunidad para los profesionales de la biblioteconomía y la información, ya que permite ampliar sus horizontes profesionales y generar nuevos conocimientos durante el proceso.

Josephine I. Iwe. **Globalization of Information and the Nigerian Librarian. [Globalización de la información y los bibliotecarios nigerianos.]** IFLA Journal 31 (2005) Nº. 4, pp. 348–355

La globalización de la información se identifica estrechamente con las tecnologías de la información y la comunicación (ICT). Los bibliotecarios nigerianos pueden verse limitados a la hora de aprovechar al máximo la utilización y aplicación de las ICT, pero tienen ante sí un gran número de oportunidades y nuevas posibilidades de cara al futuro, dentro de un sistema económico globalizado. El documento recomienda a los gobiernos locales, estatales y federales de Nigeria aumentar las partidas presupuestarias y los recursos destinados a la educación y la información como inversión en el capital humano necesario para maximizar las ventajas de la aplicación de las ICT en un sistema globalizado.

Рефераты статей

Francis Sejersted. **Freedom of Information in a Modern Society.** Фрэнсис Седжерстед. **Свобода слова в современном обществе.** Журнал ИФЛА 31 (2005), № 4, стр. 301–306

В 2004 году норвежский парламент принял новую статью Конституции, посвященную свободе слова. В работе обсуждаются вопросы, возникающие перед либеральным обществом в связи с этой темой. Особое внимание уделено условиям распространения информации в современном мире. Заостряется внимание на информационной политике, проводимой органами

государственной власти, а также на трудностях и возможностях, обусловленных новыми научно-техническими достижениями. Подчеркивается важность создания общественного института и необходимости введения разнообразия.

Upali Amarasiri. **Rising from the Wreckage: development of tsunami-affected libraries in Sri Lanka.** Упали Амарасири. **Восставая из руин: восстановление библиотек, разрушенных цунами в Шри-Ланке.**

Журнал ИФЛА 31 (2005), № 4, стр. 307–314

Автор описывает разрушения, нанесенные публичным, школьным и другим библиотекам и общественным архивам в связи с цунами, обрушившимся на побережья Шри-Ланки и других азиатских стран 26 декабря 2004 года. Обрисованы контуры восстановительных работ, включая создание руководящего комитета по восстановлению последствий национальной катастрофы для библиотек, информационных служб и архивов, участие местного населения и реакцию международной

Рефераты статей

общественности. Отмечено, что основной задачей в настоящее время является восстановление социальной структуры, основанной на деревенском укладе, в прибрежной зоне Шри-Ланки. Подчеркнута необходимость сохранения библиотек в общей программе восстановления и создания международной группы быстрого реагирования, способной к согласованным совместным действиям с местными библиотекарями, архивариусами, археологами и другими специалистами, с целью определения самых уязвимых ресурсов, проведения оценки повреждений и принятия немедленных восстановительных мер в странах, подвергшихся подобным катастрофам.

Ellen Forsyth. **Public Libraries and the Millennium Development Goals.**
Эллен Форсайт. **Публичные библиотеки и Цели Развития Тысячелетия.**
Журнал ИФЛА 31 (2005), № 4, стр. 321–329

Публичные библиотеки способны внести колоссальный вклад в достижение Целей Развития Тысячелетия, провозглашенных «группой восьми» в Декларации Организации Объединенных Наций. В этой работе изучены современные и потенциальные возможности эксплуатации, высвечена важная роль библиотек в развитии общества и представлены некоторые примеры, такие как, передвижные библиотеки, организованные в кварталах трущоб и «читальные залы» в палатках, в качестве образцов таких мест, где библиотеки уже оказывают активную помощь в достижении Целей Развития Тысячелетия.

Khalid Mahmood and Muhammad Ilyas. **Copyright and Book Piracy in Pakistan.**
Халид Махмуд и Мохамед Илияс. **Защита и нарушение авторских прав в Пакистане.**

Журнал ИФЛА 31 (2005), № 4, стр. 330–338

Пакистан вынужден признать массивное давление со стороны стран Запада в связи с широкомасштабным нарушением авторских и издательских прав в стране. В этом исследовании представлены результаты изучения вопросов, связанных с защитой и нарушениями авторских и издательских прав на книжном рынке страны. Описаны международные соглашения, в которых Пакистан выступает в качестве подписавшей стороны, государственный закон о защите авторских прав и его внедрение. Приведен краткий обзор ситуации по защите авторских прав в Пакистане с точки зрения американских специалистов. На основании исследования было установлено, что основной причиной «книжного пиратства» является высокая цена на зарубежные книги. Основную выгоду от «книжного пиратства» получают местные издатели и книготорговцы. Внесены предложения по защите прав интеллектуальной собственности в Пакистане. Авторами сделан вывод о том, что меры по сведению к минимуму «книжного пиратства» не принесут реального успеха до тех пор, пока цены на книги не станут доступными для местных читателей.

H.P.S. Kalra. **Bioinformatics and the Library and Information Science Community.**
Х.П.С. Калра. **Биоинформатика и специалисты в области библиотековедения и информатики.**
Журнал ИФЛА 31 (2005), № 4, стр. 339–347

Рассуждения автора о бурном развитии биоинформатики за последние три десятилетия, в результате сближения и взаимопроникновения сетевых технологий и генетики. Несмотря на наличия разнообразных определений и описаний биоинформатики, единое толкование на стыке наук остается

неуловимым. В работе подчеркнуто, что основная деятельность специалистов библиотековедения и информатики может представлять безграничную ценность для усовершенствования теоретических основ этого бурно развивающегося предмета, наряду с разработкой установок и инструментов для своевременного получения биомедицинской информации высокого качества. Формирование и распространение биомедицинских знаний и информации, распоряжение ими, открывает неограниченные перспективы и возможности по расширению профессиональных горизонтов и одновременному возникновению новых познаний, как для специалистов по библиотековедению и информатике, так и для юристов.

Josephine I. Iwe. **Globalization of Information and the Nigerian Librarian.**
Жозефин Ай. Ив. **Глобализация информации и нигерийские библиотекари.**
Журнал ИФЛА 31 (2005), № 4, стр. 348–355

Глобализация информации упорно отождествляется с информационными сетевыми технологиями (ИСТ). Нигерийские библиотекари, возможно, ограничены в возможностях максимального использования и применения средств ИСТ, но имеют огромные потенциальные возможности при создании в будущем открытой международной экономической системы. В работе вносится предложение об увеличении местными, государственными и федеральными органами власти Нигерии бюджетных расходов и ресурсов, предназначенных на образование и информационное обеспечение, представляющих собой инвестиционные вложения в человеческий капитал, который необходим для извлечения максимальной выгоды от применений ИСТ в системе глобализации.

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Articles