

## NEWS SECTION

*The news section of IFLA Journal contains information about IFLA and its activities, and other "international" news. National information is only disseminated if it has international relevance.*

*Attention is drawn to the fact that members are free to translate and/or duplicate any part of this news section, without copyright implications. IFLA, indeed, urges members to disseminate the IFLA news in their country and region. A statement of the source of information would be appreciated.*

### From the Secretariat

#### **Summary Report of Meetings of the Professional and Executive Boards, 29 November-3 December 1999**

Those present at the Professional Board on 29-30 November were Ralph Manning (Canada), Chair; Winston Tabb (USA), representing the Division of General Research Libraries; Hans-Christoph Hobohm (Germany), representing the Division of Special Libraries; Glenys Willars (UK), Division of Libraries Serving the General Public; Ia McIlwaine (UK), Division of Bibliographic Control; Chris Wright (USA), Division of Collections and Services; Wanda Dole (USA), Division on Management and Technology; Lis Byberg (Norway), Division of Education and Research; Adolfo Rodriguez (Mexico), Division on Regional Activities, members; Derek Law, observer from the Executive Board; Ross Shimmon, Secretary General; Sjoerd Koopman, Secretary to the PB; and Josche Neven, rapporteur. Liaison activities and portfolios were assigned to PB members. Winston Tabb was elected Vice-Chair and Financial Officer of the PB; Hans-Christoph Hobohm is the PB representative on the Publications Committee; Ia McIlwaine is the liaison to CLM (Copyright and other Legal Matters), Lis Byberg is the liaison to FAIFE (Free Access to Information and Freedom of Expression).

The PB formally approved the establishment of two new Discussion Groups: Repository and Storage Libraries, convened by Pentti Vattulainen (e-mail: pentti.vattulainen@nrl.fi); and Marketing of Library Services to Academic Communities, convened by Barbara Ford (bford@chiupublib.org) and Tom Wilding (wilding@uta.edu). It also approved a name change of the Round Table of Editors of Library Journals to the Round Table on Library and Information Science Journals.

The Professional Board also planned to establish an award for the best IFLA Newsletter of the year. Every newsletter received in the period between two annual conferences will be entered in the competition. The winner will be announced at the conference in Jerusalem.

The PB agreed to take a firmer stance on those professional units which had not submitted financial statements. If a financial statement had not been received, the unit would not be allocated its administrative funds.

The Professional Board agreed to cancel the official pre-session seminars, normally held in odd years before the IFLA Conference, and in their place from time to time sponsor a satellite meeting (pre-conference) on a topic to be proposed by the organizing committee in cooperation with the Professional Board. This would follow the Khon Kaen model (i.e., sponsorship would be obtained for a limited number of developing country participants who would then attend the IFLA Conference) and be open for other participants, thus ensuring that these meetings benefited more than 25-30 persons.

On 1 December at the joint meeting of the Executive and Professional Boards, the evaluation conducted by Paul Nordahl Andersen of the Royal School of Library and Information Science, Copenhagen, was reviewed. This report, plus the report from the paper-handling centre in Bangkok, indicated that 40% of (virtual) booklets were actually needed by delegates. The greater majority of the delegates were satisfied with downloading papers from IFLANET before the conference, or with their availability on the CD-ROM, sponsored by SilverPlatter for the fifth consecutive year and distributed to all conference participants in their conference bags.

The joint meeting also discussed revisions to IFLA's Statutes and Rules of Procedure, based on a questionnaire pre-

pared by Ross Shimmon. The answers were to be taken into consideration by the Working Group on the Revision of IFLA's Statutes and Rules of Procedure, which would meet in The Hague on 8-10 January 2000. Members of the Working Group are Marjorie Bloss, Carol Henry, Warren Horton, Derek Law, Sally McCallum, Sissel Nilsen, and Ross Shimmon. A consultative document would be sent by the Secretariat to all IFLA members for comment early in February. After responses had been considered, ballot papers would be sent to the membership in mid-April. The results of the ballot would be announced in Jerusalem.

The Executive Board held its meeting on 2-3 December. Present were: Christine Deschamps, President; Nancy John, Derek Law, Claudia Lux, Ralph Manning, Jeronimo Martinez, Ingrid Parent, and Kay Raseroka, members; Ross Shimmon, Secretary General; Sjoerd Koopman, Coordinator of Professional Activities, and Carol Henry, rapporteur. Jan Ristarp, Director of the FAIFE Office, attended part of the meeting. Apologies were sent by Børge Sørensen. Elections for EB officers were conducted by Ms Deschamps. For First Vice-President, nominations had been received only for Nancy John. She was duly elected First Vice-President. For Treasurer, nominations had been received only for Derek Law, who was also duly elected. There were two nominations for Second Vice-President, Kay Raseroka and Børge Sørensen. Voting was by secret ballot. Børge Sørensen was elected as Second Vice-President.

The EB also assigned portfolios and liaison responsibilities. Ingrid Parent, Jeronimo Martinez and Ralph Manning are on the Conference Planning Committee, to be chaired by Ingrid Parent. The Membership Development Committee will be chaired by Kay Raseroka. Other members assigned to the MDC are Claudia Lux and Børge Sørensen. Claudia Lux will chair the Publications Committee. Other members are Kay Raseroka

their efforts contribute to a national, and even international, effort".

The report includes a section entitled "Lessons Learned and Recommendations", as well as appendixes that provide a list of translated titles, the database questionnaire used to survey more than 1600 institutions, and a listing of the collaborative institutions and work group members.

*Building Preservation Knowledge in Brazil* is available from the Council on Library Resources for USD 15.00, including postage and handling. Checks should be made payable to CLIR and mailed to CLIR Publication Orders, 1755 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Suite 500, Washington DC 20036-2124, USA. A complete list of publications appears on CLIR's Web site <www.clir.org>.

The Council on Library Resources works in partnership with libraries, archives, and other information providers to advocate collaborative approaches to preserving the nation's intellectual heritage and strengthening the many components of its information system. It works to support institutions as they integrate audiovisual and digital resources and services into their well-established print-based environments.

### US-InterPARES Project

A newly funded research project will tackle one of the most critical global issues of the digital age - the long-term preservation of vital organizational records and critical research data created or maintained in electronic systems.

Because of the fragility of the medium and the changes in hardware and software, the task of preservation of electronic records is formidable. Records will need to be moved to different platforms and/or software packages in order to be maintained permanently, but throughout these processes, there will need to be an assurance that the records are as authentic as they were when they were first created.

Philip Eppard, Dean of the School of Information Science and Policy at the University at Albany, State University of New York, will be the principal investigator and director on a grant for the United States component of an international research project on the preservation of electronic records. Anne Gilliland-Swetland from the Department of Information Studies at UCLA will serve as co-director on the project.

The grant of USD 424,796 from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission, the grant-funding agency of the National Archives and Records Administration, is for 18 months and represents the single largest award ever made by the Commission.

The project, known as the InterPARES Project (International Research on Permanent Authentic Records in Electronic Systems), will investigate and develop theories, methodologies, and prototype systems required for the permanent preservation of authentic electronic records. It will also develop model policies, strategies, and standards to ensure preservation of the authenticity of those records.

InterPARES is a three-year collaborative project based at the University of British Columbia. It brings together national teams of researchers from Canada, the United States, Italy, the UK, Australia, Ireland, Netherlands, Sweden, Japan, China, and Hong Kong. In the USA researchers at the University at Albany, UCLA, the University of Missouri, Georgia Tech, and Penn State are all involved in the project in collaboration with electronic record specialists at the National Archives in Washington DC.

In addition, there is an industry group, including the Collaborative Electronic Notebook Systems Association (CENSA), which represents a worldwide industry group including pharmaceutical, chemical, biotechnology, high-tech, and other businesses that are interested in developing electronic lab notebooks.

"This project is distinctive in that it brings together archivists, records managers, preservation experts, computer scientists from around the world to deal with what is a worldwide problem. If our project is successful, people who need to access information from records created electronically in the 1990s will have a guarantee that those important electronic records have survived and are authentic." Eppard said.

Further information is available on the US-InterPARES website at <<http://www.is.gseis.ucla.edu/us-interpares>>.

### 23 April - World Book and Copyright Day

The idea of a World Book Day was launched by the International Publishers Association (IPA) and was submitted to UNESCO by the government of Spain. It was expanded by the Russian Federation

to include the concept of copyright. Thus, the General Conference, at its 28th session, 25 October-16 November 1995, could unanimously approve Resolution 28 C/3.18 proclaiming 23 April of each year as "World Book and Copyright Day".



This celebration originated in Catalonia, Spain where, on 23 April (St. George's Day), a rose is traditionally offered with each book sold. A more universal reason for choosing this date: famous authors were either born or died on 23 April, for example, Miguel de Cervantes, William Shakespeare, Inca Garcilaso de la Vega, Maurice Druon, K. Laxness (Icelandic Nobel Prize winner), Manuel Mejia Vallejo, Vladimir Nabokov, and Josep Pla.

The "World Book and Copyright Day" aims at drawing the attention of government bodies as well as the public at large to this means of knowledge, expression and communication which, despite the emergence of increasingly sophisticated media, remains the basis of active education and critical thinking. It also emphasizes the role of books and copyright in the development of a culture of peace, tolerance and universal dialogue.

In a statement about the importance of books and reading, Milagros del Corral, Director of UNESCO's Division of Creativity, Cultural Industries and Copyright, and Head of the organization's Publishing Office, said: "Reading means establishing an interactive dialogue with the virtual universe created by the author of a text: a universe of intellectual representations that differ according to the imagination of each reader". Ms del Corral highlighted the persistent inequalities in reading, "There are books on all subjects, for all publics and for all times. But we must make sure that books are accessible to everybody everywhere". For further information about World Book and Copyright Day, and on possible future activities and those undertaken in the past please contact: Georges Poussin, UNESCO Division of Creativity, Cultural Industries and Copyright, 1, rue Miollis, 75732 Paris Cedex 15, France (fax: +(33-1) 45685595; e-mail: [g.poussin@unesco.org](mailto:g.poussin@unesco.org)). Further information is also available on UNESCO's Web site: <[www.unesco.org/general/eng/events/book/html](http://www.unesco.org/general/eng/events/book/html)>.