

# IFLA EXPRESS



WORLD LIBRARY AND INFORMATION CONGRESS ▶ South Africa, 19–23 August 2007

Tuesday 21 August 2007

“WE HAVE TO TOUCH THE PAST IN ORDER TO FEEL THE FUTURE”



## Gcina Mhlophe

is one of South Africa's foremost storytellers, with a number of published children's books. She is also a playwright, poet and short story writer. Mrs Mhlophe participated in the Opening Ceremony of the IFLA Congress, and on Tuesday she will be telling stories in the Exhibition Hall at 12:00.



Sponsored this issue of IFLA Express



The South African Deputy Minister of Arts and Culture, Ms Ntombazana Botha MP, will be addressing the conference on Tuesday, 21 August, at the Plenary Session on South Africa's exciting international project to preserve the medieval manuscripts in the Ahmed Baba Library in Timbuktu in Mali.

The famous city of Timbuktu is situated on the northern most bend of the Niger River in Mali and has been a centre of trans-Saharan trade, scholarship and religion since the 14th

Century. There has been a long tradition of learning and many exquisite manuscripts have been preserved in scholarly families and mosques for generations.

The Ahmed Baba Library has a collection of more than 20 000 manuscripts and President Mbeki pledged South African assistance for the preservation of the manuscripts and the construction of a new library.

Deputy Minister Botha is a member of the Timbuktu Manuscripts Trust and was

**SAVING AFRICA'S MOST PRECIOUS LIBRARY: THE STORY OF THE TIMBUKTU MANUSCRIPT PROJECT: Tuesday 21 August: Plenary (12.45 – 13.45): Hall 117**

appointed to the Inter-ministerial committee overseeing the project by President Thabo Mbeki in 2004.

She will be presenting an illustrated overview of the project and discuss the South African government regarding this as such a critical project for the African Renaissance.

Alexio Motsi from the National Archives of South Africa will do a presentation on the preservation aspects of the Timbuktu manuscripts on Wednesday 22 August at 13.45.

### **Library visit to Alan Paton Struggle Archives And Centre For African Literary Studies: Pietermaritzburg. Wednesday 22nd August.**

On the Wednesday visit the Centre for African Literary Studies is holding a seminar from 12:30 – 2:00pm. Delegates will have the choice to stay for the seminar or carry on to the

Midlands Mall as planned. The subject of the seminar is Indigenous Digital Collections in Public Institutions, presented by Professor Martin Nakata from the University of

Technology in Sydney, Australia. Those who wish to attend will be asked to indicate their choice on the bus. The presentation is in English and lunch will be provided to those attending.

### **IFLA express Tuesday 21st**

Thanks to all delegates that brought books for under resourced organizations in South Africa! It is still possible to handover a good new children's reading books. If you still need to

buy one, it is also possible at the exhibition hall. IFLA asked Biblionef South Africa, a book donation NGO, to distribute these



books. You can hear more about Biblionef at the poster sessions on Tuesday and Wednesday (nr. 77).

## Preservation of audiovisual and oral tradition

Monday morning the Preservation and Conservation Core Activity presented a program on "Preservation of Audiovisual and oral tradition archives" with special focus on Africa. Five speakers presented a full range of projects from a New Zealand to South Africa collection connection to South Africa multimedia Project to Gabon and Namibia.

Christiane Baryla, director of the IFLA PAC Core Activity provided introduction and set the context for the presentations. The program showed the importance of digital projects to provide access to a wide variety of materials and stressed the importance of preserving materials. The presentations included information on the following:

DOXA is a commercial film group that has worked in South Africa and now is developing multimedia products using historical footage and digital images.

DOXA, information can be found at <http://www.doxa.co.za/> DISA a consortium of research and university libraries funded originally by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to provide digital imaging projects in Southern Africa. The purpose is to make Southern African material of high socio – political interest, which would otherwise be difficult to locate and use, accessible to scholars and researchers worldwide. DISA information can be found <http://disa.nu.ac.za/>

The archives of Anti-Colonial Resistance and the liberation struggle project of Namibia stressed the importance of gathering and preserving and making accessible to the public the hidden history that is history not documented as it was occurring. Archives from the German period 1884 to 1915 and also from South African period of rule form 1915 to 1990 are part of the Namibia Archive which is now building the archives of the Anti-Colonial resistance and liberation

struggle. This project seeks to gather and record both pre-colonial records and an archive of the resistance movement. More information can be found at: <http://www.unam.na>

New Zealand and South Africa share the gift of collector Sir George Grey, governor in Cape Town and Auckland when both countries were still British colonies. Both collections hold medieval manuscripts and European collections, some of which are now being digitized.

<http://www.aucklandlibrary.co.nz>

Gabon and the French organization IRD project on the digitization and conversion of catalogues and film from the Herbert Pepper collection, made over 50 years of recording oral traditions of dance and music, as well as design and construction of indigenous population traditions. It will be completed at the end of 2007.

Visit the Virtual Museum of the Arts and Traditions of Gabon at [www.gabonart.com](http://www.gabonart.com)

## Changing trends in higher education and its impact on the delivery of science and technology information

The Science and Technology Libraries Section session on Monday morning was well attended with over 150 delegates.

The session featured Dr. Andrew Kaniki, the Executive Director of Knowledge Management and Strategy at the National Research Foundation in Pretoria, as the keynote speaker. His presentation was titled 'Scientific data for sustainable development – the role for science and technology library in developing countries.' He described the need for the management of scientific

data and that partnerships between scientists, IT professionals, librarians, and others are necessary for the effort to move forward.

The second presentation was shared between two speakers, Barbara Aronson of the WHO, and Tandi Edda Lwoga of the Sokoine National Agricultural Library in Tanzania. Their paper, co-authored with Gracian Chimwaza (ITOCA, Zimbabwe) and Olivia Vent (Cornell University, USA), was 'Building science information fluency in African universities: How libraries and researchers are benefiting from improved access to science scholarship.' Ms. Aronson described that the need for access to information is critical for developing countries, and that the programs TEEAL, HINARI, AGORA, and OARE were designed to meet the

information gap. She illustrated how the programs operated and their current challenges. Mr. Lwoga illustrated how the programs are utilized in Tanzania and his institution's strategies for improving access.

The final presentation was by Lamyaa Belmekki (Association nationale des informatistes Maroc). Her paper, co-authored with Hanan Erhif, was titled 'The libraries of science and technology: leveraging of success of the university reform in Morocco.' Ms. Belmekki described the status of university reform in Morocco and the role of science and technology libraries in that effort.

*Ray Schwartz  
Secretary – Science and  
Technology Libraries Section  
William Paterson University,  
New Jersey, USA*

## DELEGATES' COMMENTS



From the University of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa, Patrick Ngulube said: "The opening ceremony was fantastic and the IFLA Express papers are very good."



A delegate at her first WLIC was Ugne Rutkauskiene of Lithuania who said she found the people, organization and the event itself all very special



Sierra Leone's Alice Malamah-Thomas said she had found the conference "very interesting." Malamah-Thomas mentioned that she had been to one previous IFLA conference in Oslo, Norway, and was also enjoying this one. "The people here are also very friendly and the event is very well organized," she added



Fariborz Khosravi from the Islamic Republic of Iran: "a good place for communication"

The 2007 Access to Learning Award recognizes the Australian Northern Territory Library (NTL) for providing free computer and Internet access and training to impoverished communities

The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation's Global Libraries initiative today presented its 2007 Access to Learning Award of US \$1 million to the NTL, a regional public library system based in Darwin, Australia. The award honors NTL's innovative approach to bringing computer and Internet technology to remote indigenous communities through its Libraries and Knowledge Centers program, which opens up a world of information and knowledge that can help improve people's lives. Microsoft, a Global Libraries initiative partner, will donate US\$224,000 in software and technology training curriculum to upgrade the

## 2007 Access to Learning Award

organization's 300 library computers.

The majority of the Northern Territory's indigenous population lives in extremely isolated areas with very limited services and infrastructure, poor health and economic conditions, and educational levels that are far below national averages. In areas served by the libraries, there is limited telephone service and often no bookstores, secondary schools, or even post offices for people to find information.

"The community libraries are helping to address the social and economic inequities indigenous communities face," said Jo McGill, director of NTL. "By connecting people to information and technology, we are giving

them the opportunity to improve their lives and participate more fully in their own community and the world in new ways."

NTL provides computer and Internet training, so people can learn to use technology to pursue education and employment, use government services, learn about valuable health information, and exchange ideas with people across the world

NTL's groundbreaking Our Story database is central to helping indigenous communities increase their technology and literacy skills. Our Story allows local people to preserve and share their cultural heritage by archiving digital recordings and photographs on library computers. With training on how to store current and

historical photographs, oral histories, songs in their native language, indigenous art, and videos, NTL's community libraries are teaching people the skills needed to use information technology. NTL also provides jobs to indigenous people that run the libraries. In turn, these local library staff members then train the community to use Our Story.

The Northern Territory will use the Access to Learning Award funds to increase training opportunities for its community library officers and library users, and expand Our Story to more communities. NTL will also expand its early literacy program with the goal of helping indigenous children become better prepared to enter formal schooling. Microsoft will support NTL in working to better share information about its services and content to a global audience through the Internet.



*Ms Claudette Sukhedo, today's winner of Scopus "Wear the Pin to Win"*

### **Visit Elsevier booth 58, Hall 3 to collect your Scopus pin and have the chance to win an iPod in "Wear the Pin to Win"**

Learn more about recent Elsevier product developments such as Scopus' partnership with ProQuest, enabling unique cross-searching capabilities in CSA Illumina databases, and the implementation of the h-index.

### **Learn more about the benefits of the h-index and how it can qualify research output at a special presentation on Tuesday, 21 August at 3:15 pm in Hall 4B - Room 4C.**

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## IFLA/OCLC Early Career Development Fellows for 2008 named

OCLC, together with IFLA, the American Theological Library Association, and OCLC PICA, announce the IFLA/OCLC Early Career Development Fellows for 2008. This international fellowship program prepares librarians to help libraries thrive in developing countries.

The 2008 Fellows are:

- **Ms. Hanan Erhif**, Information Specialist, Moroccan Institute for Scientific and Technical Information, Rabat, Morocco
- **Mr. Atanu Garai**, Online Networking Specialist, Globethics.net, New Dehli, India
- **Mr. Kamal Kumar Giri**, Library Officer, Ministry of Water Resources, Gulmi, Nepal
- **Ms. Sarah Kaddu Birungi**, Librarian, National Library of Uganda, Kampala, Uganda
- **Ms. Cyrill Walters**, Librarian (Music Specialist), University of Cape Town, Rondebosch, South Africa

The Fellowship program supports library and information science

professionals from countries with developing economies. It provides advanced continuing education and exposure to a broad range of issues in information technologies, library operations and global cooperative librarianship. Since its inception in 2001, the program has welcomed 38 librarians and information science professionals from 26 countries.

During the 5 week program in 2008 the Fellows will participate in lectures, seminars, library visits and mentoring. Four weeks will be based at OCLC headquarters in Dublin, Ohio, USA, and one week at OCLC PICA in Leiden, Netherlands. Fellows turn their learning and experiences into specific professional development plans that guide their continued growth as well as their personal contributions to their home institutions and country of origin.

Application information for the 2009 Fellowship program is available on the OCLC web site at <http://www.oclc.org/community/careerdevelopment/fellows/default.htm>



### Comments on the WLIC Opening Ceremony

Jean Williams, Biblionef: "I felt so proud to be a South African! The speech by Judge Albie Sachs brought tears to my eyes, as well as a desire to do more for the people of South Africa."

Aagie van Heekeren, Stichting Biblionef Nederland: "An unknown librarian made a difference in Albie Sachs' life as he was walking circles in his cell without any books. Albie made a difference in my life by telling his story."



## @ your library : LIASA signs up for the "Campaign for the World's Libraries"

At a presentation on Monday morning by Michael Bowling, Director of International Affairs of the American Library Association, LIASA formally signed up to participate in the Campaign for the World's Libraries. Ingrid Thomson, the LAISA PRO, signed the agreement on behalf of the Library and Information Association of South Africa.

The Campaign started as an American Library Association Initiative on 1999, as a public awareness drive to make people

aware that libraries are dynamic places of opportunity which can bring you the world. The branding was designed to be consistent and recognizable, while also being flexible enough to be used by all types of libraries in all countries.

30 countries are already participating in the campaign which was launched at the 2001 IFLA Congress in Boston. LIASA aims to launch the campaign in South Africa by translating the slogan @your library into the 11 eleven official languages of the Republic.

## Pick up your voting documents!

All voting delegates are asked to collect their necessary voting papers at the IFLA Voting Office located in the Secretariat offices in Room 21ABC at the Durban ICC.

Voting papers will be distributed only to those delegates who are in possession of the IFLA Voting Card 2007, duly signed by the appropriate authority.

The IFLA Voting Card was sent to all members whose membership fees for

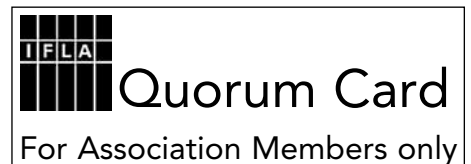
2007 have been paid.

The Voting Office will be open in the Secretariat every day.

Please collect your voting papers as early as possible. **Please do not leave it until the last minute!**

**Voting takes place at the Council Meeting on Thursday, 23th August 2007, in the Durban ICC, Hall 1AB, from 15.00-18.00.**

All Association Members of IFLA are asked to make sure they bring their voting papers and especially the Quorum Card to the Council Meeting!



# Advertisement – Secretary General of IFLA



## International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions

The International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) invites applications for the position of Secretary General.

The Secretary General is the Chief Executive Officer and the head of IFLA's secretariat, located in The Hague, Netherlands. In accordance with the Statutes of IFLA, the responsibilities of the Secretary General include:

- the strategic and operational direction and financial management of IFLA, within the policies determined by the Council and the Governing Board;
- the appointment of staff, within the approved budget;
- the provision of advice to the officers and Governing Board of IFLA and the implementation of its decisions;
- the coordination of the work of IFLA's programs and activities including the World Library and Information Congress, core activities, regional offices and language centres; and,

- such other responsibilities as are necessary for the effective and efficient operation of IFLA.

### IFLA as an Organisation

The International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) is the leading international body representing the interests of library and information services and their users. It is an independent, international, non-governmental, not-for-profit organization which is the global voice of the library and information profession. With a secretariat based in The Hague, Netherlands and regional offices, language centres and core activity offices in other locations, IFLA is a worldwide federation of national library associations, libraries of all types, personal affiliates and bodies with consultative status.

IFLA's aims are to:

- Promote high standards of provision and delivery of library and information services
- Encourage widespread understanding of the value of good library & information services

- Represent the interests of our members throughout the world.

The General Council (of general assembly of members) is the supreme governing body which normally meets every year during the World Library and Information Congress, held in August in a different city each year. The Governing Board is responsible for the managerial and professional direction of IFLA within guidelines approved by Council. It meets at three times a year, once at the time and place of the annual Congress.

IFLA has Formal Associate Relations with UNESCO, observer status with the United Nations, associate status with the International Council of Scientific Unions (ICSU) and observer status with the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), World Trade Organization (WTO) and the International Organization for Standardization (ISO).

More information on IFLA and its values, structure and activities see <http://www.ifla.org>.

## International Marketing Award

A total of 24 applicants from 12 countries were considered for the International Marketing Award by the Management and Marketing Section of IFLA. The Award for 2006 and 2007 was sponsored by SirsiDynix..

**First place** was awarded to Olga Einasto, representing Tartu University Library, Tartu, Estonia for "The Night Library and The Mom-Student Library Project." The slogan for this campaign was 'Students Don't Sleep! Come to the Library!' The goal was to be responsive to diverse student needs during exam week, providing a comfortable place for reading and study. Hours were extended and baby

sitting provided for those students who are also parents, as well as a children's room for after hours services. The first-place winner received airfare, lodging, and registration for the 2007 WLIC this year in Durban, South Africa, and a cash award of \$1,000(U.S) to further the marketing efforts of the library.

**Second place** was awarded to Mladen Masar, representing the Zadar Public Library, Zadar, Croatia for "Knjiga u diru" a localism translated to 'Wheel of Books' 'Circle of Books' or 'Books Taking a Turn.' The bookmobile campaign brought services to school children, the disabled and the elderly living in

war-affected rural areas of Zadar county. The mobile library carried a comprehensive selection of CDs and DVDs equipped with a wireless Internet connection.

**Third place** was awarded to Doris Yvon Samanez Alzamora, representing Municipalidad de Miraflores (Public Library) of Lima, Peru, for 'Leyendo en el Mercado' translated to 'Reading at the Market.' The campaign offered books and other materials and a chance to sign up for a library card via library staff who were pushing grocery carts filled with books, into local markets.