

Information Literacy Section Newsletter

First-Timers View of IFLA and Information Literacy in Durban

*By Susie Andretta
and Bernadette
Daly Swanson*

Imagine the sound of a thousand conversations happening all at once, like a rumbling volcano bubbling with ideas and expectations. It was our first IFLA conference and the sheer volume of human activities seemed exciting and intimidating at the same time. As we entered the ICC arena in Durban we wondered what chanced encounters awaited us in the next five days. Encounters with attendees, familiar and

new, began with the casual raising of the name tag, with the country name soon to follow: Indonesia, New Zealand, UK, South Africa, Kenya, Belgium, China and many other countries in attendance.

The opening session of the conference reminded the delegates of the significance of holding such an event in South Africa. Stories were told by those who suffered the wrath of an oppressive regime, but the speakers' narratives conveyed a spirit of enthusiasm

and hope of building a multicultural nation rising from the ashes of apartheid. The spirit of South Africa was encapsulated in the songs, the dance, and the stories told by those who survived, and enveloped



Durban cityscape
seen from the Hilton

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International Logo Contest for InfoLit

Funded by UNESCO, the IL Section is now conducting a contest to design an international logo for Information Literacy. A link to contest guidelines are on www.infolitglobal.info/Web page.

Jesus Lau and Linda

Goff held an information session about the Logo Contest at the January, 2008 midwinter American Library Association meeting and ALA President Lorie Roy has promised her support.

The winner will receive

\$3000 USD for the design and IFLA will develop a toolkit for users to make the design accessible to all interested Information Literacy groups and projects.



Of Special Interest:

- Photographs of scenic South Africa can be found on page 9.
- See back page for submission deadline for June 2008 issue.

First Timers (continued from page 1)

us all from the first day of the conference.

Taking advantage of the free wireless at the ICC and the South African sunshine, we sought out opportunities to sit on the patio overlooking the conference hotel and the industrial sector rooftops. The proximity of the tables made for easy flowing conversation with other IFLA attendees, including the familiar faces of people met at library school 8,000 miles away, and the unexpected reunions with colleagues met on projects or other LIS events. Our main point of interest were the sessions dealing primarily with information literacy (IL) in all its guises scattered throughout the IFLA program.

<http://www.infolitglobal.info/>

Of primary importance was the meeting on Monday afternoon discussing the collaboration between IFLA and UNESCO on global IL initiatives, such as the Information Literacy Resources Directory where one

can also find the State of the Art Report on IL provision by individual countries and details of the context for an international information literacy logo. This was the meeting where the authors of this account met and discovered shared interest not only in the active promotion of IL but also in the advocacy of librarians as proactive IL educators operating in 'real' conditions or the 'virtual' environment.

Wednesday was also dedicated to the exploration of information literacy education from the perspectives of academic and research libraries. Some of the talks delivered on this day dealt with the opportunities to expand on IL provision through online and virtual environments, while others examined the role played by ICT and other media in empowering the IL facilitator or the learner. The message is clear, IL practice is supported by technological advancements rather than dictated by them. Furthermore, librarians become facilitators of IL by taking advantage of the diverse media environments at their disposal.



Our thanks go to Linda J. Goff for her helpful comments on an earlier draft of this review

About the Authors

Susie Andretta is a Senior Lecturer at the School of Information Management, London Metropolitan University, UK. In the past few years she has published two books on information literacy: a practitioner's guide (2005) and Change and challenge: Information literacy for the 21st Century (2007) as well as a number of papers promoting this phenomenon as the foundation of independent and lifelong learning.. She is also an excellent photographer who has provided the photos from South Africa included in this issue of the newsletter.

Bernadette Daly Swanson is a librarian in the Instruction Services Department at University of California Davis. She currently volunteers with the Alliance Library System in the virtual world of Second Life and is a guest lecturer with University of Illinois Urbana Champagne for the machinima/filmmaking section of the Virtual Worlds Librarianship non-credit course offered in Second Life.

Left to Right: in Durban, South Africa the authors Susie Andretta of London Metropolitan University, Great Britain and Bernadette Swanson of the University of California, Davis share a windy balcony view with Newsletter Editor Linda Goff and Sharon Chadwick, both of the California State University system.

Conduits for Transformation: Incorporating multimodal instruction and learning into Information

Seven speakers shared their expertise with us in Durban at a program featuring multimedia instruction modes for InfoLit. It was jointly sponsored by the Information Literacy the Academic and Research Libraries Sections.

The Durban Convention Center internet connect was problematic but the presentations were warmly received by the audience who waited patiently for the 5 technicians to work on a solution for us. You can find the full text of their papers on the Durban program website and just scroll to Program #133-1 and #133-2: <http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla73/Programme2007.htm>

- Knowledge-enhancing Helix: Herausbildung und Entwicklung von Informations- und Medienkompetenz durch systemgestütztes kollaboratives Arbeiten in der universitären Ausbildung. Eine Fallstudie. NADJA BÖLLER, JOSEF HERGET and SONJA HIERL (Swiss Institute for Information Research, Chur, Switzerland)
- Building a Virtual Learning Commons: What do YOU want to do? BETTY BRAAKSMA, KATHY DREWES, GEORGE SIEMENS and PETER TITTENBERGER (University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada)

- Second Life Machinima for Libraries: the intersection of instruction, outreach and marketing in a virtual world. BERNADETTE DALY SWANSON (University of California, Davis, USA)
- The Reflective Online Searching Skills (ROSS) Environment: embedding information literacy into student learning through an online environment. HELEN PARTRIDGE, SYLVIA EDWARDS, ANDREW BAKER, AND LYNN MCALLISTER (Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane, Australia)
- Are you FIT for FILE? SUSIE ANDRETTA (London Metropolitan University, London, UK)
- Podcasting for Information Literacy. REGINA LEE ROBERTS (Stanford University, Stanford, USA)
- Developing IT-Based teaching materials to enhance information skills and knowledge awareness among students. IDA FAJAR PRIYANTO (Gadjah Mada University Library, Yogyakarta, Indonesia)



Program Speakers from left to right: Helen Partridge, Australia, Bernadette Snowden, United States, Joseph Herget, Switzerland, and Betty Braaksma, Canada.

Letter from the Chair, Sylvie Chevillotte

Dear colleagues and friends,

As the incoming chair of the Information Literacy section, I send you my very best—and late-wishes for 2008.

I wish all of you many fulfillments both in your personal and professional life and for the Information Literacy section, lots of happy and interesting times in working together on exciting projects.

The Information Literacy section is quite a new one, following a discussion group and becoming a section in the 2003 WLIC in Berlin. Jesus Lau was a great and very active chair, from the beginning up to 2007 and I thank him on behalf of the section for the great work he's been doing—and still continues to do—notably in partnership with UNESCO. Jesus is still leading international projects such as the World directory and State of the Art on Information Literacy (Infolit Global) and he is launching, along with Linda Goff and international Info lit logo contest (see above). Jesus Lau has been co-opted as a member of the Governing Board of IFLA, fall 2007. Congratulations and good luck to you, Jesus!

Our section is strongly growing and we now have a standing committee of 20 members, most of them new. So, one the aim of this new Standing Committee is to get more work done by sharing the work.

One of the main objective of the section is to improve the communication, this starts with a nice newsletter and I thank our redactor, Linda Goff for working hard on issuing 2 Newsletters per year, instead of one, formerly and of having it full of life and content.

Communicating better also means translating. We are on the process of using the competencies of our members and translating our different publications and flyers in German, French, Russian, Spanish, Dutch... There is still some work to do, but this an important objective that we couldn't reach previously because of the small size of the section.

Another way of communicating is by sharing and reacting on the info lit discussion list:

[http://
infoserv.inist.fr/
wwsympa.fcgi/info/
infolit-l](http://infoserv.inist.fr/wwsympa.fcgi/info/infolit-l)

It's a strong objective of the section to have it more active, but this can only be reached by the active contributions of the community.

Another objective of the section is to continue to collaborate with different partners. Inside IFLA, by organizing joint sessions with other sections, as in Quebec, with the section Academic and Research libraries, but also with other partners outside the libraries such as UNESCO and it's "Training the trainers in Information Literacy" (TTT



workshops, see above.)

And of course, the section is still fulfilling it's role in organizing session during the WLIC. This year, in Quebec, our session's topic is on "Return on investment. Learners' outcomes in Information Literacy. Do they really learn?"

I thank Agnes Colnot who is the convenor of the session and who's been receiving 54 answers to the call for proposals so far. I'm sure we are going to have a very good conference, and obviously, the subject of outcomes is a major one in what concerns Information Literacy.

I'll be pleased to meet you at the IFLA 74th Conference, in Quebec, in August!

And before that, if you have any interesting idea or project to share with the Info Lit Section, please let Albert Boekhorst, our Information officer, Linda Goff, editor of the newsletter, Antonio Calderon, secretary of our Section or myself, know about it.

Sylvie Chevillotte

Sylvie.chevillotte@enssib.fr

European Regional Meeting on Information Literacy, held in Madrid, Spain, 8-9 October 2007 at the Ministry of Culture

By Sylvie Chevillotte

Following the Alexandria meeting, in November 2005, experts and participants wished regional meetings to be held in different parts of the world. As in the international Alexandria meeting, It was considered that Information literacy did not limit to the field of libraries, and 5 groups of interest with each time 4 or 5 experts met during 2 days along with representatives from UNESCO and the American National Forum on Information Literacy (NFIL). The groups were on : Economic Development, coordinator: Bojil Dobrev, Bulgaria; Education and Learning: Albert K. Boekhorst, The Netherlands; Governance and Citizenship: Barbro Wigell-Ryynänen, Finland; Health and Human Services: Di Millen, UK; Libraries: Christina Tovoté, Sweden.

The meeting was hosted by the Spanish Ministry of Culture. Rogelio Blanco, Director General of Books, Archives and Libraries. Ministry of Culture, welcomed participants on behalf of Ministry. He outlined recent initiatives in Spain and affirmed Spain's commitment to libraries and information literacy.

The presentations and discussions during the two days represented a broad perspective about Information Literacy. Christina Tovote talked about

worldwide initiatives as well as those of her own Nordic region, covering Nordinfo and IFLA's Information Literacy Section's initiatives. Misako Ito gave UNESCO's view and Woody Horton talked about further international developments.

Among the developments mentioned was the creation of a European Forum on Information Literacy. For more information, contact Albert Boekhorst: A.K.Boekhorst@uva.nl

The second development is the setting of "Training the Trainers in Information literacy", workshops initiatives, funded by UNESCO, to be held in the different regions of the world. This takes place inside the Information for All (IFAP) program of UNESCO.

A short article can be found on the UNESCO website:

http://portal.unesco.org/ci/en/ev.php-URL_ID=25623&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html

On behalf of the Info lit section, Albert Boekhorst and Sylvie Chevillotte are coordinating a workshop before the IFLA conference in Quebec. More information will be available soon on IFLA IL section website.

UNESCO has a very limited budget for the Training the Trainers in Information Literacy (TTT) project (only an average of about \$6,000 per workshop to pay for lunches, coffee breaks, a modest stipend for the expert presenters, and those kinds of costs).

We are urging the host institutions therefore to approach likely sources of financing to help in defraying the costs of travel and living for the trainer-participants who would come to the workshops.(11-07)

For more information about the UNESCO Information for All Programme (IFAP) go to:

http://portal.unesco.org/ci/en/ev.php-URL_ID=21290&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html

UNESCO Leader Speaks at IL Program

Abdul Wahid Khan, Assistant Director General, Information and Communication Division of UNESCO joined IFLA President Alex Byrne in a presentation about the future of libraries on Sunday afternoon, following the Opening Session in Durban. The Information Literacy Section was very lucky to have Dr. Kahn join our Monday session as well.

The program title was: *Visibility for Information Literacy Work: the International IFLA/ UNESCO IL Resources Directory and the IL International State of the Art Report*. UNESCO has funded both of these projects.

Jesus Lau led the session and Sylvie Chevillotte and Linda Goff contributed to the panel presentation.

Copies of the State of the Art



Report were shared with the audience which broke up into region/language groupings. Discussion was animated.

New Information Literacy section Chair Sylvie Chevillotte, UNESCO's Abdul Wahid Khan and outgoing ILS chair, Jesus Lau at the ILS program Monday, August 20, 2007 .

Could Learner Outcomes in Information Literacy Be Measured? Pluses and Minuses of Testing

By Dr. Natalia I. Gendina

The Research & Development Institution of Information Technologies of Social Sphere within the Kemerovo State University of Culture and Arts has been conducting long-term research of information literacy level's diagnosis for different categories of learners: schoolchildren, students, teachers. It involved two stages: theoretical and experi-

mental for what the theory and practice of measurement tests development both in

"In 2007 in Russia there was a large scale study of information literacy level of more than 900 high school students."

Russia and overseas were studied.

As a result three versions of

tests were developed (1999, 2002-2003, 2007). The first version included 76 items, the second – 106 ones and the third – 84 items reduced to 60 according to the programmers demand who worked in international technique of computer processing of testing results.

In 2007 in Russia there was a large scale study of information literacy level of more than 900 high school students.

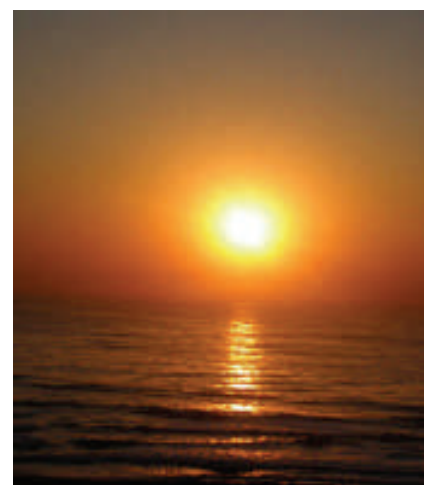
Parameters which were measured	Parameters which cannot be measured
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Access to information.2. <ol style="list-style-type: none">1.1 Definition and articulation of the information need1.2 Location of information2. Evaluation of information<ol style="list-style-type: none">2.1 Selects, extraction, analysis and synthesis of the information.2.2 Organization of information: generalization and interpretation.	<ol style="list-style-type: none">3. Use of information.<ol style="list-style-type: none">3.1 Application the retrieved information, development of information product;3.2 Communication and ethical use of information with acknowledgment of intellectual property rules.

The obtained results showed what is possible and what is impossible to measure with the tests in the information literacy sphere.

Basing on the information literacy standards stated in Guidelines on Information Literacy for Lifelong Learning the comparative analysis was conducted and it is shown in the table.

About the Authors

Dr. Gendina is Director of the Institute of Information Technologies of Social Sphere at Kemerovo State University of Culture and Arts in Russia and has written of more than 200 of articles, books, guidelines, including three books and over 70 articles on Information Literacy.



Durban sunrise over the Indian Ocean.

NordINFOLIT Conference in Finland August 20-22, 2008

NordINFOLIT's fifth international conference, **Creating Knowledge V** will be held in Turku/Åbo, Finland 20-22 August 2008.

The theme of the conference is **"Information behavior on the Internet - challenges for the libraries"**.

The conference is organized by Turku City Library, Turku University Library, Turku School of Economics, Library and Information Services, Turku University of Applied Sciences, the Library and Åbo Akademi University Library in cooperation with the Finnish National Network of Information Literacy and NordINFOLIT, the

Nordic Forum for Information Literacy

Information about the conference including the draft programme, call for papers, contact information etc will be found at:

<http://www.congress.utu.fi/creatingknowledge2008/>

Developing Information Literacy Skills for Problem-Solving as Part of Life-long Learning

A Report on the IL Workshop in Gaborone, Botswana August 13 – 15 2007.

by Christina Tovoté, Stockholm University, Stockholm, Sweden.

A three-day workshop was held in mid-August, hosted by the University Library of Gaborone, Botswana, culminating work that had started as an idea for a project at the IFLA conference in Berlin 2003. It began when two members of the new IL section, Babakisi Fidzani of the University of Gaborone, Botswana, and Christina Tovoté, of Stockholm University, Sweden, began outlining a draft. The working title then was "*Training of trainers for IL. Developing a training package*". Resource persons

20 librarians and teachers from 5 African countries, Botswana, South Africa, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Uganda and 1 from Japan were selected and admitted to the workshop

for delivering the first workshop at a regional level were to be identified so that more regional workshops were to be the result. Cascading and sharing what had been learnt to colleagues in other countries was their main idea.

In the meantime, the *Guidelines on IL for Lifelong Learning* was put together in the IFLA IL section with Jesús Lau, Mexico as the head author and editor. It was released 2006

and it seemed to be appropriate that the project proposal was changed and adapted to be a workshop on how to use these guidelines for best and practical use.

The workshop came to reality with the help of UNESCO and IFLA who sponsored the event. Dr Jesús Lau, University of Vera Cruz, Mexico served as lead facilitator with Christina Tovoté, Stockholm University Sweden and Babakisi Fidzani, University of Gaborone, Botswana, as assistant facilitators. Dr Priti Jain, University of Gaborone served as a special assistant.

Twenty librarians and teachers from 5 African countries, Botswana, South Africa, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Uganda and 1 from Japan were selected and admitted to the workshop. They each had to commit to hard work and 20 hours of homework during the three days.

The workshop objectives were to develop strategies incorporating IL in the teaching, learning and research processes, to develop strategies for a working relationship between librarians and facilitators of these processes to create common understanding of designing IL programmes and to promote the use of the IFLA IL Guidelines.

The following topics were covered: Concepts and IL De-

mand, IL standards, Design of an IL programme, Identification of the IL content to offer. The methodology was very practical with PowerPoint presentations introducing each topic followed by examples, discussions, group or individual exercises. The participants created their own portfolio with an institutional IL programme. Finally the learning exercises were graded on a scale of 0–10 and three outstanding portfolios were chosen as examples of best results.



It was a success on many levels. All the participants were active and interested in making the best results possible. The discussions were both professional and entertaining and people seemed to have a very good time learning how to teach and learn themselves. Three portfolios were deemed outstanding: Ms Ayanda Lebele, Botswana, Dr Stephen Mutula, Botswana and Ms Yasuyo Inoue, Japan. All three of them got special acknowledge certificates for excellence and their portfolios were presented to the sponsors.

The IL Section acknowledges the excellent help and assistance from the University Library of Gaborone and its

(continued from page 8)

staff. The workshop was a great success and there is now a group of highly skilled African librarians ready to disseminate their knowledge and their use of the IFLA IL guidelines in (continued on next page) their respective regions. Gratitude also is extended to the facilitators and the sponsors IFLA and UNESCO.

Participants: **Botswana:** Ayanda Lebele, Boipuso Mologanyi, Catherine Mogotsi, Felix Tawete, Gobe Butale, Jan Seanego, Lynn Jibril, Margret Onen, O. Phefo, O.G Phaphe, Reason, Nfila, Tselane Selmogwe, Stephen Mutula, Tsepo Dintisi. **Japan:** Yasuyo Inoue. **South Africa:** Bouquin Rantla, Chris Dokran, Finkie Gadimang. **Uganda:** Robert Ikoja. **Zambia:** Charles Banda. **Zimbabwe:** Absalom Ncube. (See photo at left courtesy of Jesús Lau.)

Christina Tovoté of Stockholm

About the Author

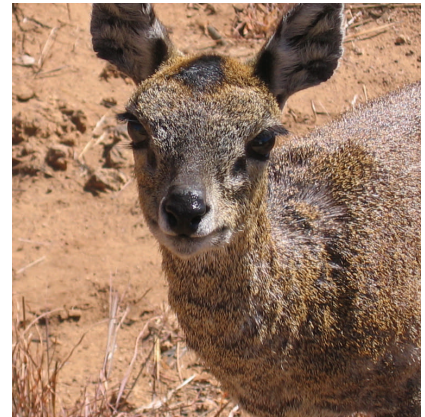
University, is a Steering Committee member of IFLA IL Section and served as a workshop assistant facilitator.

Photographs are courtesy of Linda Goff and Susie Andretta, taken during their pre and post conference excursions.

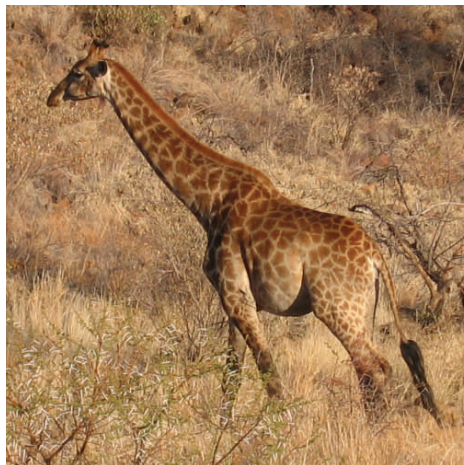
Scenic South Africa



Zulu musician from the Shakaland
Zulu post-conference tour.



South African Springbok (above) and Rhinoceros, Giraffe, Warthog and baby Elephant were photographed in Pilanesberg National Park.



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What kind of Information Literacy logo

would you like to see here?

Enter the contest !

<http://www.infolitglobal.info/#>

We're on the web!

<http://www.ifla.org/VII/s42/index.htm>

*Deadline for submissions
for the June, 2008 issue is
May 1st. Please use MS
Word for text and jpg for-
mat for photographs, and
send to Linda Goff.*

Call for Papers for Quebec City

Academic and Research Libraries Section joins Information Literacy Section in call for papers on Assessment of Learning Outcomes for InfoLit

IL educators or practitioners are invited to submit proposals for papers related to the theme:

Return on Investment: Learners' Outcomes in Information Literacy. Do they really learn?

From high school to university current trends indicate a small but growing number of studies about learning outcomes for IL. Effective assessment of student learning outcomes is a critical component to improving information literacy programs.

In this call for papers, we are interested in a wide range of techniques that provide objective measures for assessing students' information competencies. We are looking for speakers who can relate experiences from a practitioner's perspective,

as well as presentations of research on assessment of IL programs. The focus can be on diagnoses concerning incoming students, evaluating students' progress towards achieving IL skills or exit assessments.

The proposal should include a title, an abstract of 200-400 words and a one-page biographical sketch for each author, with current employment information and title, containing a selected list of previous presentations and publications. Submissions will be rated on how well they fit with the program theme. Both the abstract and the full paper should be submitted as a MS Word file by e-mail, in English, no later than 30 January 2008 to:

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agnes.colnot@wanadoo.fr**

Submissions will be acknowledged by return email. Successful applicants will be informed of the outcome of the review panel by 1 March 2008. Papers (3-21 pages) are required to meet IFLA guidelines posted at: <http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla74/callinfo-en.htm>. Presentations at the conference will be limited to approximately 20-30 minutes and will be a summary of the original paper and may use PowerPoint. An complete electronic version of this call is posted at <http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla74/call-papers-en.htm>