



Bibliography Section

Annual report, 2009

Prepared by Carsten H. Andersen, chair

Mission

The Bibliography Section furthers universal bibliographic control (UBC) by promoting standards and best practices in the production, content, arrangement, dissemination and preservation of bibliographic information related to the national output of each country. In the context of UBC, the Section is particularly concerned with the work of national bibliographic agencies in the digital era. It is also concerned with the promotion of the importance of national bibliographic data [the discipline of bibliography] to library professionals in all types of libraries, publishers, distributors, retailers and end-users. Promotion of open access to national bibliographies and business models in support of this are also important issues, bearing in mind the need to balance open access/extra services.

While taking full account of technological capabilities, the Section will ensure that its solutions are not necessarily dependent on particular technologies.

The Section closely associates its work and activities with that of other sections within the Division of Library Services. Where appropriate, it seeks ways to cooperate with divisions and sections beyond Division III.

Membership and officers

In 2009, eightyone associations, institutions, and personal affiliates are currently members of the Section. There were fifteen full members and four corresponding members. Eight members rotated off the Standing Committee and were replaced by five new members. The following nations were represented: China, Cuba, Denmark, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Kazakstan, Lithuania, Norway, Republic of Corea; Russia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, United Kingdom and the United States of America In 2009, the Section was chaired by Beacher Wiggins, Library of Congress, USA (who also served as section treasurer; Christian Lupovici, Bibliotheque nationale de France served as secretary; and Claudia Werner, Deutsche Nationalbibliothek, Germany, served as information coordinator/Section Newsletter editor. During the Milan IFLA World Congress,

Carsten H. Andersen, DBC, Denmark was elected the new chair and Glenn Patton, OCLC, USA, was elected the new secretary and also serves as section treasurer. Neil Wilson, British Library took over as information coordinator/web editor.

Activities in 2009

Milan meetings

The Section's meetings in Milan focused on:

- 1) Assessing the Section's Milan session
- 2) Discussing promotion of the Guidelines for National Bibliographies in the Electronic Age
- 3) Discussing the Section's support to the "International Bibliography Congress" in St. Petersburg September 2010
- 4) Relating to the future of ICBC and bibliographic standards in the new divisional structure
- 5) The Section's Gothenburg programme
- 6) Discussing how to extend the SC to a network on bibliography issues and in that context the need for a communication plan

Milan session

The theme of the Section's programme was: "Promoting and preserving national bibliographies, our testimony of cultural heritage". The session was a success with 130-140 attendants, in spite of the fact that one of the presenters failed to show without notice. Thus, 3 of a planned 4 papers were presented:

The Italian national library service: a cooperative library service infrastructure and the bibliographic control / Gabriella Contardi <http://www.ifla.org/files/hq/papers/ifla75/77-contardi-en.pdf>

Methodological and organizational aspects of digitization and bibliographic access of cultural heritage: the Lithuanian approach / Regina Varniene-Janssen <http://www.ifla.org/files/hq/papers/ifla75/77-varniene-en.pdf>

Frbrization: towards a bright future for national bibliographies / Jan Pisanski, Maja Zumer, Trond Aalberg <http://www.ifla.org/files/hq/papers/ifla75/77-pisanski-en.pdf>

Guidelines on National Bibliographies in the digital age

The results of the Section's working group were published as IFLA Series on Bibliographic Control Vol. 39 "National Bibliographies in the Digital Age: Guidance and New Directions", edited by Maja Žumer. Maja Žumer introduced the publication at the Division IV programme at the Milan WLIC.

Work is going on in the Section to establish a promotion plan with national and regional activities coordinated by the SC members and introducing an editorial board to ensure ongoing updates of the guidelines.

St. Petersburg congress

On request of Natalya Lelikova of the National Library of Russia and new member of the SC, the Section has discussed how to support the "International Bibliography Congress" in St. Petersburg September 2010 <http://www.nlr.ru/tus/20100921/eng/>.

The SC has decided to support the congress by helping reviewing papers, by considering submitting papers and by attendance.

ICBC working group

The Section is represented by Françoise Bourdon, Bibliothèque nationale de France, in a working group on the future of ICBC.

Bibliographic standards

The Section is represented in a working group on the future of bibliographic standards in the new divisional structure by Glenn Patton, OCLC, who is chairing the working group.

Gothenburg session

As theme for the Gothenburg programme, the Section has chosen: "Open Access to National Bibliographies : Best Practices and Business Models". The session is planned and co-chaired by new SC members Charlene Chou, Columbia University, USA and Anke Meyer, Deutsche Nationalbibliothek. Call for papers has been made.

International workshop

The Section supported upon request from Genevieve Clavel on behalf of the National Libraries Section a project proposal for an international workshop: "The Development and Implementation of Online National Bibliographies in French-Speaking West African Countries".

Communication

At the Milan meetings, the SC agreed that communication is a key issue for the Section to achieve its goals, and it was decided to establish a communication plan.

Communication plan

Following the Milan meetings, a communication plan has been launched at http://www.ifla.org/files/bibliography/communication_plan.pdf . Some of the communication aspects that the SC wants to promote are:

- Description of SC institutions' work with BC to improve an understanding of the institutions and conditions influencing the work. A framework will be provided
- Maintenance of "Guidelines for National Bibliographies in the Electronic Age":
 - promotion according to promotion plan
 - use cases
 - translations
 - revision suggestions
- Major contributions discussing any aspect of bibliographic control and linking to papers on the subject
- Sharing new bibliographic developments at section institutions
- Section members seeking advice on specific topics
- SC members seeking fellow SC members' advice/experiences on specific topics as a trusted network
- News on related work in other sections and elsewhere
- Announcements of relevant events (conferences etc.)

Blog instead of newsletter

The Section has decided to discontinue the section newsletter and replace it with a blog. This decision was reached partly because no newsletter had been published for some considerable time, partly because contributions can be published more dynamically and more timely on a blog, and partly to stimulate dialogue rather than one way

communication. If necessary blog postings can be accumulated and published as pdf files. The blog has been launched at <http://iflabibliography.wordpress.com/>.

Website reorganizing

The Section's website is being used more actively and work on a new structure is going on.

National Bibliography descriptions

In order to create a register of National Bibliographies, a description framework has been established and distributed to the members of the Section to fill in.

Strategic plan update

The strategic plan of the Section has been updated at http://www.ifla.org/files/bibliography/strategic_plan_2009-2010.pdf . It now contains the following goals:

1. Extend the provision of universal bibliographic control by advocating and promoting the production of national bibliographies
2. Establish dialogue with and between bibliographic agencies
3. Support open access to national bibliographies
4. Communicate actively