“Semin: the challenge of corruption: systems of combat, surveillance and control”: a report of participation at the El Colegio de Jalisco, Mexico.
May 20th- July 23th, 2016

Private citizens, students, faculty members from various academic institutions, government officials, politicians, lawyers, comptrollers concerned with the social and political conditions in Mexico and the Corruptions Perceptions Index 2015 ¹ gathered at one of the finest higher studies and research institutions in western Mexico: El Colegio de Jalisco, A.C. This institution specializes in the studies of various aspects of the state of Jalisco with emphasis in the social sciences and the humanities. It is located in the city of Zapopan, which is within Guadalajara’s Greater Metropolitan area. ²

The undescribed participated in a social and political forum outside the librarianship scenario, following the objectives and mission of librarians within society, and above all in developing countries. As a librarian it was an opportunity and challenge to attend an international seminar on transparency and fight against corruption among people of other professions. The seminar was divided into three cycles as follows:

2. Corruption and combat systems.
3. Transparency and accountability.

The seminar was opened by the director of the institution Dr. Javier Hurtado González and sessions were moderated by the secretary general, Dr. Roberto Arias de la Mora.

Presenters on the above mentioned topics came from the USA, various parts of Mexico, the state of Jalisco, and Mexico City. The speaker from the USA opened the program with a lecture that embodied the seminar subjects: “Corruption in Mexico over the years: the dynamics of gatopardism”. The seminar provided knowledge on all the latest Mexican federal, state and municipal laws and decrees that relate to transparency, good governance and fight against corruption. All lectures were followed by a question and answer session, which in many cases derived into debates similar to a town hall meeting.

During the sessions I repeatedly spoke of the libraries mission and IFLA / FAIFE’s work emphasizing on the various Manifestos that have been published by IFLA, especially the Manifesto on Transparency, Good Governance and Freedom from
Corruption. This was a surprise to many of the over one hundred attendees. The seminar provided a great opportunity to increase the visibility of the above Manifesto and to press on the urgent need to supply public libraries, through acquisitions and collection development policies and programs with materials on the subject in all formats, electronic or digital born. At the end of the seminar I was proud to donate a copy in Spanish to the El Colegio de Jalisco library of the Manifesto based on the article 19th of UN’s Universal Declaration on Human Rights. This, as a constant reminder of the work done by IFLA members from many parts of the world, which improves the quality of life of the citizens of the globe.

¹ Mexico: place 95 of 167 countries
² Second largest metropolitan area in Mexico with a population of 4,434,878.

Additional information:

El Colegio de Jalisco, A.C.:  
http://coljal.edu.mx/

Seminario: El desafío de la corrupción: Sistemas de combate, control y vigilancia. 
(Seminar: the challenge of the corruption: systems of combat, surveillance and control):  
http://www.comecso.com/?eventos=seminario-el-desafio-de-la-corrupcion-sistemas-de-combate-control-y-vigilancia-el-colegio-de-jalisco

Guadalajara Mexico Metropolitan area Census 2010.  
http://www.jalisco.gob.mx/es/jalisco/guadalajara

IFLA. Acquisition and Collection Development Section  
http://www.ifla.org/about-the-acquisition-collection-development-section


IFLA/FAIFE http://www.ifla.org/faife

Transparency International Corruption Perceptions Index 2015  
http://www.transparency.org/cpi2015#results-table

UN Universal Declaration on Human Rights  

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Guadalajara, Jalisco, Mexico, August 5th, 2016.

Picture of ceremony included
Correspondent member of IFLA Acquisitions and Collection Development Section donates a copy in Spanish of the IFLA Manifesto on Transparency, Good Governance and Freedom from Corruption to the El Colegio de Jalisco, Mexico, for their library collection development program during the “Seminar: the challenge of corruption: systems of combat, surveillance and control”. July 23, 2016.