



Newsletter

Latin America and Caribbean Section (IFLA/LAC)

Number 62 January - June 2013

2013 IFLA Presidential Meeting Our Digital Future

IFLA Trends Report

IFLA Spanish-language website

Development of IFLA Repository

IFLA World Library and Information Congress at Singapore

Mid-term Meeting of the Latin America and Caribbean Standing Committee

New members of the IFLA Governing Board, 2013-2015



Latin America and Caribbean Section (IFLA/LAC)

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EDITORIAL

We are pleased to share with our readers this edition of the IFLA/LAC Newsletter containing a rich selection of regional information and news from January to June 2013.

On this occasion, we highlight events such as the IFLA Presidential Meeting 2013 was held in Mexico City under the theme *Our Digital Futures*, and the Mid-term Meeting of the IFLA/LAC Standing Committee was held at the Institute of Research on Library and Information Science, which was hosted in both at the National Autonomous University of Mexico.

We are pleased to announce the results of the elections of members of the IFLA Governing Board 2013 - 2015 and the IFLA President-elect, Donna Scheeder. Besides we took the opportunity to congratulate Glòria Pérez-Salmerón and Loida García-Febo for her recent appointment to the IFLA Governing Board.

We gave a special mention in this issue those efforts made by IFLA in carrying out its five Key Initiatives, although with commitment at developing the IFLA Repository, making of the IFLA Trend Report, strengthening the International Leadership Program and launching the IFLA Official Site in Spanish.

Finally, we invite you to attend the World Library and Information Congress, which will be held in Singapore from 17 to 23 August this year, and once again I appreciate your enthusiasm and collaboration in the activities of IFLA.

JAIME RÍOS ORTEGA

Manager of the Regional Office for Latin American and the Caribbean

IFLA HQ

IFLA Presidential Meeting: Our Digital Future

The presidential meeting was held on March 6 and 7, 2013, in the National Autonomous University of Mexico. The meeting was sponsored by the UNAM Coordination of Humanities, the Institute of Research on Library and Information Science, and the General Direction of Libraries. The 2013 IFLA Presidential Meeting was organized by the IFLA Regional Office for Latin American and the Caribbean and the IFLA Latin America and Caribbean Section. The Mexican Library Association and the National College of Librarians of Mexico also participated in organization of the meeting.

Estela Morales Campos of the UNAM Humanities Coordination Office presented the keynote address titled: *Open access to information: A right or an aspiration?* The paper alludes to the Mexican legal framework underpinning the right to information access. The Director of UNAM Libraries, Adolfo Rodríguez Gallardo, read his paper titled *Digital resources as a means of social inclusion, dealing with the digital divide and the way that technological infrastructure can facilitate search and retrieval of full text documents, especially in libraries.* The Director of the Brazilian Institute of Technology and Information Science, Emir José Suaiden, presented a paper titled: *The knowledge society in Latin America: utopia or reality?*, which deals with the transition from industrial to the information society and the effects of globalization on connectivity by means of societal networks.

The papers presented in the IFLA Presidential Meeting dealt with the following subject matter:

1. Information and Society. Buhle Mbambo-Thata of South Africa spoke about access and conservation of digital information in diverse African institutions, while Sergio Lopez Ruelas of Mexico spoke about the Latin American documentary heritage that makes up part of the UNESCO World Memory Program.
2. Libraries in the digital age. IFLA President-elect Sinikka Sipilä read her paper titled: Strong libraries, strong societies, in which she discusses the impact of libraries in society. Inga Lundén touched on the principles that must be considered when acquiring and lending in order to comply with the democratic mandate favoring open access to information and e-books. Doris Samanez Alzamora presented the Seeds of Development Program, promoted by the Public Library System of Peru with the support of public and private local sectors. Monica Aspe Bernal of Mexico referred to wide-band connectivity in public spaces as a technological tool allowing access to information digital.
3. Access to information and copyright. Victoria Owen discussed copyright implications with regard to information access favored by many information handling agencies. She also mentioned achievements of the IFLA Copyright and Legal Matters Committee for establishing copyright exemptions on orphaned works in some first world countries. In other matters, Luis Villaroel focused on the inherent contradictions that arise between commercial rights of works and the way in which new knowledge is created. Finally, Adriana Berrueco of the UNAM Law Research Institute spoke about rules governing moral and economic rights to works under Mexican law.
4. Information for Libraries of the future. Loida Garcia Febo discussed information access as a fundamental element for

satisfying the needs of everyone. General Director of UNAM Institutional Evaluation, Imanol Ordorika, cited the commitment of public universities with regard to provide access to digital information. Likewise, Felipe Bracho, General Director of UNAM Computer, Information and Communications Technology, pointed out that access to digital information is a key part of UNAM's academic policy. Ismail Abdullahi from North Carolina Central University cited the invaluable participation of diverse agencies in Library and Information Science Education, such as teachers, students, businessmen, professional associations and private individuals.

Approximately 200 people were in attendance from many Latin American countries, including Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, El Salvador, Mexico, Panama, Peru and Puerto Rico. There was one person from South Korea in attendance as well. Speakers hailed from institutions of the following countries: Brazil, Canada, Chile, Finland, Mexico, Peru, South Africa, Sweden and the United States of America. The event enjoyed the presence of IFLA President Ingrid Parent; IFLA President-elect for 2013-2015 Sinikka Sipilä; IFLA General Secretary Jennifer Nicholson, and IFLA Promotion Director Stuart Hamilton. Several members of the IFLA Board of Directors were also in attendance, including Donna Scheeder, Frédéric Blin, Inga Lundén, Christine Mackenzie, Buhle Mbambo-Thata and Lynne M. Rudasill. The members of the IFLA Standing Committee for the Latin America and Caribbean Section were also present.

The meeting was a success for contributing to Library and Information Science development, particularly in Latin America and the Caribbean.

IFLA Trends Report

On March 4 and 5, 2013, in conjunction with the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM), IFLA organized a high-level meeting in Mexico City in order to draft the IFLA Trends Report. Ten experts from eight countries were invited to discuss the trends that will affect society in the coming ten years, with a special focus on the effects on the informational activities and duties of libraries.

The experts presented documents in the meeting in order to set the meeting agenda. The works presented, in conjunction with a review of the literature and the drafting of documents, make up a part of the first draft of the IFLA Trends Report to be pre-

The purpose of the Trends Report is to spur discussion and debate amongst the international library science community with regard to how libraries might adapt in order to attend to the needs of users in a changing world.

Over the next two months, additional experts shall be invited to make observations on the draft. The conclusions of these expert observations shall be included in the final draft of the Trends Report. The report shall be uploaded to the platform and available to all IFLA members. IFLA President Ingrid Parent, President-elect Sinikka Sipilä and other members of the IFLA Board of Governors participated in the debates. Parent closed the debate saying: "I am pleased with the two days of debate held in Mexico City. The depth of the discussions was very inspir-



sented in the 2013 Singapore World Library and Information Science Congress in August. The topics to be discussed include copyright and the market, public goods, the online culture, empowerment, security and political culture, and identity and locality.

ing and the results will be very valuable in the drafting of a fine trends report."

The following experts were invited to the rounds of discussion and debate:

- Dr. MJ Olivier Crepin-Leblond, President of the Internet Corporation for the As-

signment of names and Internet Numbers (ICANN).

- Anriette Esterhuysen, Executive Director of the Communications Progress Association (APC)
- Divina Frau-Meigs, Professor of American Studies and the Sociology of Communications Media of the University Paris 3-Sorbone
- John Houghton, visiting Professor of the Center for Strategic Studies of the University of Victoria (CSES)
- Deborah Jacobs, Director Global Libraries Development Program of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation
- Marieme Jamme, CEO Spotone Global Solutions
- Fred von Lohmann, Director of Copyright Matters of Google
- Alejandro Pisanty, Chemistry professor of the National Autonomous University of Mexico
- Suneet Singh Tuli, founder and CEO of DataWind Ltd.
- Louis Zacharilla, Co-Founder of the Global Forum of the Intelligent Community

IFLA Spanish-language website

IFLA launched the Spanish-language version of its website on February 25, 2013. Many policies, directives and other IFLA documents have been made available in the seven official IFLA languages and for some time in other languages. The launch of the Spanish-language web site offers broader access to existing and recently translated materials in languages other than English. A broad selection of key IFLA documents, policies and directives has been translated into Spanish. At a later date, additional IFLA documents shall be translated into other official IFLA languages. These contents were first made

available in Spanish and in short order they shall be translated into French.

Because IFLA is a global organization, it is faced with many, significant cultural differences from region to region, not the least of which is language barrier. One of IFLA's key initiatives is to offer a website in as many languages as possible in order to bridge language barrier and enhance overall work productivity. IFLA currently is collaborating with a network of language centers and volunteers around the world to execute translations of content and promote the creation of content among communities that use the same language.

This is an excellent result, and in the name of the Governing Board, President Ingrid Parent thanked the members of the work group and IFLA personnel for their work in executing the Spanish-language translation.

Development of the IFLA Repository

IFLA signed a contract with *ECS Partners Limited* for the construction of its new repository. The existing documents in the digital archive shall be published from 2013 forward. These documents include papers read at the 2012 World Library and Information Congress (WLIC), existing IFLA standards, Section bulletins and a selection of promotional documents. In time, open access complete text resources and links to other IFLA resources shall be uploaded and new content shall be developed.

Pursuant to the IFLA Key Initiative number 1 focused on digital contents, the selection of E-Prints Services was based on a study carried out by a work group of the IFLA Board of Governors led by Genevieve Clavel-Merrin. Diverse options were explored and it was concluded that E-Prints was the best fit for the needs defined by

IFLA. The recommendation was approved by the IFLA Board of Governors in December 2012.

The personnel of IFLA HQ are working with personnel of E-Prints Services to build the archive and upload initial contents. We expect public access to the digital platform to be announced in the 2013 Singapore World Library and Information Congress. Over the next few years professional units are expected to help in the development of content as their resources are included.

As soon as information on the archive is available and links are made known to the IFLA Standing Committees, professional units and other parties interested in its development, additional news on the development of the archive shall be published on the IFLA website and on a dedicated web page.

IFLA World Library and Information Congress at Singapore

The 79th World Library and Information Congress will be held in August 2012 in the Suntec Singapore International Convention & Exhibition Centre, which can host between 10 and 20 thousand people. The Congress shall be held from August 17 to 23, 2013. The opening ceremony and the exhibitors reception shall be held on August 18.

The opening ceremony, official closing and several selected sessions of the Congress shall offer simultaneous translation in the seven official IFLA languages, i.e., German, Arabic, Mandarin Chinese, Spanish, French, English and Russian.

News relating to the Congress shall be disseminated by means of the IFLA-L email list, a pre-Congress Bulletin, social networking media and a website to be developed for this purpose.

Action for Development through Libraries Programme (ALP)

The Action for Development through Libraries Committee has endorsed a work strategy for the coming three years. The plan shall focus on three areas. ALP's objective is to strengthen the ability of the library and information sector to advocate for equitable access to information and resilient, sustainable library communities. We will achieve this through the following strands of IFLA ALP:

- Building the capacity of national and regional library associations (BSLA)
- Developing leaders who can effectively represent the wider library sector in the international arena, and within IFLA (IFLA International Leaders programme)
- Evaluating the impact of our work and turning outcomes into policy, guidelines and standards for further development of the LIS sector (Advancing the Professional Agenda)

Fiona Bradley

Building Strong Library Associations programme (BSLA)

The ALP Committee has approved a strategy to carry forward the BSLA programme. The programme shall be based on the success of the initial country projects, and includes a mix of new country projects, regional activities and events by:

- The ALP Committee has approved a strategy to carry forward the BSLA programme. The programme shall be based on the success of the initial country projects, and includes a mix of new country projects, regional activities and events by:
- Implementing projects in collaboration

with regional library associations, to cascade to their member associations;

- Identifying funding or advocacy opportunities for BSLA;
- Identifying trainers from the initial country projects, who will now be trained to deliver projects in other countries;
- Identifying opportunities for networking and experiences sharing, eg at the IFLA World Library and Information Congress, regional conferences and through BSLA convenings;
- Organising workshops, training and other activities to build on activities in the regions;
- Strengthening links with the IFLA International Leaders Programme.

Fiona Bradley

IFLA International Leaders Programme

Associates are continuing work in their project groups, on topics including Access to Digital Content, Regional Collaboration, and Libraries and Development. The Open Access and regional collaboration groups have completed surveys of colleagues in the regions. The Associates will meet at the IFLA Congress in Singapore this August, with a full programme of sessions and participation in the main congress programme planned.

Fiona Bradley

New members of the IFLA Governing Board, 2013-2015

On June 7, 2013 IFLA announced the results of the postal ballot for the election of the Governing Board 2013:

1. **Kent Skov Andreassen** (Denmark)
2. **Inga Lundén** (Sweden) 2nd term
3. **Barbara Lison** (Germany) 2nd term
4. **Glòria Pérez-Salmerón** (Spain)
5. **Ingrid Bon** (Netherlands)
6. **Ellen Ndeshi Namhila** (Namibia)
7. **Loida Garcia-Febo** (United States)
8. **Frédéric Blin** (France) 2nd term
9. **Genevieve Clavel-Merrin** (Switzerland) 2nd term
10. **Ngian Lek Choh** (Singapore)

There are 10 vacancies for elected places on the Governing Board. The first 10 candidates in order of the number of votes cast are therefore elected. They are indicated in the list above. They serve on the Governing Board for the term 2013-2015.

The total number of valid ballot papers received for the vacancies on the Governing Board was 501, a return rate of 44%. This represents 1812 votes, 59% of the possible total.

Ex-officio members of the Board will be:

PC Chair: **Lynne Rudasill**

(United States)

Chair Division I: **Andrew McDonald**

(United Kingdom)

Chair Division II: **Russell Lynch**

(United States)

Chair Division III: **Maria-Carme Torras-Calvo** (Norway)

Chair Division IV: **Clara M. Chu**

(United States)

Chair Division V: **Dan Dorner**

(New Zealand)

The chair of the Management of Library Associations Section will be decided at its meeting in August.

Board members will take office on 23 August 2013.

President: **Sinikka Sipilä**

Secretary General: **Jennefer Nicholson**

RECENT PUBLICATIONS



**IFLA Journal,
vol. 39, no. 1**

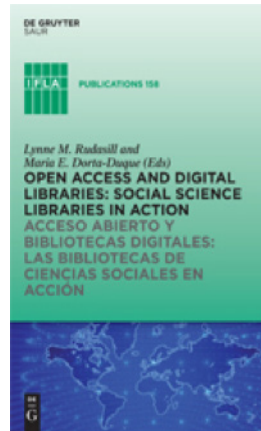
This number includes news on recent IFLA activities and selected articles reflecting the diversity of the international information profession, including freedom of information, conservation, sight-impaired services and intellectual property.

Articles:

- More about Helsinki. Stephen Parker.
- Poverty alleviation through strategic public library services in Nigeria in the 21st century: a model. Bappah Magaji Abubakar.
- Uniting the corpus of our collections through visualization. Alex Byrne.
- User-centered decision making: a new model for developing academic library service and systems. Lynn Silipigni Connaway, Erin M. Hood, Donna Lanclos, David White and Alison Le Cornu.
- Re-training of librarians for the digital work environment by the Nigerian Library Association. Ezra Shiloba Gbaje.
- Locating librarianship's identity in its historical roots of professional philoso-

phies: towards a radical new identify for librarians of today. Sara Wingate Gray.

- Form@doct: Designing innovative online tutorials for PhD students in France. Marie-Laure Malingre, Alexandre Serres, Alain Sainsot and Hervé Le Men.
- Libraries supporting national development goals in Namibia. Ellen Ndeshi Namhila and Ritva Niskala.
- Academic librarians and research data services: preparation and attitudes. Carol Tenopir, Robert J. Sandusky, Suzie Allard and Ben Birch.



**Open Access
and Digital
Libraries:
Social
Science
Libraries in
Action /
Acceso
Abierto y
Bibliotecas
Digitales:
Bibliotecas
de Ciencias
Sociales**

The social sciences have made fundamental contributions to the understanding of social, political and economic life of nations over the last century. Libraries specialized in the Social Sciences now play key roles in the context of the information society as sources of academic and social information. This work provides information about the development and use of digital resources in the field of Social Science while stressing the best practices, an overview of current obstacles to providing these resources and a look at

the use of these resources in matters associated with sustainable development.

Editor: Lynne M. Rudasill and Maria Elena Dorta-Duque.
Berlin: Munich: De Gruyter Saur, 2013
ISBN: 978-3-11-028102-6
(IFLA Publications; No. 158)
EUR 99.95
USA, Canada and Mexico US\$140.00



Ambassadors of the book: competences and training for heritage librarians

What are the essential competencies required to work as a librarian for heritage collections and how can these competencies be acquired?

The administration of antique and heritage collections requires a unique mix of knowledge, skills and abilities, including experience in conservation and acquisition policies, bibliography description, materials used in books and other objects in the collection, library history and the particular collection itself. Librarians in this field also need to understand the need for open access, the important role of marketing and the challenges arising from digitizing collections.

Editor: Raphaële Mouren
ISBN: 978-3-11-030127-4
(IFLA Publications; No. 160)
EU 99.95
USA, Canada y Mexico US\$140.00

REGIONAL NEWS

Mid-term meeting of the IFLA Latin American and Caribbean Standing Committee

The IFLA/LAC Standing Committee generally meets every March in order to discuss matters concerning the Section and to promote activities and projects underway in the region.

On this occasion, the meeting was held on March 8, which was a briefer session than had been the custom, because committee members also participated in the Presidential Meeting held March 6 and 7. The host for both events was the National Autonomous University of Mexico.

In the meeting, the Manager of the IFLA



Regional Office and President of the Standing Committee presented their respective activities reports. At the meeting it were approached the activities involving members, such as caucuses, sessions, awards and other matters associated with the 79th IFLA General Conference and Assembly in Singapore.

Currently, the Regional Office and the Latin America and Caribbean Section have begun participating in an important project called Multilinguism, which shall endeavor to have practically all IFLA documents available in Spanish on the IFLA website.

At this mid-term meeting the papers to be presented and the Section's program for the 2013 Congress at Singapore were assessed.



The committee members were committed with many activities, most notably the special one to collaborate with in the Multilingualism project and the endeavor to inform government authorities of Latin American countries

about the importance of opening some copyright exceptions to the benefit of libraries. Moreover, Committee members were urged to work on creating a publications program for the Section, an effort that shall be launched in 2014, with a commemorative edition marking the 40th year of IFLA/LAC.

Belén Martínez

Workshop on “Libraries in the digital world”

The UNAM Institute of Research on Library and Information Science (IIBI) working in conjunction with the General Sub-Direction for Library Coordination of the Spanish Ministry of Education, Culture and Sports and the University of Costa Rica extend an invitation to the workshop on “Libraries in the digital world” to be held June 24 through 28, 2013, in the IIBI facilities at University City in Mexico City.

From this workshop, coordinated by the Regional Office and the Section for Latin America and the Caribbean (IFLA/LAC). Part of the programme contemplates work-

shops on the application of digital tools for developing library services. These initial workshops are offered consecutively in diverse locations in Ibero-America. A second phase of training entails implementation of learning in respective libraries of workshop trainees.

Sixteen participants attended the workshop, twelve were Mexicans and four were Costa Ricans. The Mexican attendees work in the following institutions: El Colegio de la Frontera Sur, CONACULTA and the UNAM. The Costa Rican attendees came from Universidad Nacional, Universidad Estatal a Distancia and the National Library System SINABI.

ARGENTINA 45th National Librarians Meeting

The 45th Librarians National Meeting was held on April 23-25 in the Rural, Predio Ferial of Buenos Aires. The event allowed those in attendance to share and learn about new experiences in the professional field in Argentina. This national meeting also hosted several professional conferences and specialty workshops, including the 19th Meeting of School Libraries; the 18th Agricultural, Veterinary, Forestry and Fishing Libraries Sessions; 17th University Library Meeting; 13th Law and Legal Science Libraries Sessions; 7th Science and Technology Libraries Session; 5th RECIARA Meeting, and the 1st Argentine Library and Information Science Schools Meeting of Teachers and Students.

The overarching theme of the meeting was “Librarians and libraries: duties and commitment.” This theme was approached through the following sub-themes:

1. Information access
2. Social commitment of librarians
3. Library Science education
4. Professional associations.

6th Jujuy Library Science Sessions

Under the banner *Users in the 20th Century: How to meet their demands*; the 6th Jujuy Library Science sessions were held in the Monsignor Vergara Library of Higher Education Institute No. 7 *Populorum Progressio-In. Te.La.* from May 16 to 18, 2013. The purpose of these sessions is to help librarians and libraries of Jujuy keep abreast of new technology in order to meet the demands of library users.

Karla Rodríguez Salas

BRAZIL 25th Brazilian Congress of Librarianship, Documentation and Information Science

The Brazilian Federation of Associations of Librarians, Scientists of the Information and Institutions (FE-BAB) and the Catarinense Association of Librarians (ACB) are proud to extend their invitations to the 25th Brazilian Congress of Librarianship, Documentation and Information Science to be held in Florianópolis, July 7 to 10, 2013.

The overarching theme of the Congress is: Libraries, Information and Users: Transformation approach for the Librarianship and Information Science. Through an intensive and up to date schedule of activities, the Congress hopes to afford participants opportunities to analyze and reflect on scientific and technological advances in the field and their impact on professional practice, the sustainability of libraries and other informational centers.

Over the course of four days, these goals shall be approached in round tables, conferences, technical meetings, simultaneous

events, thematic forums and presentations. Organizers aim to create an atmosphere for dialogue and fertile ground for learning and construction of knowledge, where new, enlightened ideas can bloom.

In Florianópolis, the Magic Island and in the State of Santa Catarina We are waiting for you with open arms in 2013.

Mark it down in your calendar. We will be very happy to be your host!

Source: IFLA/LAC blog

COLOMBIA International Book Fair of Bogota FILBO 2013

Held in Corferias, the 26th FILBO 2013 Book Fair of Bogota – Ecopetrol officially concluded after a successful run of two weeks, during which time innumerable colorfully uniformed students from schools throughout Bogota toured the stands and pavilions.

This celebration reminded one and all of 1988 Nobel Prize for Literature Laureate Jose Saramago. Pilar del Rio came to Colombia to share stories that led to the creation of a foundation to pay homage to the man who touched so many hearts in the books he authored. Likewise, Jean-Marie Gustave Le Clezio, whose presence at the fair was eagerly anticipated, conversed with Colombian Oscar Collazos in what can only be described as a prose bombardment.

The fair concluded with the announcement that Peru would be the honor guest honor country in the next edition of the book fair. Organizers estimated that 433,000 book lovers attended the fair.

Silvia Prada Forero

Study of reading habits and book consumption in Colombia

According to an agreement signed by the five agencies with the National Bureau of Statistics, the 2012 cultural consumption survey now includes a measure of Reading Habits, Book Consumption and Library Use. The survey produces several key indicators to support Colombian public policy making.

The signatory agencies are: The Ministry of Culture, the Communications and Information Technologies Fund (FONTIC), the Colombian Chamber of Books, the Foundation to Promote Reading (Fundalectura) and the Regional Center to Promote Reading in Latin America and the Caribbean (CERLALC).

The latest survey provides a vision of the reading habits of children between 5 to 11 years old and for persons over 12. It also provides figures for library attendance in the last three months.

Silvia Prada Forero

Institutional Repository of the Pontificia Universidad Javeriana

The library system of libraries of the Pontificia Universidad Javeriana has opened its Institutional repository to the academic community: This repository endeavors to gather all of the intellectual production created in the Pontificia Universidad Javeriana.

Silvia Prada Forero

Development of e-book collections in the libraries of Pontificia Universidad Javeriana

The book collections held by the Javeriano library system are hybrid, meaning they consist of physical elements in several media, including print, microfilm, microfiche, DVD, CD-ROM, and electronic collections made up of books, magazines, doctoral dissertations and other degree papers, university research papers, pamphlets, sheet music, maps, videos (movies), sound files, audio-books and slides.

The collection also contemplates subscriptions to important bibliographic data bases, spanning the entire breadth of knowledge that is relevant to the academic and research endeavors carried out in the university.

Silvia Prada Forero

11th National Reading Congress and 1st International Meeting of School Libraries

From April 23 to 25, the National Ministry of Education held its National Reading and Writing Plan under the banner: Reading is my story. Within this context, Fundalectura held the 11th National Reading Congress, and the 1st International School Libraries Meeting was also held. On this occasion the Ministry of Education and Fundalectura decided to join forces to carry off the Congress and the Meeting in a single event, in which participants were encouraged to debate and reflect on the role of school libraries in the academic life of students and youth in general. Education Minister, María Fernanda Campo Saavedra, stressed the need to consolidate a network of school libraries.

The event titled: The school library: realities and challenges sought to provide a

forum for debate on the importance of creating, updating and maintaining school libraries, especially in light of the challenge of optimizing learning.

Prestigious international participants included Catalan Daniel Cassany; Chilean Constanza Mekis, National Coordinator of School Libraries; Spaniard Ines Miret, consultant in digital reading projects, books and libraries, and reading specialist in the SEP, and Günter Schlamp from Germany.

Ruth Helena Vallejo

Digital Plan of the National Library of Colombia

In an event held on May 15 at 11:00 am in the Aurelio Arturo Auditorium of the National Library, the National Library Director presided his last administrative act in presenting a progress report on the Digital Plan for the National Library. Visitors enjoyed a guided tour of the Digitization and Conservation Department, where the Restrepo Historical Archive is currently being digitized in conjunction with the Universidad de los Andes. This collection is one of the most important historical archives in private hands in the country, and it will soon be made available to the general public thanks to this digitization initiative.

That same day, the National Library implemented a process for voluntary deposit of digital documents, such as websites, images, texts, videos, audio files. This service is available to anyone who wishes the library to preserve these documents in the digital collection for the benefit of future generation.

Adriana Betancur

COSTA RICA

Book presentation: *Origin and development of Library Science in Costa Rica*

The book *Origin and Evolution of Library Science in Costa Rica*, by librarian Álvaro Pérez Guzmán, was presented by the Postgraduate Studies System and the Postgraduate Studies Program in Library and Information Sciences.

Karla Rodríguez Salas

Forum: "Open access policies: experiences in Costa Rica, Brazil and Spain"

This activity was hosted by the Vice-Rectorate of Information and the Library and Information Sciences School on March 22.

Members of the conference panel included Dr. Emir Jose Suaiden, Dr. Elea Gimenez and Saray Cordoba M.Sc. Serving as moderator was Alice Perez, Vice-Rector of Research.

Karla Rodríguez Salas

Dialogue on the role of professionals in the field of Library Science

Among the activities of National Librarians Day celebrated on March 19, the Library and Information Sciences School hosted the discussion forum titled "The role of professionals in the field of Library and Information Science." The event's purpose was to explore the importance of the role played by library professionals in the management and distribution of information. The event enjoyed the presence of Dr. Emir Jose Suaiden, Miriam Alvarez Brenes de Chaverri and Magda

Cecilia Sandi. Coordinator of the Research Commission of the EBCI-UCR.

Karla Rodríguez Salas

Inaugural Lesson: “The need for experience in national information policy in order to guarantee information access”

This conference was offered by Dr. Emir Jose Suaíden, Director of the Brazilian Institute of Information Science and Technology. The activity was organized by the School of Library and Information Science.

Karla Rodríguez Salas

“Information policy design: experiences in Brazil”

This activity was held on March 21 and was organized by the School of Library and Information Science. Dr. Emir Jose Suaíden of the Brazilian Institute of Information Science and Technology was the expositor.

Karla Rodríguez Salas

Book Week in the UCR School of Library and Information Science

As part of World Book and Copyright Day, the School of Library and Information Science celebrated its own Book Week from April 22 through 25, which included the following activities:

- April 22:

Conference on risk prevention plans for digital archives. Speaker: National Emergency Commission.

Presentation of three pamphlets on bibliographic citation by Ruth Gonzalez.

- April 23:

Conference on tactics for poisoning oblivion: from primitive memory to cybernetics. Dr. Carlos Villalobos Villalobos, Director of the School of Philology of the University of Costa Rica.

Poetry Recital “An encounter with words.”

- April 25:

Delivery of bio-bibliographies of recognized national authors

Karla Rodríguez Salas

Course-workshop “Animating reading through oral narration” held in the National Library System SINABI

This course is one of several belonging to the Reader and Narrator Communities Project which is directed at teachers and librarians, offering them a forum in which to present their work. The course-workshop is offered in diverse SINABI libraries, including the Public Library of Liberia, the Public Library of Nicoya, the Public Library of the Goicochea and the Public Library of Limon.

The course, imparted by Simona Trovato Apollardo of UCLM, Spain, began on February 18 in the Public Library of Liberia and concluded on June 4 in the Public Library of Limon.

Karla Rodríguez Salas

Discussion at the College of Librarians of Costa Rica: “Research on Library Science”

The purpose of this discussion was to spur interest in our field research, since there are very few professionals publishing library research works in Costa Rica. This activity was moderated by the COBI Research Commission consisting of Alvaro Perez and Ruperto Arce and was held on April 18.

Karla Rodríguez Salas

“Course on Method-focused, project-based learning” in the School of Library Science, Documentation and Information

This activity was hosted by the School of Library Science, Documentation and Information for the purpose of providing professionals updated training. The course was imparted by Dr. Marianne Lykke of the University of Aalborg, Denmark, and was held April 23 and 24.

Karla Rodríguez Salas

Round table on “Social networks, open-source and proprietary software in specialized information centers: myths and realities” held in the School of Library Science, Documentation and Information of the Universidad Nacional

This activity was organized by students of the course Specialized Information Centers of the School of Library Science, Documentation and Information. The objective of the course is to better grasp

the importance of using social networks as a library marketing tool.

The topics covered included:

- “Implementation of proprietary software in information centers” presented by Aracelly Ugalde Víquez, MATI (Magister in Technology Information), Vice-Dean of the Faculty of Philosophy and Letters of the Universidad Nacional.
- “Implementation of information and communication technologies in the Library Science Programme” presented by Freddy Oviedo G., MATI, of the School of Library Science, Documentation and Information.
- “Implementation of social networking in information centers” presented by Alejandro Ramirez y Bach and Karen Mesen, Specialized information centers course.

Karla Rodríguez Salas

Get inspired and write a poem!

To celebrate World Book Day on April 23, the Philosophy and Letters Faculty hosted a poetry contest among the students enrolled. The objective of this activity was to promote reading and writing habits among these students. The poetry contest encouraged students to submit poems in any style provided the submissions had not received prizes in previous contests. The poems were required to approach the importance of reading as a vehicle for learning.

The judges consisted of three professors from the faculty of Literature and Linguistics.

Karla Rodríguez Salas

Colloquium “Reading as a vehicle for learning” in the Faculty of Philosophy and Letters of the Universidad Nacional

In commemoration of the World Book Day, April 23, the Library of the Faculty of Philosophy and Letters hosted Costa Rican writer Anny Brenes, whose charisma and unique presentation was a delight to all.

On this occasion, Brenes spoke on the topic of Reading as a vehicle to learning, narrating the experiences of people riding on the bus. Soon she had turned this everyday anecdote into a story rich with interesting details.

She engaged the audience with the question: What is reading?

Moreover, she stressed the benefits of reading and the key role it plays in learning across the curriculum. She pointed out that reading is also important in daily life, for example, when shopping, running errands and doing business, not to mention its role in general culture, travel and self-knowledge.

The author also noted some curiosities regarding reading, for example, how readers tend to skip words and how meaning is lost when text is presented in a digital medium on screen rather than on the printed page. To conclude the activity, Brenes read her story *Dorilla*, which deals with a weaving spider who sells its wares in order to feel useful to society. The moral of the story is: “We are always useful to someone, even though we sometimes doubt it.”

Karla Rodríguez Salas

Exhibit of works by Costa Rican author Anastasio Alfaro in the “Miguel Obregón Lizano” National Library of Costa Rica

As part of the celebration of World Book and Copyright Day, the National Library organized an exhibit of scientific and literary works by Anastasio Alfaro. A digitized version of this exhibit is also available on the SINABI website.

Karla Rodríguez Salas

Open Culture Week 2013 in the “Miguel Obregón Lizano” National Library of Costa Rica

On May 8 and 9, a series of activities were scheduled to promote sharing of experiences and debate on topics associated with access to knowledge. The following topics were addressed:

- Press conference “Open Culture: education and use of open licenses in order to stem software piracy.”
- Discussion table “Open access policies and opportunities to promote open culture.”
- Round table discussion “Local understanding and shared knowledge: challenges and scope of intellectual property.”
- Film “Five years narrating freedom: Creative Commons in web documents.”
- Round Table “Intellectual property and open culture.”
- Colloquium “Why adopt open culture?”
- Colloquium “Open access resources for education: advancements and challenges in Costa Rica.”

Karla Rodríguez Salas

CUBA

Inauguration of first library-park in Cuba

The first library-park in Cuba, located in the National Library, Jose Marti, was officially inaugurated. The ceremony enjoyed the presence of the Politburo member and Havana Province Party First Secretary, Fernando Rojas; Vice-Minister of Culture, Dr. Eduardo Torres Cuevas; National Library Director, Noraima Tábares; and Mayra Lasalle, who is Vice-President of the People's National Assembly and Culture Director of the Capital Province.



Dr. Eduardo Torres Cuevas gave the opening address, explaining that the library-park is conceived as an integrated community project whose purpose is to promote reading among the Cuban people. The library-park, he added, is meant to be used for reading enjoyment and is especially focused on stimulating children and teens to learn about the joy of reading.

The ceremony included the presentation of collection Telling Havana, by Ciro Bianchi, who shared anecdotes from the book and engaged in an interesting dialogue with the Director of the National Library and the public.

The ceremony enjoyed the performances of talented young people, including guitar and violin recitals and singers, as well as stories by Tomasita Rojas, all of which lent

the event a distinctive marque. Additionally, Reynerio Salerno spoke about the new edition of the Diary of Ann Frank and the event concluded with a performance of the Fantasy Puppets by the Carnavaleando Troop.

Finally, children and teens joined in the fun as the inauguration event wound to an end.

Cuban readers now enjoy a new space for reading, and every last Saturday of the month they can enjoy many activities for children, teens and adults.

Margarita Bellas

Scientific Meeting on Library Science 2013, "Adelina Lopez Llerandi, in memoriam"

The event was held in the Jose Marti National Library on February 19-23, and included the presentation of preliminary and/or final results of research carried out as part of the National Research Programme and other information centers. A session poster was also included.

Daniel Chavarria led the discussion which provided a forum for a rich debate and exchange of ideas on research presented.

Karla Rodríguez Salas

ECUADOR

8th Story-Telling Marathon sponsored by IBBY of Ecuador

The 8th Story-Telling Marathon was held in the Parque Itchimbia Crystal Palace of Quito in May 2013. Sponsored by Girándula and the International Board on Books for Young People (IBBY) of Ecuador, the marathon kicked off under the banner of Quito, a city of

readers. Around 800 students from diverse school were in charge of the opening ceremony of the event, while over the weekend stories were read without interruption to the delight of children, teens and adults.

Ecuador's Vice-President Lenín Moreno was also on hand and he lent his voice to telling a fable about conserving the Amazon region of Ecuador.

Karla Rodríguez Salas

SALVADOR
Exposition “Life and work of Monsignor Oscar Arnulfo Romero” in the Ahuachapan Law Library

An exhibit devoted to the life and work of Monsignor Oscar Arnulfo Romero was set up in the Ahuachapan Law Library in January 2013. The exhibit was enriched by the words of the head of the specialized information center Mr. Vega, who provided an overview of this key Salvadoran personage. The priest of Ataco also contributed to the exhibit.



Olinda Gómez

“Program on drug abuse consequences” in the Dr. Ricardo Gallardo Law Library

An informal panel discussion on the drug abuse consequences was held in the Dr. Ricardo Gallardo Law Library on February 12, 2013. The panel discussion was led by Claudia Karina Escobar Dawson, and police officers Juan Jose Lopez Gonzalez and Ivan Vides Rivas. The information provided was for the benefit of Salvadoran students.



Olinda Gómez

SPAIN
5th Ibero-American Culture Congress and Cultural Projects Prize

This year's edition of the Ibero-American Culture Congress shall be held in Zaragoza, Spain, on November 20-22, under the banner of “Digital culture, culture online.” The Congress shall also sponsor the Ibero-American Prize: “Start with culture!” which seeks to recognize outstanding digital projects serving cultural purposes. Prizes shall be awarded to those projects that stand out in terms of innovation, quality and potential within Ibero-American sphere.

Araceli García Martín

1st Strategic Plan of the Librarian Cooperation Board (CCB) of Spain

On February 14, the Librarian Cooperation Board, presided by the Minister of Culture Jose Maria Lassalle, approved its 1st Strategic Plan, which defines the strategic lines of action for the three-year period 2013-2015.

Founded in 2007, the Librarian Cooperation Board is the inter-administrative agency that serves as a conduit for cooperation between school, university, national and regional, public and specialized libraries across Spain.

All the members of the several agencies making up the Board have contributed to the drafting of the plan, which also received input from external library science experts. The plan is underpinned by a methodology that involves diverse participative information gathering techniques.

The approved draft of the plan advances three strategic lines of work:

1. Promotion and development of libraries within Spanish society
2. Sustainability of library services in the emerging social and informational context

3. Development of CCB functions.

Belén Martínez

Launch of an e-book lending service in Spanish public libraries

The interest of the Spanish Ministry of Education, Culture and Sports in promoting citizen's access to quality library services throughout the nation has led to the implementation of e-book lending services in public libraries. This initiative is contemplated in the General Strategic Plan for 2013-2015 of the Ministry Education, Culture and Sports. The publication of contents in electronic format targeted for the general reading public is undergoing rapid development. As such, public libraries need to keep abreast of and serve the new demands created by an evolving society. From this standpoint, Spanish public libraries, with more than 5,000 facilities serving 13.5 million registered users, have the capacity to serve broad sectors of society. The establishment of e-book lending services in public libraries offers the possibility of satisfying the public's demand



for cultural materials, while underpinning legal access to these contents. The service also promises to extend the reach of public libraries to new, otherwise under-served sectors of society.

This nation-wide service is slated for launch in late 2013 or early 2014 in most public libraries. Moreover, it promises to be motor for modernization of public libraries and the e-book market in Spain. The Spanish Ministry of Education, Culture and Sports is currently negotiating a contract for a single e-book lending management system. Local libraries shall nonetheless be able to customize the system to fit local requirements. As per subject matter and target public, the Ministry is also procuring licenses for the basic collections of e-books available in each network. Local communities and autonomous cities shall be the managers of these networks, carrying out daily operations, meaning they will be able to incorporate local contents and acquisitions. With an investment of around two million euros, the project promises to spur dialogue among librarians, editors and distributors with regard to the commercial conditions and models to be implemented in e-book lending libraries.

Belén Martínez

“Iberbibliotecas” Programme

The “Iberbibliotecas” Programme, whose restructuring was approved at the Heads of States and Governments Summit in Asuncion, has new operational regulations and it has just published its first call for projects associated with the following action lines:

1. Project for the development, strengthening and modernization and/or evaluation of regional networks and public libraries.
2. Support for public library initiatives,

especially for libraries located in vulnerable or isolated areas and which are supported by the municipality or other local entity.

3. Support for research proposals on libraries and their impact on the development of communities with joint support provided by universities and other research centers.
4. Development of ongoing training programs for public library personnel and forums for exchange of experiences and knowledge among head librarians and other library professionals.
5. Support for cooperative projects for public libraries that tend to promote circulation of knowledge and regional cultural production.
6. Support for reading promotion programmes offered in public libraries.
7. Support for library services and projects that promote local development and community participation.

The “Iberbibliotecas” programme’s purpose is to establish a synergetic Ibero-American public library cooperation network that maximizes resources on a single platform for the benefit of all member countries.

In this new phase over the next two years, the presidency shall be handed to Colombia and the technical secretariat shall be held by the Latin America and the Caribbean Regional Center for Book Promotion (CERLALC).

Belén Martínez

GUATEMALA 11th Annual Session of the University Library Collaboration Committee (CCBU)

Under the theme of “Libraries: a link in history” the 11th Annual CCBU was held on May 17, 2013, in the

central cafeteria of the Universidad Rafael Landívar.

Karla Rodríguez Salas

HONDURAS

Basic course in winISIS in the Honduran Institute of Inter-American Culture

The course for training personnel in the use of winISIS software was led by Eduardo Pleitez, on January 17, 2013, in the Honduran Institute of Inter-American Culture.

Karla Rodríguez Salas

Conference “Books and e-book readers in libraries” held in the Sampedrano Cultural Center

The conference was held February 6 and 7 in the Benjamin Franklin Library of the Sampedrano Cultural Center and the Francisco Solomon Jimenez Castro School of Law, and was led by Holly Murten of the Mexico-Central America Regional Office of the Department of State of the United States of America.

Karla Rodríguez Salas

Promulgation of the Book and Reading Development Act

The Official State Gazette published the Book and Reading Development Act, which is a product of the lobbying efforts of Honduran librarians, publishers and other stakeholders associated with the development of books, reading and libraries.

Nitida Carranza

MEXICO

6th National Librarians Congress

The Sixth Annual National Librarians Congress was held in Tuxtla Gutierrez in April 2013, under the banner of Information, society and the professional librarian. The Central Library of the Autonomous University of Chiapas hosted the event, which paid homage to the memory of Roberto Gordillo Gordillo, an important founder of Library and Information Science in Mexico. The event also witnessed the awarding of Honorary Membership to Dr. Estela Morales in recognition of her distinguished career, encouraging professionals in the Library and Information Science field.

Among the many activities, the Congress featured conferences, discussion panels and workshops, all of which addressed one or more of the following subject areas:

1. The librarian and his relationship to society
2. Information as a basic material
3. Profession practice
4. Ethics.

10th Spain-Mexico Seminar on Library Science and Documentation Research

This bi-lateral, specialized research seminar focused on New information and reading consumption habits for social inclusion. The seminar brings together specialists from the UNAM Institute of Research on Library and Information Science, the Universidad Autónoma de Chihuahua; the Department of Librarianship and Documentation of the Universidad Complutense; and the Universidad de Extremadura. The seminar, also hosting guests from the Universidad Nacional of Costa

Rica, it was held in Plascencia and Madrid on April 22 and 24, 2013.

44th Mexican Librarianship Meeting

The 44th Mexican Librarianship Meeting held in Morelia, Michoacan, enjoyed the support of the State of Michoacan Office of Congresses and Visitors. As an itinerant event, the organizers chose the City of Morelia, México to host the oldest and largest meeting of Mexican librarians, which convened under the banner of Libraries and information: strategic priorities. The event held May 1 through 3 featured round tables, conferences, exhibitions and workshops.

**NICARAGUA
Seminar on Successful experiences on reading promotion in Nicaragua libraries, sponsored by the Nicaraguan Association of Librarians and Allied Professions (ANIBIPA)**

The seminar held February 22 enjoyed the participation of eighty library science professionals from across the country. Organized by the Nicaragua Association of Librarians and Allied Professions and the San Juan del Sur Mobile Library, the event received support from the UPO-LI Central Library.

The purpose of the seminar was to offer a forum for showing experiences on reading promotion in libraries. One of the most important activities involved participants sharing their experiences on reading promotion.

Karla Rodríguez Salas

IMPORTANT LATIN AMERICAN

CELEBRATIONS

February

- 21st Librarians' Day in Ecuador
- World Mother Tongue Day
- March
- 9th World Reading Aloud Day (date varies from year to year)
- 12th Librarians' Day in Brazil
- 19th Librarians' Day in Costa Rica
- 21st World Poetry Day
- The International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination
- 31st Book Day in Cuba.

April

- National Library Week. Puerto Rico. Friday of that week: Librarians' Day in Puerto Rico (varies from year to year)
- 2nd World Children's and Young People's Book Day
- 8th World Monuments and Sites Day
- 23rd Librarians' Day in Colombia.
- Librarians' Day in Dominican Republic
- Librarians' Day in Panamá
- World Book and Copyright Day
- Book Capital of the World begins
- World Spanish Language Day

26th	Librarians' Day in Cataluña (Saint Jordi's Day). World Intellectual Property Day.	25th	Librarians' Day in Paraguay.
		30th	Librarians' Day in Bolivia.
	May		July
1st	May Day (World Workers' Day)	10th	Librarians' Day in Chile
3rd	World Freedom of the Press Day	20th	Librarians' Day in Mexico
17th	World Telecommunicatio s and Information Society Day	27th	Librarians' Day in Venezuela.
18th	World Internet Day		August
21st	World Museum Day		IFLA WLIC
25th	World Day for Cultura Diversity for Dialogue and Development	9th	International Day of the World's Indigenous People
26th	Librarians' Day in El Salvador		September
	Librarians' Day in Uruguay	3rd	Librarians' Day in Uruguay.
	June	8th	World Literacy Day
7th	Librarians' Day in Cuba.	13th	Librarians' Day in Argentina.
9th	World Archives Day	21st	World Library Diversity Day
15th	Librarians' Day in Argentina	28th	World Information Access Day
		30th	Librarians' Day

in Guatemala.
IFLA Founding

October

International Open Access Week (varies
from year to year)

16th	Librarians' Day in Paraguay.
18th	World School Librarian Day
24th	World Development Information Day
	Librarians' Day in Spain
27th	World Audio-Visual Heritage Day

November

8th	Librarians' Day in Nicaragua.
10th	Book and Library Day in Peru
14th	Librarians' Day in Peru

December

10th	World Human Rights Day
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Silvia Cecilia Anselmi
Source: IFLA/LAC blog

