BRAZILIAN WINNER OF IFLA’S GUUST VAN WESEMAEL LITERACY PRIZE 2009
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TRIBUTE TO IFLA / LAC AND REGIONAL OFFICE
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The “Newsletter” is published twice a year in June and December by IFLA’s Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean. It is a major communication tool for IFLA members in the region. Please share your ideas and experiences by sending your contribution and suggestions to the Regional Office.

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EDITORIAL

A simple and beautiful ceremony in Lima, Peru, during an international seminar held in the Municipality of Santiago de Sucro, celebrated this year the 35th anniversary of IFLA Section for Latin America and the Caribbean (IFLA/LAC) and the 30th anniversary of IFLA Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean (RO IFLA/LAC). This successful seminar, organized by our colleague Doris Ivon Samanez, impressed not only because of the level and the competence of the attendees, but also the kindness and hospitality demonstrated by the mayor and all city officials.

Following the tradition, the meeting of the IFLA Section for Latin America and the Caribbean Standing Committee was held concurrently with this international seminar (see the minutes in this issue).

The World Congress of Libraries and Information will be held this year in Milan, Italy, with all best prospects to be a great success. You shouldn't miss it, not only because of the level of the talks, lectures and meetings that will be delivered, but also because it is a unique opportunity to get to know that beautiful country (for those who haven't been there), and to widen the experience (for those who have). Colleagues from Latin America and the Caribbean, don't miss it out, I'm sure it will be worth your while.

This year we had the privilege of receiving the visit of IFLA Secretary General Jennefer Nicholson. The visit was very fruitful for Brazilian librarians, who had a chance to show samples of the work they have been developing. We hope the Secretary-General will give us the honor of other visits in the future.

Elizabet Maria Ramos de Carvalho
IFLA/LAC RO Manager

IFLA HQ

Results of the election of President-elect 2009

IFLA has pleasure in announcing the result of the postal ballot for the election of President-elect 2009.

Ingrid Parent (Canada) is elected to serve as President-elect for the term 2009-2011 and to serve as President for the term 2011-2013.

The votes received were as follows: Ingrid Parent 895 votes and Jesús Lau (Mexico) 844 votes.

The total number of valid ballot papers received for the elections for this post was 527, a return rate of 43%. This represents 1953 votes, 62% of the possible total.

Dr. P.J. Moree and Drs J.J.M. Bos, the scrutineers appointed by the Governing Board, are satisfied that the above result is correct, following an accurate count of the ballot papers.

Jennefer Nicholson
Secretary General
June 2009

Results of election of Governing Board 2009

IFLA has pleasure in announcing the result of the postal ballot for the election of the Governing Board 2009:

1. Jesús Lau (Mexico) (2nd term) 1199
2. Sinikka Sipilä (Finland) (2nd term) 1123
3. Barbara Schleihagen (Germany) (2nd term) 1063
4. Helena Asamoah-Hassan (Ghana) (2nd term) 991
5. Danielle Mincio (Switzerland) (2nd term) 859
6. Qiang Zhu (China) 811
7. Tone Eli Moseid (Norway) 797
8. Donna Scheeder (United States) 770
9. Paul Whitney (Canada) 763
10. Pascal Sanz (France) (2nd term) 749

Joaquín Selgas Gutiérrez (Spain) (2nd term) 726
Yakov Shrayberg (Russian Federation) 672
Susan McKnight (United Kingdom) 618
Eva Semertzaki (Greece) 509
Edward Swanson (United States) 397

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 2009-2011.

The total number of valid ballot papers received for the vacancies on the Governing Board was 527, a return rate of 43%. This represents 1953 votes, 62% of the possible total.

Dr. P.J. Moree and Drs. J.J.M. Bos, the scrutineers appointed by the Governing Board, are satisfied that the above result is correct, following an accurate count of the ballot papers.

Jennefer Nicholson,
Secretary General,
June 2009

IFLA Chinese Language Centre established at the National Library of China, Beijing

In February 2009 the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) and the National Library of China (NLC) in Beijing signed a cooperation agreement by which NLC received a status of IFLA Chinese Language Centre. It can now be seen as a permanent representative of IFLA/HQ for the Chinese speaking community, as well as the other way around: it is hoped that IFLA/HQ will get improved access to Chinese speaking library and information professionals.

The IFLA Chinese Language Centre will promote IFLA, support IFLA’s Asia and Oceania Section as well as other relevant IFLA professional bodies and liaise with IFLA/HQ. Among the priorities of the Centre are:

1. Active membership recruitment. This will be conducted with the help of national or other association members and/or national libraries. Institutions and associations (including specialist and state associations) within the Chinese language community will be actively encouraged to join IFLA.

2. (Co-) organising regional IFLA events. These will be co-organised with IFLA/HQ and/or with IFLA professional units (Sections and Core Activities). This activity includes seeking sources for funding of IFLA projects.

3. Seek involvement in local or regional professional events to gain support within the Chinese language community, trying to get IFLA “branding” of local or regional events.

4. Contribute to more effective communication within the Chinese language community and with the IFLA bodies involved. These activities include the publication of newsletters, translations of key IFLA documents and publications and the production of a Chinese translation of IFLA Express during IFLA’s annual congresses.

5. Representing IFLA in the Chinese language community, in a pursuit to make IFLA more visible in that community, promoting IFLA goals, principles and core values.

6. Translation of key IFLA documents, guidelines, press-releases, papers prepared for the Assembly Meetings etc.

For further information about the Centre and its activities please contact
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Email address: interco@nlc.gov.cn
Fax +86-10-68419271
The Hague/Beijing, March 2009

Brazilian winner of IFLA’s Guust van Wesemael Literacy Prize 2009

Every odd year IFLA awards the Guust van Wesemael Literacy Prize to sponsor a public or school library in a developing country to purchase books and materials for activities in the field of literacy promotion.

This year the €3000 Prize was awarded to the Instituto Dois Irmãos (i2i), a non-profit organisation based in the favela (slum, shanty town) of Rocinha, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. i2i relies heavily on private donations, fundraising events, and the cooperation of volunteers for its existence.

Rocinha is one of the largest favelas of Rio de Janeiro with an estimated population of 250,000. The situation for its inhabitants is very difficult from the perspectives of education and job opportunities. The absence of civil and other governmental authorities as well as the influence of drug gangs are the main causes of the considerably lower educational and literacy levels and general standards of living compared to the urbanized areas of Rio de Janeiro.

i2i’s mission is to provide educational opportunities to the children, youth and adults of Rocinha through local and international community service and cultural exchange. One of the primary objectives is to increase literacy levels within the favela. For this purposes there is a reading room which currently holds nearly 2,700 books, and provides useful materials to students of all levels (children, youth and entirely or partially literate adults). Because the print collection consists entirely of private donations—the vast majority of which are second hand—educational books are most often outdated. The reading room is fortunately already equipped with an online catalogue and lending system.

The Prize will be used to bring much needed improvements to the reading room. Most significantly, the selection of books available for educational purposes will be expanded and professionalized so that the reading room can contribute to a greater extent to i2i’s mission, e.g. through further incorporation of the reading room into classes (literacy, language, tutoring and reading classes). This includes
purchasing dictionaries, teacher’s books and students’ text/work books, additional reading room furniture and educational toys and games. For more information about the IFLA Guust Van Wesemael Literacy Prize, including past awards and details on how to enter, please visit: http://archive.ifla.org/III/grants/grant02.htm. This Prize was established in 1991 by IFLA’s Executive board to commemorate the late Guust van Wesemael who was Coordinator of IFLA’s Professional Activities from 1979 to 1990 and Deputy Secretary General of IFLA from 1979 to 1991. Funded by donations, the Guust van Wesemael Literacy Prize will be awarded biennially until the funds are exhausted.

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WORLD LIBRARY AND INFORMATION CONGRESS (WLIC)

World Library and Information Congress: 75th IFLA General Conference and Assembly "Libraries create futures: Building on cultural heritage" 23-27 August 2009, Milan, Italy

In 2009 we will celebrate the 75th anniversary of the IFLA Conference which first took place in Rome in 1928. This represented the first meeting for the newborn International Federation of Library Associations. It has been 75 years since that remarkable and fundamental event and 45 years since the IFLA congress was last held in Rome. The World Library and Information Congress will once more come back to Italy, this time in Milan from 23 to 27 August 2009 at the Milan Convention Centre which is the largest and best equipped congress centre located in “Fiera Milano City”.

The city of Milan has been selected to host IFLA 2009 following an extensive, intelligent and constructive effort by the Italian librarians within the IFLA research commissions. It also reflects the growing presence at the international congresses, as well as the organisation of seminars and conferences and the translation of IFLA official documentation. In particular this choice rewards the commitment of the Italian Libraries Association (AIB), which included the IFLA congress in Italy among the priorities in its main programme.

The IFLA 2009 congress is the result of the combined commitment of the major public and private institutions, including national and local, all dealing with libraries: in particular, the Cultural Heritage Ministry, the Ministry of University, the Region “Lombardia”, the Province of Milan and the City of Milan. The Italian National Committee represents the best source of expertise coming from the professional community of Italian librarians and from the libraries of any kind: state libraries, academic libraries, local libraries, church libraries, research and private libraries. Italy, because of the geographic location, serves as a bridge between cultures and civilisations with their extraordinary values, all leading to the Mediterranean Sea. IFLA 2009 will represent a remarkable connection between people and culture, which will be a guarantee for a real future with peace and democracy.

Theme Libraries create futures: building on cultural heritage. Thanks to libraries, civilisations have gathered and stored evidence of their manual, scientific, artistic, literary, musical as
well as religious activity. Assuredly, libraries preserve the bases and the roots of human knowledge. Knowledge transmission today has radically changed: the scope of bibliography has widened immensely. Libraries therefore had to update their role: preservation and access are still the main points to be achieved, though in a new, critical and professional way, in order to assure the adequate standard of the service. In this way libraries keep pace with the change brought about by history and technology, helping to shape the future through the resources inherited from the past for example cultural heritage. Century long traditions have created a vast and diversified context, in which mediaeval libraries (mostly in monasteries and universities) live together with Renaissance libraries as well as modern libraries, whose efficient standards promote public reading and research effectively.

Libraries keep the balance between past and present and they turn roots into vital elements for the future, paving the way to the development of society, to promote better quality of life and encourage contacts between different civilizations and cultures all over the world.

Today Italy on the Mediterranean coast is like a bridge between Europe, Africa and the Middle East and plays a leading role for peace and cooperation among the people. This enables libraries, through their rich historic tradition and their technological developments to be considered as a decisive factor to achieve this aim.

**Invitation**

**Dear Colleagues,**

It is with great pleasure, as President of the Italian National Committee and on behalf of all Italian organizations represented, that I am inviting you to Milan in August 2009 to join us at the 75th IFLA Congress. Milan, as well as the whole of Lombardy and Italy, will do their best to welcome you warmly and show you their most beautiful libraries – ancient and modern - as well as valuable pieces of art, music, fashion, design, landscape, food . . . all things which contribute in making our country famous throughout the world.

For centuries, artists and poets of many countries travelled to Italy to improve their personal and intellectual experience (the Italian tour), which is told through the finest of stories. In this newly born millennium, where distances and cultural differences often seem to fade away, I hope everyone will join us and make the congress truly memorable. We look forward to welcoming you to Milan for IFLA 2009.

**Mauro Guerrini**  
University of Florence  
President of the Italian Libraries Association  
President of National Committee IFLA 2009 Milan

**Milan**

Situated on the flat plains of the Po Valley, Milan is Italy’s richest and second largest city and is best known for being the fashion capital of Italy. Embracing tradition, sophistication and ambition in equal measure, the present and the future are invented daily in Milan, Europe’s creative capital. After being conquered three times in its history the city remained strong, regained itself and prospered. It’s a city as strong as any other which successfully reinvented itself under French, Spanish and then Austrian rulers from 1499 until the reunification in 1861. The city offers treasures of historical and intellectual heritage from the past two millennia at every corner: Leonardo da Vinci’s Last Supper is simply the bestknown of the numerous masterpieces and has been named a Unesco World Heritage site. Milan is the unique artistic and cultural heart of Italy and has been the ideal setting for international events for decades, attracting professionals, artists and intellectuals from all over the world.

**The Conference Venue**

Designed in 2002 by Pierluigi Nicolin, enlarged twice, today the Fiera Milano, is the largest and most equipped convention centre in Italy and one of the most important Trade Fair complexes in the world. The Convention Centre offers all world facilities: Italian design, an innovative management model designed to meet your needs with all-round services, flexible spaces and state-of-the-art technology. Located in the heart of Milan - just a few minutes from the Fashion District and Leonardo’s Last Supper - is surrounded, within a 1 km radius, by over 2,000 hotel rooms and efficiently served by public transportation.

**What’s Worth Seeing**

Milan is one of the most fascinating cities in the world with many beautiful and historic churches and buildings of interest: Duomo Milan’s Cathedral, the world’s third largest church, is the most famous artistic and religious monument. Milan’s most outstanding museum, Brera Gallery is recognised as one of the major art collections in the world. Significant museums (Leonardo da Vinci) are housed in the ancient mediaeval Castle (Castello Sforzesco), overlooking the town centre with its towers. The city is also one of the most important centres in the world for Opera lirica, with its famous Teatro alla Scala.

**A Unique Shopping Experience**

Milan is “Heaven on Earth” for shopping lovers. You can find the best of everything in this city, especially connected with fashion and design. All the best fashion designers have opened their show rooms together with their trendiest and most sophisticated boutiques in elegant old buildings in the main shopping streets.

**A Place of Learning**

Universities often drive technological expertise, and Milan is no exception as home to seven universities and other institutions of higher learning. Both humanities and technical education, in order to qualify engineers, architects and industrial designers, are part of the vast range of innovative courses, attracting students and scholars from several parts of
the world. A rich library system including private and public libraries meets the needs of public reading all over the place. It is certainly worth mentioning the Biblioteca Ambrosiana, opened in 1609, famous for the drawings and notebooks by Leonardo da Vinci, together with its vast stocks of early-printed books, illuminated manuscripts and drawings, one of the main repositories of European culture. The city is also the home of the Brera Academy of Fine Arts together with the high school of musical learning (Conservatorio di musica Giuseppe Verdi).

Milan by Night
In Milan you will find a large selection of both local and international restaurants as well as lots of marvellous “trattoria” or “osterie” specialising in local dishes: don’t miss out on the chance to try some typical Italian food - and taste its authentic flavours! When it comes to nightlife Milan has plenty to offer as Italy’s clubbing capital. Most of the city’s hot spots: clubs, pubs, cafes, bistros, live music bars and lots more besides, are situated around the Navigli and Brera districts.

Transport & Accommodation
Ideally situated at the very centre of Europe, Milan is one of its most accessible cities. Every day about a thousand direct flights link Milan with 200 destinations worldwide. Malpensa Airport is Southern Europe’s most important intercontinental hub, linked to downtown Milan by a fast train service. The city is served by two other international airports: Linate, only 7 km from the centre, and Orio al Serio, used by all the low-cost European airlines. Once you’re in Milan you’ll soon discover and appreciate its compact size, with everything at hand and an efficient Metro network that gets you to any part of town for just 1 euro! With more than 21,000 rooms, Milan offers a wide range of accommodation: from spic-and-span youth hostels and cosy B&Bs, to five-star luxury hotels. IFLA will recommend a series of hotels to help make your stay highly enjoyable.

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IFLA DIVISIONS AND SECTIONS

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN SECTION

Meeting of the IFLA Standing Committee of Latin American and the Caribbean Section (IFLA/LAC) held in the City of Lima, Peru, on March 27 and 28, 2009

1. Members in attendance

1.1. Members of the Standing Committee and the Regional Office
Filberto Felipe Martínez Arellano (Mexico), Ana María Peruchena Zimmerman (Argentina), Maria Isabel Cabral da Franca (Brazil), Elizabeth M. Ramos de Carvalho (LAC-RO), Marcia Rosetto (Brazil), Adriana Betancourt (Colombia), Mercedes Falcóni (Ecuador), Olinda Gómez (El Salvador), Araceli Gómez Martín (Spain), Joan Vaciana (Jamaica), Elsa M. Ramírez Leyva (Mexico), Emile Noemi Sena Correa (Paraguay), Doris Samanéz (Peru), Victor Torres (Puerto Rico).

1.2 Corresponding members
Ivone Tálamo (Brazil), Octavio Castillo (Panama), César Castro Aliaga (Peru)

1.3 Administrative Officer of the ALP Program
Gunilla Natvig, Administrative Officer of the ALP Program, also was in attendance.

1.4 Others in attendance
Estela Maris (Argentina), Mary Giraldo (Colombia) Alice Miranda (Costa Rica), Hortensia Lobato Reyes (Mexico), and Elisete de Sousa Melo (Brazil) were also in attendance.

2. Members absent with justification

2.1. Members of the Standing Committee
Simone Bastos Vieira (Brazil), Angela Bettencourt (Brazil), Ludmila Popov Mayrink da Costa (Brazil), Celia Ribeiro Zaher
(Brazil), Regina Célia Baptista (Brazil), Jennifer Joseph (Trinidad y Tobago), Victor Aguirre (Uruguay).

2.2 Corresponding Members

Estela Morales (Mexico), María Elena Zapata (Venezuela).

3. Call to order and approval of the agenda

Committee Chair, Felipe Martínez Arellano, welcomed the members and thanked IFLA-LAC Committee members, Doris Samanéz and Cesar Castro Aliaga, organizers of the International Seminar “Biblioteca Pública y Sociedad de la Información: Desafíos y Respuestas desde América Latina” [Public Libraries and the Information Society: Challenges and Solutions from Latin America], for their efforts and hospitality. This seminar provided the framework for the Standing Committee meeting.

Thereafter, Elizabeth de Carvalho also thanked the event hosts and welcomed the IFLA/LAC Committee members, as well as Hortensia Lobato, Chair of the Mexican Association Librarians, who will become a new member of the Committee upon celebration of the IFLA Congress in Milan.

Felipe Martínez reported that as of March 2009, there are 129 Section members of diverse categories, ninety-nine of which are association and institution members, while thirty are individual members.

4. Approval of meeting minutes of the Standing Committee Meeting held in Quebec, Canada in August, 2008.

The Chair moved for the approval of the meeting minutes of the Standing Committee meetings held in August, 2008 in Quebec, Canada. The minutes of these meetings were unanimously approved.

5. Reports

5.1. Chair Report

Felipe Martínez Arellano, Chair of the Standing Committee, read his report for the period August, 2008-March 2009. He emphasized that the Section has worked in close collaboration with the Regional Office, diverse IFLA sections and the Core Activities. He emphasized the special collaboration with ALP—Development Action through Library Programs and the FAIFE (Free Access to Information and Freedom of Expression), as well as with professional associations and regional library institutions.

The report included information regarding his attendance in his charge as Committee Chair to the workshop IFLA/FAIFE Impact Evaluation Planning, which took place in the Hague from October 18 through 23, 2008. The objectives of this workshop were to establish the methodology for assessing the impact of the past FAIFE seminars and workshops and establishing objectives for workshops to be offered in 2009.

He also mentioned seminars, meetings and workshops held in the Region during this period, in which the section participated, emphasizing again the importance of collaboration and communication with the Regional Office in order to foster teamwork. Some of the most noteworthy involvement and participation in these events by the IFLA/LAC are as follows:

In conjunction with the School of Medicine of the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM) and the Mexican Librarians Association (AMBAC), the First Latina American Seminar on Medical Information and Libraries was organized, and held on November 19, 2008. The objective of this event was to learn about and disseminate the work carried out by medical libraries in Latin America and the Caribbean, and promote cooperative action among them. In attendance at this event were Regional Office Manager, Elizabeth Ramos de Carvalho, and Section Chair, Felipe Martínez Arellano, as well as representatives from the following countries: Cuba, Colombia, Brazil, Panama, Honduras, Guatemala, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Nicaragua and Mexico.

In response to an invitation from the Agencia Española de Cooperación Internacional, AECI [Spanish International Cooperation Agency], Felipe Martínez Arellano attended the Second AECI Meeting of Libraries in Latin America and the Caribbean held on December 5, 2008 in Mexico City. His participation was secured thanks to the efforts of SC member Araceli García. A conference on IFLA activities in Latin America and the Internet Manifesto was given.

On November 6 and 7 2008, was held in Santiago, Chile, the Foro Iberoamericano sobre el Libro, la Lectura y las Bibliotecas en la Sociedad del Conocimiento [Ibero-American Book, Reading and Libraries in the Knowledge Society Forum]. This event was organized by the Centro Regional para el Fomento del Libro en América Latina, el Caribe, España y Portugal, CERLALC [Regional Center for Promoting Books in Latin America, the Caribbean, Spain and Portugal]. The objective of this event was to provide a space for reflection on matters associated with issues in the fields of publishing, reading and libraries. IFLA/LAC Standing Committee member Elsa Ramírez Leyva attended the event, representing the Section and the Regional Office. Also Juan Voutssas Márquez (Mexico) attended this event. Diverse project were delineated in which the Section expects to participate.

The Section and the Regional Office participated in the organization of the International Seminar “Biblioteca Pública y Sociedad de la Información: Desafíos y Respuestas desde América Latina” [Public Libraries and the Information Society: Challenges and Solutions from Latin America].
Challenges and Solutions from Latin America], which was coordinated by Doris Samanéz and Cesar Castro Aliaga. The purpose of this event was to analyze the current situation and to delineate the next few years of the public libraries within the construction context of the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean. This event was sponsored by the Municipality of Santiago de Surco, Lima, the Latin America and the Caribbean Section and the Regional Office, the Development Action Program through IFLA Libraries (ALP), and other institutions and organizations in Peru.

5.2. Regional Office Manager Report

Elizabeth M. Ramos de Carvalho read a brief report on the activities carried out by the Regional Office. She also pointed out the close collaboration between the Regional Office and the Section at diverse meetings and in other actions in the period August 2008 to March 2009. Similarly, she mentioned her participation in diverse regional events.

One of the outstanding activities was the organization of the Seminario Internacional de Genealogía e Historias Locales: Desafío para los bibliotecarios y archivistas, Historias Ocultas [International Seminar on Genealogy and Local History: Challenge for librarians and archivists, Hidden Histories], which was sponsored by FAIFE, with the participation of FAIFE Chair, Paul Sturges, and FAIFE Secretary, Barbara Jones. This workshop was held on November 6 and 7, 2008, in Rio de Janeiro Brazil. Also in attendance were Doris Ivon Samanéz Alzamora of the SC, Elsa Barber (Argentina), Martha Ahorve Guillén (Mexico) and Patricio Falconi (Ecuador), as well as scholars from other regions and countries who presented papers.

Another important point of her report was the publication of Number 53 (December, 2008), of the IFLA/LAC Newsletter, which was issued in English and Spanish and is available on the Section website. She requested Standing Committee members send news regarding their respective countries. She also addressed relevant administrative and financial matters, as well as follow up activities with regard to regional projects supported by ALP. She also pointed out that communication and dissemination of information about the actions and events sponsored by the IFLA has increased by virtue of the Section’s launching of an open IFLA-LAC mailing list. Likewise, she emphasized the importance of not using the open list for matters reserved for the Standing Committee’s attention. The closed list is to be used for said matters.

6. CERLAC Meeting

As a product of an agreement signed with CERELAC, an invitation to participate as observers at the Ordinary Sessions of the Council and the Executive Committee Board of CERELAC was extended to the IFLA President, Claudia Lux, the Regional Office Manager, and the Section Chair. These sessions were held from March 10 to 12, 2009 in Villa de Leyva, Bogota, Colombia. In representation of the invitees, María Elena Zapata attended the sessions. Likewise, Felipe Martinez informed that joint participation activities in the fields of public libraries, school libraries, digital libraries and reading have been delineated.

7. FAIFE Activities

The Standing Committee continues working closely with FAIFE. As mentioned before, the IFLA/LAC Chair reported on being invited by FAIFE in October 2008 to a FAIFE workshop, which had as one of its objectives the establishment of guidelines for assessing the impact of the workshops sponsored by this Committee. In this workshop, it was determined that FAIFE sponsored workshops must have three phases. The first one should be developed to train instructors; the second one to give local workshops for trained instructors; and the third phase to assessing the impact of the workshops offered. This methodology shall be used in all workshops sponsored by FAIFE in 2009. Moreover, it was mentioned that this methodology will be applied in the workshop on the Internet manifesto offered in Peru.

Likewise, it was reported that IFLA/LAC and FAIFE have jointly organized and sponsored a series of workshops offered in diverse countries of the Region and held in the following dates and sites:

In October, María Elena Zapata and María Isabel Franca offered an Internet Manifesto workshop within the Third Latin American Symposium on Public Libraries and the Fifteenth Meeting of the National Public Library System of Brazil. Spanish language translations of the manuals were provided in support of these workshops.

In Rio de Janeiro (November 10) and Sao Paulo (Nov. 11), Paul Sturges and Barbara Jones, FAIFE Chair and Secretary respectively, offered Internet Manifesto workshops.

The workshop “The librarian and access to information for preventing HIV/AIDS,” was organized by the School of Medicine of the UNAM and the Mexican Librarians Association, held in Mexico City on November 20 and 21, 2008, after the celebration of the First Latin American Seminar on Libraries and Medical Information. Representatives from Colombia, Brazil, Mexico, Guatemala, Nicaragua, El Salvador, Honduras, Panama, Costa Rica and Cuba participated. The selection of participants was carried out jointly with the FECEAB and the associations of each country. Each of the participants agreed to offer the workshop in their respective home countries.

Support was provided for the workshop “Recursos de información para prevención del HIV/SIDA” [Information resources for the prevention of HIV/AIDS] held in
Guadalajara, Jalisco, within the XXI International Book Fair of Guadalajara. This workshop was led by Helen Ladrón de Guevara on December 2, 2008.

The Regional Office organized the el Seminario Internacional de Genealogía e Historias Locales: Desafío para los bibliotecarios y archivist, Historias Ocultas [International Seminar of Genealogy and Local Histories: Challenge for librarians and archivists, Hidden Histories], which was held on November 6 and 7, 2008, in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

Actions were taken with FAIFE to support the participation of Elsa Ramírez (Mexico), Brenda Cabral Vargas (Mexico) and Ana Esté Rossaroli (Argentina), in the Seminar on Public Libraries, School Libraries and Internet Manifestos, held in Asuncion, Paraguay, on December 11 and 12, 2008.

In conjunction with Doris Samanéz and Cesar Castro, a Train the Trainers Workshop on Internet Manifesto was organized and held on March 22 and 23, 2009, in Lima Perú, before the celebration of International Seminar “Public Libraries and the Information Society.” Ten persons from the Peruvian interior participated in this event, including people from Arequipa, Lambayeque, Cajamarca, Cuzco, La Libertad, Junín, Tacna, Puno and Iquitos. In the second phase, these participants will replicate this Seminar and in another event held later (October 2009), they will present the results of their efforts. Felipe Martinez and Elizabet de Carvalho participated as instructors.


In conjunction with the Mexican Librarians Association, a workshop on “Information resources for the prevention of HIV/AIDS” has been organized, which will be held during its XL Annual Congress, in Acapulco, next May 13 and 14. This workshop was led by Helen Ladrón de Guevara on December 2, 2008.

The topic for the IFLA/LAC session, as determined in the SC meeting in Quebec, Canada, will be: “Preserving and conserving the Cultural Heritage of Latin America and the Caribbean.” As is the case with the other IFLA sections and as per the Professional Committee recommendation, for a second consecutive year, a call for papers was delivered in order to invite regional scholars to participate in the Milan conference. Fourteen proposals were received as follows: Cuba (4), Brazil (3), Mexico (3), Peru (2), Uruguay (1) and U.S.A. (1). Three proposals were selected, since the time for the section Program is only two hours, and a place had been reserved for Rosa María Fernández (Mexico) of the Unesco World Memorial Program as keynote speaker. The IFLA/LAC program in Milan, Italy shall include the following papers:

8.1 Section Program

- Rosa María Fernández de Zamora (Mexico) “Conocer, valorar y difundir el patrimonio cultural de América Latina y el Caribe” [Knowing, valuing and disseminating Latin American and Caribbean cultural heritage]; Angela Monteiro Bettencourt (Brazil) and Elsa Barber (Argentina) “Biblioteca virtual Pedro de Angelis: padrones de interoperabilidad en el acceso y preservación del patrimonio cultural en América Latina” [The Pedro de Angelis virtual library: inter-operational patterns in the access to and preservation of Latin American cultural heritage]; Maylin Frías Guzmán (Cuba) “Un paisaje del azúcar: recuperación de archivos fotográficos personales de una comunidad azucarera” [A landscape of sugar cane: recovery of personal photographic archives of a sugar cane community]; Luis Chávez Rodríguez “La biblioteca oral: el doble giro de la escritura y la oralidad en la preservación de la tradición oral.” [The oral library: the double twist of writing and orality in the preservation of oral history].

8.3 Division VIII Program in the Conference in Milan, Italy

Felipe Martinez reported the Section and the Regional Office participated with the Chair of IFLA Division VIII, Regional Activities, in the organization of the Division program for
Milan, Italy. For the Division VIII Program, the paper “Engaging with culture: reflections from two developing world academic libraries – the case of Barbados and Botswana, by Elizabeth F. Watson (University of the West Indies, Barbados) and Stephen M. Mutula (University of Botswana) was proposed. The Division VIII program is composed of the following speakers: H. K. Raseroka (University of Botswana, Botswana); Keynote speaker; “Engaging with culture: reflections from two developing world academic libraries – the case of Barbados and Botswana”; Elizabeth F. Watson (University of the West Indies, Barbados) and Stephen M. Mutula (University of Botswana); “Notion of cultural heritage among Sri Lankan libraries”; Piyadasa Ranasinghe (University of Kelaniya, Sri Lanka); “Oceania libraries: from storehouse to lighthouse, reality and hopes”; Elizabeth Cass (PRIDE Project, University of South Pacific, Fiji). The Region VIII session shall take place on Thursday, August 27 from 13:45-15:45.

8.4 Caucus

The Chair of the Section reported the Caucus sessions shall take place on Saturday, August 22 from 16:00 to 18:00. Through the Division VIII, a requests was raised not to schedule the Spanish and Portuguese Caucuses at the same time, since such scheduling precludes participants from attending both sessions.

8.5 Other activities

With support from ALP, the Management of Library Associations Section (MLAS) and the Continuing Professional Development and Workplace Learning Section (CPDWL) have organized a one day workshop, “Librarian in the spotlight: How to wield political and practical influence,” whose objective is to develop the skills needed to establish and manage professional librarian associations. Claudia Rodríguez (Argentina) was proposed for taking this workshop as representative of the Section, and she shall repeat the workshop in diverse sites of the region.

In order to promote student participation in the Annual IFLA conference, the Section of Education and Training (SET) issued a call for papers for Library Science students to be considered for an IFLA scholarship to attend Milan conference. This call for papers was promoted by means of the IFLA-LAC list. Unfortunately, there was no response forthcoming from this Section and no candidate for the prize was put forward.

8.6 Standing Committee Meeting

The Standing Committee Chair reported that, starting this year, in the IFLA General Conference only one meeting of the SCs of the diverse Sections shall be called, instead of the habitual two meetings called in the past. The IFLA/LAC Committee meeting shall be held on Sunday 23 of August from 13:45 to 15:45, and space has been request to hold a second meeting. It is important to note that the session slated for Sunday, August 23 shall serve to seat the Standing Committee members elected for the 2009-2013 term and to elect a Section Chair and Secretary for the term 2009-2011. Likewise, he informed the following persons have been elected or reelected for the 2009-2013 term:

- Silvia Cecilia Anselmo (Argentina)
- Ana Maria Peruchena Zimmermann (Argentina)
- Sigrid Karin Weiss Dutra (Brazil)
- Margarita Bellas Vilaríño (Cuba)
- Araceli García Martín (Spain)
- Hortensia Lobato Reyes (Mexico)
- Filiberto Felipe Martínez Arellano (Mexico)
- Doris Ivon Samanez Alzadora (Peru)

9. Elections

The IFLA/LAC Chair reported that, pursuant to IFLA statutes, the election process for the diverse directive positions started in October 2008. The elections in which the Section participated, nominating and supporting candidates, were as follows:

9. 1 President-elect

The Section and Regional Office supported the nomination of Jesus Lau to be President-elect candidate for the term 2009-2011. At this time, preparations for the final election are on course.

9. 2 Members of the IFLA Governing Board

The Governing Board shall renew its elected members. The Section and the Regional Office also supported the nomination of Jesus Lau to be a Governing Board candidate for the term 2009-2011. Ballots are currently being sent out to the members.

9. 3 Professional Committee Chair

Patrice Landry, Chair of the Cataloguing and Classification Section, was nominated and elected Chair of the Professional Committee for the 2009-2011 term by the Chairs and Secretaries of diverse IFLA Sections

9. 4 Division Chair

The Section Chairs and Secretaries who make up Division VIII- Regional Activities, which shall be transformed into Division V at the Milan Conference, were charged with the task of electing a Chair for the term 2009-2011. Buhle Mbambo-Thata, current Chair of the Africa Section, was proposed and unanimously elected.
9.5 IFLA/LAC Standing Committee Members

During the current election period, ten of the Standing Committee members will wind up their terms (2005-09) for which they were elected, requiring news elections to fill these posts. The majority of members whose terms expire were eligible for reelection to second terms, with the exception of those indicated as ineligible in the following list:

Filiberto Felipe Martínez Arellano (Mexico)
Ana María Peruchena Zimmerman (Argentina)
Simone Bastos Vieira (Brazil)
Maria Isabel Cabral da Franca (Brazil) (not eligible for reelection)
Marcia Rosetto (Brazil) (not eligible for reelection)
Adriana Betancourt (Colombia)
Mercedes Falcóni (Ecuador)
Araceli Gómez Martín (Spain)
Elsa M. Ramírez Leyva (Mexico) (not eligible for reelection)
Doris Samanéz (Peru)

As mentioned before, only eight persons were nominated and elected for the 2009-2013 term, remaining two places vacant. These persons shall start to serve in the Section Standing Committee at the Milan Conference. Starting in August 2009, the Standing Committee members shall the following persons:

Members 2007-2011
Regina Celia Baptista (Brazil)
Angela Bettencourt (Brazil)
Ludmila Popov Mayrink da Costa (Brazil)
Celia Ribeiro Zaher (Brazil)
Olinda Gómez (El Salvador)
Joan Vaciana (Jamaica)
Emilce Noemi Sena Correa (Paraguay)
Victor Torres (Puerto Rico)
Victor Aguirre (Uruguay) (2007-2011)

Members 2009-2013
Silvia Cecilia Anselmo (Argentina)
Ana Maria Peruchena Zimmermann (Argentina)
Sigrid Karin Weiss Dutra (Brazil)
Margarita Bellas Vilarrio (Cuba)
Araceli Garcia Martin (Spain)
Hortensia Lobato Reyes (Mexico)
Filiberto Felipe Martinez Arellano (Mexico)
Doris Ivan Samanez Alzadora (Peru)

10. Situation of ALP approved projects.

Gunila Natvig (ALP) mentioned that 2009 is the last year of SIDA financial support for regional projects. Likewise, she reported that starting in January 2010, ALP shall become a dependency of IFLA Headquarters. The Standing Committee members suggested that all parties that have been beneficiaries of ALP projects send an impact report addressing both the quantity and quality of that support. Gunilla Natvig and Felipe Martinez reported on the status of ALP supported projects:

**Project 377 “International Conference on Reading in the Latin-American and Caribbean Region” (Mexico)**
The results of the survey were presented in the Seminar on Reading held in Mexico City in June, 2008. The event proceedings have bee published by the General Direction for Libraries of the National Council of Arts and Culture (CONACULTA) (Mexico) and the University Library Science Research Center (CUIB) of the UNAM.

**Project 387 “Bookstand for the Santiago del Surco Market” (Perú).**
This project is under development. User needs have been identified and a methodology has been determined.

**Project 388 “Design and implementation of an international curriculum for Central America in library science and documentation with an emphasis in literacy.” (Costa Rica).**
The project continues in progress. Alice Miranda reported that work continues with diverse libraries, including university libraries, public libraries, school libraries, and library associations. Meetings in Panama and Guatemala have been planned.

**Project 393 – “Internships in public libraries for Latin American libraries” (Colombia).**
The internship program shall be carried out during the next month of July. Knowledge of public libraries in Bogotá and thereafter those in Medellin has been planned.

**Project 394 – “Database of Quechua materials” (Peru).**
Financial support for this project has been requested; however, the institution responsible requested support for unauthorized items such as salaries and purchase of office equipment and supplies. A counter offer was drafted and remitted, but was never answered, resulting in the cancellation of this project.

**Project 395 “Common Base of Citizen knowledge-CBCK-training youth between 14 and 18 years-old who live in communities of the Distrito Cidade Tiradentes” (Brazil).**
This project is a replication of the one successfully developed in Sao Paulo. Work continues to progress.

**Project 396 “Internships in information technologies for Latin American librarians” (Mexico).**
The academic program and call for enrollment have been drafted. It shall be offered during the second semester of 2009 in the General Direction for Libraries of the National Autonomous University of Mexico. Technological resources shall be incorporated, including videoconferences so that the number of participants can be expanded beyond those actually present.
Project 397 “Otavalo: Common Base of Citizen knowledge-CBCK- training youth between 14 and 18 years-old who live in urban and rural settings” (Ecuador).
The project has been developed and the results shall be published in a book.

Project 398 “Book stand for the Cajamarca marketplace” (Peru).
The project shall be developed over the current year, taking into account the experience and results of previous projects.

Project 399 Book stand for the central marketplace of San Salvador” (El Salvador).
Also this project shall be developed over the current year, taking into account the experience and results of previous projects.

Project 701 “Workshop to promote reading and extension activities in the Hispanic Caribbean” (Puerto Rico).
This workshop is planned for November of the current year and shall include the participation of experts and members of the Standing Committee such as María Elena Zapata, Adriana Betancurt and Doris Samanez.

Project 702 “Seminar on IFLA/Unesco Manifestos: Internet,, public libraries and school libraries” (Paraguay).
A report on this project was received in March of the year in course.

Project 703 “Fifth Meeting of Latin American and Caribbean National Librarian Associations” (El Salvador).
Other projects were considered of higher priority; therefore this project was cancelled.

Project 704 “Bookstand for the Parochia Market and surrounds in Guatemala City) (Guatemala).
The project continues in progress.

Project 706 “Systematization of experiences with regard to indigenous libraries” (Perú).
Gathering of experiences of this type is considered important for the regional libraries. The project continues in progress and the participation of the General Direction for libraries of the National Council for the Arts and Culture (CONACULTA), México, the University Library Science Research Center (CUIB) of the UNAM, and the Instituto Brasileiro de Informação em Ciência e Tecnologia should be considered.

Project concluded. The project provided the framework of the current IFLA/LAC Standing Committee meeting. This seminar attracted many librarians from Peru.

Finally, on behalf of the IFLA/LAC Standing Committee, Felipe Martínez and Elizabet de Carvalho thanked Birgitta Sandell and Gunilla Natvig from ALP for their support in developing libraries and Library Science in Latina America and the Caribbean. Moreover, they mentioned the possibility of presenting projects to the IFLA headquarters once policies, procedures and guidelines are in place.

With no other business pending, the meeting was adjourned.
(Filiberto Felipe Martinez Arellano – Chair IFLA/LAC SC)

NEW PUBLICATIONS

IFLA PUBLICATIONS

Global Library and Information Science
A Handbook for Students and Educators

Just off the press as Nr 136/137 in the IFLA Publications Series:

This book presents international librarianship and library science through insightful and well written chapters contributed by experts and scholars from six regions of the world. The role of public, academic, special, school libraries, as well as library and information science education are presented from the early development to the present time. Its lively, readable approach will help the reader to understand librarianship in Africa, Asia, Australia and New Zealand, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, the Middle East, and North America.

Edited by Ismail Abdullahi, Professor of Global Library and Information Science, this book is a must-read by library science students and teachers, librarians, and anyone interested in Global Librarianship.

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Library Statistics for the 21st Century World

Just off the press as Nr 138 in the IFLA Publications Series:

An international collaboration between IFLA, the UNESCO Institute of Statistics and the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) has developed standards for new library indicators for the twenty-first century. The existing international library statistics were developed nearly 40 years ago. This book presents the first results using the new statistics, and look forward to the next steps. It also contains other initiatives and developments in the fields of library statistics, benchmarking and indicators.

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NEWS OF THE REGION

ARGENTINA

Specialized training program in assessment, documentation and study of rare books.

This training was organized by the National Program of Colonial Literature sponsored by the National Library of Argentina and carried out at the National Library on April 13-18. Professors from Spain: Julián Martín Abad, from the National Library of Spain, José Manuel Pedraza Gracia, from the Faculty of Arts at the University of Zaragoza; Roberto Casazza (National Library of Argentina), Alberto Casares and Lucio Aquilanti (rare booksellers from Argentina), María Etchepareborda (National Library of Argentina) and Ana Virginia Pinheiro (National Library of Brazil).

Topics addressed included: Concept, periodization and typology of rare books; Identification tools, location and valuation of rare books; Rare book collections in Argentina. (Stella Maris Fernandez – Asesora de la OR IFLA/LAC)

41 National Librarians Congress

The 41 National Librarians Congress was organized by the Association of Graduate Librarians of the Argentine Republic (ABGRA). The motto: Libraries, bridges to older cultural
universes. Held on April 20-23, within the framework of the International Book Fair

The keynote address was delivered by Julián Martín Abad (National Library of Spain) on the topic Manuscripts and old printed material Library in Spain: mission and circumstances.

Meetings were held according to the following fields of study:
- 15th One-Day Conference on Agricultural Sciences, Veterinary, Forestry and Fisheries Libraries, under the motto "Cooperating for growth";
- 9th One-Day Conference on Health and Environment Library;
- 13 Meeting of University Libraries with the theme "The Present and Future of Academic Libraries";
- 3rd One-Day Conference on Governmental Libraries under the theme "Institutional Memory: Challenges and projects towards the bicentennial in government libraries";
- 15 Meeting of School Libraries;
- 5th One-Day Conference on Science and Technology Libraries under the theme "Scientific production and technology in figures";
- 4th One-Day Conference on Law and Legal Sciences Libraries;
- 1st RECIARIA Meeting (Library Network).

Two post-congress workshops were delivered. The first dealt with Cataloging and Electronic Resources, and the second was about "Short story narration - The shared word.

The Library Research Society has just published the 14th volume of its Infodiversity Magazine,

Including the following topics:
- The information professional in the 21st Century, by Sueli Angélica do Amaral
- Printing house Gandarillas and Gesta de Mayo journals and editors, by Stella Maris Fernández;
- A Cordovan library for the Missions of Chiquitos, by Matilde Tagle;
- Azul, a living example of the redemption and dissemination of Cervantine world and ideals, by Stella Maris Fernández;
- Redemption and dissemination of cultural diversity through exhibits and Meetings sponsored by the Central Library of the Faculty of Arts, by Patricia Sala;
- Recalling Julián Cáceres Freyre, a member of the Society of Argentine Bibliophiles, by Vicente Ros;
- Introducing Hebe Pelosi's book "Franco-Argentine Relations 1880-1918". Immigration, trade and culture, by Vicente Ros;
- Reading and information technology and Adolfo Rodríguez Gallardo genre, by Estela Morales;
- And a rich News cast.


UNESCO, the UN branch that is dedicated to education, science and culture, has designated Buenos Aires as the world book capital for the year 2011. According to Unesco Brasil Web site, the capital of Argentina was nominated "based on the quality and variety of the program submitted in its candidature file and on the account of the consolidated strategy underpinning the programme." The Argentines have now the responsibility to organize, in two years, the World Book & Copyright Day to be celebrated on 23 April.

National Librarianship magazines showcased in the CAICYT

On June 9, CONICET's Scientific and Technological Center of Argentina (CAICYT), sponsored a lecture addressing the current state of librarianship magazines in Argentina, to which the directors of the three most representative magazines: Susan Roman (from Información, Cultura y Sociedad), Stella Maris Fernández (from Infodiversidad), and Raúl Escandar (from Revista Argentina de Bibliotecología) were invited.

The sponsors were surprised by the attendance at the event including colleagues and students who filled the auditorium facilities, especially in view of the unusual matutinal invitation. Many were students from several Library Science schools, who attended because of the interest aroused by the topic.

In turns, professors Romanos and Fernandez commented on the origins, history, the most significant events and current status of the publications they are currently running, and showcased copies of several issues in the corresponding collections.

After both presentations, Raúl Escandar provided an illustrated overview of all the academic magazines that were published in Argentina since 1942 and described the situations that caused the publication of Revista Argentina de Bibliotecología (Argentinian Journal of Librarianship) under his responsibility to be discontinued, emphasizing that no economic issue had been the cause - which is common in our country - but rather other causes as he explained to the audience. In addition, he announced that, because there are no copies of Revista Argentina de Bibliotecología available, the magazine would as from that meeting have open access through the Sociedad Argentina de Información website. Then he called for a round of applause to the ten-year continuity of both the academic journal Información, Cultura y Sociedad, published by the Librarianship Research Institute of the University of Buenos Aires and Infodiversidad published by the Librarianship Research Society, which caused a standing ovation from the
audience in view of the effort required to maintain live and regularly published journals today.
(Stella Maris Fernandez – Asesora de la OR IFLA/LAC)

BRAZIL

2nd Latin American and Caribbean Seminar on Library Services to the Blind and other Visually Handicapped People

Under the overall theme of the "Digital Accessibility Scenario in Latin America and the Caribbean," the seminar will be held in November 20-23, 2009, in the city of João Pessoa, Paraíba, northeast Brazil.

The seminar will rely on the sponsorship of IFLA / ALP - Action for Development through Libraries Programme - and IFLA / LAC - Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean, supported by FEBA B / Brazilian Federation of Librarians Associations, Information Scientists and Institutions, and the NGO/ Braille & Community Library, Building Citizenship, as well as the institutional support of the Federal University of Paraíba, Rotary International / District 4500.

Organizing Committee members include Marília Mesquita Guedes Pereira (Chairman), Maria do Socorro Azevedo Felix Fernandez Vasquez (Vice President of Braille & Community Library, Building Citizenship), Ms. Isa Freire (Coordinator of UFPB's Graduate School of Information Sciences), Sigrid Karin Weiss Dutra (FEBAB President), Alfredo Weisflog (President of Dorina Nowill Foundation, São Paulo).

Representation from several Latin American countries have already been confirmed, with a highlight to:
Minister Ariel Gutierrez, Advisor of Tabasco State Library (Mexico), Aurora Leaños, Coordinator of Aprecia Library, Santa Cruz (Bolivia), Freddy Balza, Director of Biblioteca Central del Estado Miranda (Venezuela), Rosa M. Yataco Marin, Librarian at the "Delfina Otero Villarán" Room for Blind People, National Library of Peru (Peru), Claudia Ma. Giraldo A., Coordinator of the "Hector Gonzalez Mejia" Library in Comfenalco, Antioquia, Medellin. (Colombia).

A model of public library

The I Bienal da Floresta, do Livro e da Leitura came to a close on June 7, in Rio Branco, Acre. Writers like Ignacio de Loyola Brandão, Márcio de Souza, Fábio Lucas, were very enthusiastic about the receptiveness and the prospects for literature in that state as they took their way back home. Attendees had a chance to be introduced to the new Public Library of Acre, provided with an integrated infrastructure that includes, besides the traditional books, a comics book library, Braille, and a network of broadband plugged computers and free Internet access. As PNLL Executive Secretary José Castilho Marques Neto said, the new library is “accessible, welcoming, beautiful, full of light and human energy, ready to fulfill its mission as a culture, reader-encouraging house, connecting reading to pleasure and to the information needed by the contemporary man.” The state also offers the Reading Houses, sharing the same spirit of welcome and reading & writing encouragement, besides reading spots scattered in the parks, with a commitment to democratizing access, in accordance with PNLL’s Axis 1.
(Boletim PNLL, No. 161 – 22 al 28 de junio 2009)

Brasiliana Digital is launched in Sao Paulo

Brasiliana Digital was launched during the Mindlin 2009 International Seminar - Books, Reading and New Technologies, in São Paulo on June 16, a project designed to digitize part of the Brasiliana Guita and José Mindlin Library, which collecting some 17 thousand titles.

As Mindlin stressed, "our collection was not intended to become a private asset, but rather a public asset." The event was attended and praised by the Minister of Culture, Juca Ferreira.
(Boletim PNLL, No. 161 – 22 al 28 de junio 2009)
IFLA Secretary-General Visit to Brazil

The IFLA Secretary-General visited Brazil in May 25-29 2009, accompanied by Stuart Hamilton, the Federation's International Advisor and Elizabet de Carvalho, IFLA/LAC RO Manager. The visit was primarily to São Paulo, where Jennefer had an opportunity to meet FEBAB President and Deputy President, Sigrid Weiss and Regina Beluzzo, the President of the Federal Council of Librarianship, Nêmora Rodrigues, Sandra Domínguez (Deputy Coordinator of the Public Libraries National System), Adriana Ferrari (Advisor Culture Secretariat of Sao Paulo). The Culture Secretary of the State of Sao Paulo, Joao Saad, welcommed the visitors. On May 26 The Secretary-General flew to Brasilia, together with the Manager of Regional Office and those associates referred to above.

On May 29 they had the opportunity to visit the Senate Library, the “Demonstrative” Public Library of Brasilia and one unity of the Project “Casa do Saber” (House of Knowledge) of the Network Gasol, supported by the ABDF (Library Association of the Federal District) where they received by Carmen Gramacho, Maria Isabel Pimentel Araujo, Miralides Alves Regino Josefa Sena Nery of ABDF directorate.

The visit of the Secretary-General was a major event for all of us, and we hope she will be visiting us again in a near future.

Launch of the Latin America Virtual Library - BV@L

On 13 February 2009, the Latin America Virtual Library was launched by the Latin American Memorial Foundation - BV@L.

Relying on the institutional support provided by the Foundation for Research Support of the State of São Paulo - FAPESP, and employing the BIREME / PAHO / WHO Methodology and Technology, the project was developed with the purpose of expanding the dissemination and the support to the access, at an international level, to the information and cultural heritage of the Latin American region, including the knowledge generated by the Foundation, which has the main task of working for the integration and the cultural, political, economic and social development of Latin America countries.

BV@L is a tool for the convergence of information and knowledge, and is designed to contribute in the increased visibility of the region before the national and international research and communication agencies, as well as to help in the design of public and institutional policies.

Main objectives include:
- Disseminate information and knowledge about Latin America, in all aspects related to humanities, sciences and arts generated by the Latin America Memorial;
- Organize and disseminate information resources about the region available in its collection and on the Internet nationally, regionally and internationally;
- Implement qualified mechanism designed for access, retrieval and dissemination of cultural, artistic and technical-scientific production generated by such activities as teaching, research and cultural outreach from representative institutions in the region;
- Provide interface in Portuguese, Spanish and English (translations will be available after June 2009).

23rd Brazilian Congress of Librarianship, Documentation and Information Science - CBBD, July 05-08, 2009, city of Bonito, Mato Grosso do Sul, Brazil

Leading topic: "Knowledge networks, access to information and sustainable management."

The 23rd Brazilian Congress of Librarianship, Documentation and Information Science - CBBD will be delivered on July 05-08, 2009, in the city of Bonito, Mato Grosso do Sul, Brazil.

The event is supported jointly by the Brazilian Federation of Librarians Associations, Information Scientists, and Institutions - FEBAB and the Librarians Association of Mato Grosso do Sul - ABS / MS, under the main topic “Knowledge networks, access to information and sustainable management.”

This event, which has been sponsored since 1956 by FEBAB in partnership with member associations, is a consolidated event that provides a privileged forum for sharing experiences, practices, and for the dissemination of scientific-technical production related to libraries, information units, teaching and research; in addition, the event has been designed to provide opportunities for fraternization and updating among professionals in the area.

This 23rd edition of CBBD in 2009 will celebrate the 50th anniversary of FEBAB and the 30 years of ABS / MS.

The complete program is available at www.febab.org.br
3rd Latin-American Symposium on Public Libraries and 15th National Meeting of the Brazilian System for Public Libraries

IFLA was represented in the opening of the 3rd Latin-American Symposium on Public Libraries and 15th National Meeting of the Brazilian System for Public Libraries, held in October at Fundação Biblioteca Nacional do Brasil, by Ms. Elizabet de Carvalho, Manager of IFLA Regional Office for Latin America.

During the event, Maria Elena Zapata, from Venezuela, a special member of the IFLA / LAC Committee, delivered the lecture: Public Libraries management and policies. Ms Zapata, together with Maria Isabel Franca, a member of the IFLA / LAC Committee and in representation of Brazil, led the Workshop: “The IFLA Internet Manifesto”. The goal was to disseminate the Internet use policy to be developed by public libraries and designed for the coordinators of the 26 state systems attending the event, according to the standpoint supported in the Manifesto. Recommendations from the event included strengthening the actions to be performed by the

Public Libraries National System in the set-up and implementation of public policies related to books and library.

Books opening worlds: media for people in prison

On June 18, 2009, the Goethe Institute in partnership with the Permanent Sentence Enforcement Forum of the Rio de Janeiro State School of Magistrates (EMERJ), the Mayrink da Costa Institute (BMI) and the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions in Latin America and the Caribbean (IFLA / LAC) sponsored a talk on Books opening worlds: media for people in prison; an example from the Prison Library at Münster Prison (Germany), delivered by Gerhard Peschers, head of the prison library in Münster and responsible for the Division of Libraries at the North Rhine-Westphalia prison system, which includes 30 libraries in 24 prisons and 3 imprisonment centers for young offenders.

Presenting several suggestions and examples from the Library of the Münster Prison, Gerhard Peschers provided a vision focused on the work carried out in the libraries in the prison system of North Rhine-Westphalia.

The Prison of Münster, built in 1853, is the oldest one in the federal state of North-Rhine Westphalia and has the most modern prison library in Germany. The Library has become an excellent example of his successful work. In recognition, the library was awarded the German library prize "Library of the year 2007", which brings with it a cash prize of 30,000 euros and is awarded by the German Library Association and the Zeit Foundation. Acknowledged in 2007 the Library of the Münster Prison as "an exemplary institution of social library work" and as a "source of creative inspiration for other prison libraries".

With much enthusiasm and expertise, Gerhard Peschers presented, before 120 participants including librarians, lawyers, psychologists, educators, students and Librarianship teachers, the prison library as an key element for a dignified sentence of imprisonment.

Following the talk, a lively discussion took place, coordinada por el Des. Alvaro Mayrink da Costa. The lecture provided the grounds for a critical reflection on the current development of prison libraries in Brazil.

(Almerinda Stenzel, Goethe Foundation)

Almerinda Stenzel (Goethe Foundation), Elizabet de Carvalho (IFLA/LAC RO), Gerhard Peschers (Prison Library of Münster), Ludmila Popov (SC IFLA/LAC) RJ, 02/08/2009

MEXICO

6th Hispanic-Mexican Seminar on Bibliotecology and Information Science: "Information, knowledge and reading"

The 6th Hispanic-Mexican Seminar on Bibliotecology and Information Science was held on April 13-17, 2009, addressing the theme "Information, knowledge and reading." This seminar is jointly delivered once a year by UNAM's University Library Research Center and Universidad Complutense de Madrid, in Mexico and in Spain alternately. This time the seminar was delivered in the cities of Cáceres, Sigüenza and Madrid, sponsored by the University of Extremadura, Universidad de Alcalá, and Universidad Complutense de Madrid. Attendees from Mexico included, besides UNAM's University Library Research Center, professors from Universidad Autonoma de San Luis Potosi's Information Sciences School.

This academic event aimed to present and discuss both the progress and the findings of research projects currently being
conducted at UNAM's University Library Research Center and in a number of universities across Spain. Participants included, among others, Filiberto Felipe Martinez Arellano, Elsa Margarita Ramirez Leyva, Jaime Rios and Maria Rosa Fernandez Esquivel. 

(Filiberto Felipe Martinez Arellano, Chair IFLA/LAC Section)

Appointment of Elsa Ramirez Leyva

On April 20, Dr. Elsa Ramirez Leyva was named Head of the Division of Graduate Studies, Faculty of Arts of the National Autonomous University of Mexico. This represents a recognition for the academic leadership of Dr. Ramirez Leyva, a researcher at CUIB and member of the Latin America and the Caribbean Standing Committee, who will coordinate the thirteen Postgraduate Degrees in the Humanities that are awarded at this faculty.

(Filiberto Felipe Martinez Arellano, Chair IFLA/LAC Section)

Alejandra Martinez Del Prado, a new member of FAIFE Committee

Alejandra Martinez Del Prado was nominated, during the last meeting of the IFLA Governing Board, a Member of the Freedom of Access to Information and Freedom of Expression Committee (IFLA / FAIFE) for the period from 2009 to 2013. During this period the FAIFE Committee will consist of the following members:

Dr. Kai Ekholm (Finland)  
President  
Aliya S. Abeldinova (Kazakhstan)  
Philippe Colomb (France)  
S.S. Dhaka (India)  
Archie L. Dick (South Africa)  
Lilia (Lily) F. Echiverri (Philippines)  
Loida Garcia-Febo (United States)  
Anne Hustad (Norway)  
Jassim M Jirjees (United Arab Emirates)  
Päiviikki Karhula (Finland)  
Alejandra Martinez del Prado (Mexico)  
Matseliso M Moshoeshoe-Chadzingwa (Lesotho)  
Mark Perkins (France)  
Qiang Zhu (China)  
Hermann Roesch (Germany)  
Shawky Salem (Egypt)  

(Filiberto Felipe Martinez Arellano, Chair IFLA/LAC Section)

New Members of the IFLA / LAC Standing Committee

Some members of the Standing Committee completed the terms for which they had been elected (2005-2009), thus, eight members were elected or reelected during the last elections in order to reconstitute the Committee. Therefore, the IFLA LAC Standing Committee is now constituted as follows:

2007-2011 Members
Regina Celia Baptista Beluzzo (Brazil)  
Angela Bettencourt (Brazil)  
Ludmila Popov Mayrink da Costa (Brazil)  
Celia Ribeiro Zaher (Brazil)  
Olinda Gómez (El Salvador)  
Joan Vaciana (Jamaica)  
Emilce Noemí Sera Correa (Paraguay)  
Victor Torres (Puerto Rico)  
Jennifer Joseph (Trinidad y Tobago)  
Victor Aguirre (Uruguay)  

2009-2013 Members
Silvia Cecilia Anselmo (Argentina)  
Ana Maria Peruchena Zimmermann (Argentina)  
Sigrid Karin Weiss Dutra (Brazil)  
Margarita Bellas Vilariño (Cuba)  
Araceli García Martín (Spain)  
Hortensia Lobato Reyes (Mexico)  
Filiberto Felipe Martinez Arellano (Mexico)  
Doris Ivon Samanez Alzadora (Peru)  

Members elected for the 2009-2013 period will join the Standing Committee after the Milan Congress, Italy. 

(Filiberto Felipe Martinez Arellano, Chair IFLA/LAC Section)

PARAGUAY

Seminar on IFLA/UNESCO Public and School Library Manifestos and Internet access (Asuncion, Paraguay)

The Association of Graduate Librarians of Paraguay (ABIGRAP) under the sponsorship of IFLA Core Programs ALP and FAIFE, and the support of IFLA/LAC Regional Office and Standing Committee, and the Polytechnic School of the National University of Asuncion, respectively, held in the city of Asuncion, Paraguay, on December 11-12, 2008, the SEMINAR ON IFLA/UNESCO PUBLIC AND SCHOOL LIBRARY MANIFESTOS AND INTERNET ACCESS, which convened the information professionals and other stakeholders to discuss and analyze the content of such IFLA/UNESCO international manifestos, through which the governments have pledged to support the establishment of public libraries throughout the country.

This meeting relied on the participation of such leading professionals in the Library sector in the America as: the Doctors Elsa Ramirez Leiva and Brenda Cabral, researchers from the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM), Ms. Ana Ester Rosnaroli from Argentina, an active member of the Association of Graduate Librarians of the Republic of Argentina (AGBRA); Engineer Nicolás Evers,
representing the Paraguayan National Commission of Telecommunications (CONATEL), Ms María Luisa Duarte, representing the Cooperation of School Libraries of Paraguay and Reading Promoters (COBBEPEL), as well as other professionals and persons in charge of the implementation of information services in libraries and study centers in Paraguay.

On the first day, Engineer Nicolás Evers, CONATEL representative; Dr. Brenda Cabral, representing the FAIFE/IFLA Program; and Dr. Elsa Margarita Ramírez Leiva, on behalf of IFLA / LAC, provided a broad overview of the Manifestos, as well as an update of the current situation of the Internet in Paraguay: in addition to an introduction to the IFLA Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean, attendants were given a discussion platform following the presentations.

On the second day: The agenda included a presentation by Ms. Ana Ester Rossaroli, who talked about the IFLA/UNESCO School Library Manifesto; and Prof. María Luisa Duarte introduced, during a communication forum, the Cooperation of School Libraries of Paraguay and Reading Promoters, describing all the activities developed in the country to promote reading, and discussed the close collaboration with the National Reading Plan deployed by the Ministry of Education and Culture.

Regarding the Public Libraries, the attendees agreed that the Paraguay's National Reading Plan, as designed by the current administration of the Ministry of Education, not only surprises in view of the goals to achieve, but is regarded as “very ambitious” as well, considering the scarcity of public libraries and bibliographic materials in the government-managed educational institutions. The establishment of libraries depends on a political decision.

Emilce Sena, SC IFLA/LAC

II International Congress and Seventh National Congress of Librarians, Documentalists and Archivists of Paraguay: "Conservation, Organization and Access to the Documentary Heritage"

15-17 October 2009, Hotel Excelsior, Asunción, Paraguay

Organizer: Association of Graduate Librarians of Paraguay, ABIGRAP

OBJECTIVES

- Provide a forum for analyzing and discussing the documentary heritage and the establishment of national conservation and development policies.
- Facilitate a gathering for information specialists in the region to share knowledge, exchange ideas and experiences regarding the conservation, organization and access to documentary heritage.

Set the documentary heritage as the source of historical memory for a country.

(Emilce Sena, SC IFLA/LAC)

National Library of Paraguay

The Paraguayan library community waited a long time to see a professional from the information sciences to ascend to such an important position, considering the role played by the National Library as the institution empowered to monitor, maintain and safeguard the national bibliographical production. So, in February this year the Ministry of Culture appointed our colleague Prof. ZAYDA CABALLERO RODRÍGUEZ, MLS, to take office as Director of the National Library.

The National Library personifies the cultural development of a nation, and who could be better than someone from the library sector to take the lead? confident that the person appointed will be up to the expectation for the position considering all merits accumulated along her library career.

ABIGRAP has, in this regard, sent a congratulation note to the Minister of Culture.

(Emilce Sena, SC IFLA/LAC)

Continuing education for information science students

Information Sciences students from the Polytechnic School, National University of Asunción, have, as part of the University's Continuing Education program, provided assistance to Greater Asunción school libraries with limited resources in the technical arrangement of their holdings.

As part of another project, students visit children in public pediatric hospitals where they carry out activities to promote reading, including puppets and entertainment games. Children and their families eagerly wait for the young volunteers' Saturday visit as many of them live in the hospital because of their painful diseases.

All such activities are funded with contributions from the students, teachers and donations of candy from businesses to be delivered to the children.

(Emilce Sena, SC IFLA/LAC)

Tribute to IFLA / LAC and Regional Office

On March 24, in the city of Lima, Peru, there was a double celebration jointly sponsored by Biblioteca Nacional del Perú.
Carvalho talked about IFLA / LAC mission, plans and members. In turn, Filiberto Martinez and Elizabeth de recognized the proactiveness of IFLA / LAC, directors and Danielle Mincio, a member of IFLA Governing Board, also Caribbean Section in IFLA over the past 35 years. Likewise, consolidate the presence of the Latin America and the LAC president, who recalled an ecdotes from the process to The touching tone was given by Adolfo Rodriguez, first IFLA / LAC / LAC members to be HONORARY MEMBERS, recognition of the work provided by IFLA / LAC, proclaimed IFLA / LAC activities related to public library projects in the region", Danielle Mincio, “The Role of Libraries in the implementation of the Information Society for all;" and Emir Suaiden "The society in network: challenges for librarians and users". The event was organized by the Municipality of Santiago de Surco and the IFLA (IFLA / LAC) Section for Latin America and the Caribbean, relying on the sponsorship provided by the Action for Development through Libraries (IFLA / ALP). Parque de la Amistad provided the meeting point for 293 local and international librarians.

The ceremony was attended by FLA / LAC representatives, namely Felipe Martinez, currently FLA / LAC President; Elizabet Ramos de Carvalho, Manager of the Regional Office; and not a few former Presidents: Adolfo Rodriguez, Rosa Maria Fernandez and Maria Isabel Franca. Guests: Danielle Mincio, from IFLA Governing Board; Gunilla Natvig, from ALP, Emir Suaiden, Director of IBICT; Mary Giraldo, from CERLALC, Catarina Berg, from the International Association of School Librarians, Macarena Durand and Lucia Abello, from the Chile's Network of Public Libraries, and Luzia Monteiro, from Citizen's Knowledge Base project, Brazil. Representing the Peruvian library community: Martha Fernandez and Carmen Checa, as special guests, Aurora de la Vega and Isabel Miranda, two representatives of the Librarianship Schools, members of the National Board of the Association of Librarians, and people from the National Library and from other entities in the field.

Other Standing Committee members attending: Ana Maria Peruchena (Argentina), Ivone Talamo and Marcia Rosetto (Brazil), Adriana Betancur (Colombia), Alice Miranda (Costa Rica), Mercedes Falconi (Ecuador), Olinda Gomez (El Salvador), Araceli Garcia (Spain), Joan Vacianna (Jamaica), Elsa Ramirez y Estela Morales (Mexico), Octavio Castillo (Panama), Emicke Sena (Paraguay), Doris Samanez (Peru), Victor Torres (Puerto Rico), and Stella Maris Fernandez, Special Advisor IFLA/LAC RO (Argentina).

The program: first, visitors greeting and welcoming by Ruth Alejos, on behalf of the National Library of Peru, then Norma Magan, National Doyen of the Association of Librarians, in recognition of the work provided by IFLA / LAC, proclaimed IFLA / LAC members to be HONORARY MEMBERS, awarding the Professional Association membership certificate to them.

The touching tone was given by Adolfo Rodriguez, first IFLA / LAC president, who recalled anecdotes from the process to consolidate the presence of the Latin America and the Caribbean Section in IFLA over the past 35 years. Likewise, Danielle Mincio, a member of IFLA Governing Board, also recognized the proactiveness of IFLA / LAC, directors and members. In turn, Filiberto Martinez and Elizabeth de Carvalho talked about IFLA / LAC mission, plans and activities in the region as well as its promising results, and invited attendees to join IFLA, the global network that advocates the profession and supports the development of library and information services. Finally, they expressed their gratitude to the institutions sponsoring the celebration, and awarded Appreciation Plaques to Martha Fernandez, Carmen Checa and Cesar Castro, one each, for their support to IFLA / LAC.

And as it could not be otherwise, a typical Peruvian dance and a toast to Peru closed the simple but moving program, a tribute to the first 35 years of IFLA/LAC and the 30 years of the Regional Office. Congratulations to all.

(Doris Ivon Samanez, SC IFLA/LAC)

**Lima, global meeting point**

The "International Seminar on Public Library and the Information Society: Challenges and Responses from Latin America," held on March 24-26, 2009, was opened with the Opening Conferences delivered by: Estela Morales Campos "The information society, plurality, diversity and uniformity;" Elizabet Ramos de Carvalho "IFLA / LAC activities related to public library projects in the region", Danielle Mincio, “The Role of Libraries in the implementation of the Information Society for all;" and Emir Suaiden "The society in network: challenges for librarians and users". The event was organized by the Municipality of Santiago de Surco and the IFLA (IFLA / LAC) Section for Latin America and the Caribbean, relying on the sponsorship provided by the Action for Development through Libraries (IFLA / ALP). Parque de la Amistad provided the meeting point for 293 local and international librarians.

Seminar academic agenda included lectures and 13 panels addressing a variety of topics. The experiences and reflections shared by speakers from Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Chile, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Spain, El Salvador, Mexico, Puerto Rico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru and Switzerland, all of them experts and in charge of library-related programs, provided a common platform for regional and local level discussions.

Several questions were raised during the three days of this meeting: How to handle the "invisibility of the library?" How to provide democratic access to the library, rather than just elite access, seeing that the library is a means for social inclusion?, among others.

It was suggested that all countries should have an information policy and such policy should be included in the government agenda.

This is critical because the lack of information gives rise to a lack of memory and to a dependence on content.

Public libraries and citizen participation.

Topics addressed included "how will municipal public libraries be able to submit their projects to the participatory budget so as to reach a consensus among the citizenry? The joint work done by the municipalities and the private sector has a potential to deliver well implemented libraries, with a wealthy collection.
Emphasis was placed on the importance of turning libraries into places to meet the community, reaching beyond the provision of enjoyable reading and advice; into areas designed for social inclusion through digital inclusion, working with the elderly, youth and children, located in areas where the presence of libraries will contribute to the cultural and social development of the community. It was also discussed, based on the IFLA, Public Library Manifesto, what such public policy should include, which services should be provide, and what role should librarians play in facilitating the democratization of society.

It is highly stimulating for the Municipality of Santiago that the IFLA/LAC Standing Committee for Latin America chose Peru to be the venue for several major events precisely when the 80th anniversary of the political creation of the district is celebrated, as well as the 35 years of IFLA activities in Latin America and the 30 years of the Regional Office:

- Workshop “IFLA/UNESCO Internet Manifesto” (March 22-23).
- International Seminar on "Public Library and Information Society: Challenges and Responses from Latin America" (March 24-26).
- Annual Meeting of the IFLA/LAC Standing Committee (March 27-28).

http://bibliotecaspublicas.infotechworld.org/index1.php

(Doris Ivon Samanez, SC IFLA/LAC)

IFLA/FAIFE Instructor Training Workshop - IFLA/UNESCO Internet Manifesto Guidelines
Lima, Peru, March 22-23, 2009

Peru was chosen by IFLA/FAIFE to train librarians from 12 regions of the country aiming to promote the IFLA/UNESCO Internet Manifesto Guidelines.

This workshop was delivered thanks to the funding of the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA).

The Santiago de Surco Municipality Library, Lima, Peru, jointly with the Committee on Free Access to Information and Freedom of Expression (FAIFE) and the Latin America and the Caribbean Section of the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) organized the Instructor Training Workshop for the IFLA/UNESCO Internet Manifesto Guidelines. The workshop was held on March 22nd and 23rd at Estación del Conocimiento.

This workshop is the first stage of a project designed to develop within a one-year timeframe, aiming to train the instructors that will, in turn, deliver workshops on the IFLA/UNESCO Internet Manifesto Guidelines to other librarians in their regions and help integrate the values of the Guidelines into their daily work. Instructors attending this workshop committed to replicate and share in their regions the knowledge gained, which is the second stage of the project.

As the final stage of this project, the instructors will meet again on October 23-24, 2009, to report on their experiences and success and also to review the results and the impact of the workshops. It is expected that such meeting will lead to the establishment of directives and policies to support the implementation of the Internet manifesto in libraries and information centers in Peru.

STAGE I
Workshop Leaders
Filiberto Felipe Martínez, Arellano, Chair of the IFLA Latin American and the Caribbean Section.
Elizabeth Maria Ramos de Carvalho, Manager of the Regional Office for Latin American and the Caribbean.
Jorge Bossio Montes de Oca, Workshop Guest Facilitator.

Workshop activities were split into 2 days with the following agenda:
Doris Samanez, head of Santiago de Surco Municipality Library, delivered the workshop welcome and opening remarks. Following, participants from different regions of the country were introduced, namely:

Martha Valencia Retamozo, from Arequipa
Rosario Romero Cieza, from Lambayeque
Liliana Bandini Herrera, from Cajamarca
Maria Jesús Chino Mayorga, from Cuzco
Isabel Gonzáles Alfaro, from La Libertad
Jovana Mallqui Flores, from Junín
Olimpia Ochoa Rúa, from Tacna
Marcelino Quispichito Alanya, from Ayacucho
Adela Ito Cartagena, from Puno
Luis Gutiérrez Morales, from Iquitos
Doris Samanez Alzamora, from Lima
César Castro Aliaga, from Lima

The first part of the workshop was delivered at the reading room of Estación del Conocimiento III (Participants introduction and an Internet Policy & Use Assessment Questionnaire to be completed by the participants)

The second part of the workshop was delivered in the electronic resources wagon of Estación del Conocimiento III; a computer, on which the relevant Power Point presentations had been loaded, was available for each participant.

Each participant received a folder with the following:
Workshop: Library and Literacy: a feasible link

This workshop was supported by the National Library System under the National Library of Peru, in coordination with the Regional Center for Book Development in Latin America and the Caribbean (CERLALC), assuming that the library, as an institution owned by and designed for the community, has become a strategic space for delivering literacy programs chiefly to disadvantaged groups, thereby inserting them in the National Program of Mobilization for Literacy (PRONAM) as sponsored by the Ministry of Education.

The workshop will be led by specialist Lola Cendales from CERLALC. This workshop will be held on June 11-12.

(Doris Ivon Samanez, SC IFLA/LAC)

Lector (don't leave for tomorrow what you can read today)

With this motto, the family reading one-day conference was delivered on Sunday, May 24, at the Friendship Park (Parque de la Amistad). This event was organized jointly by Editorial NORMA and the municipality of Santiago de Surco, including the borrowing of books, storytelling, puppet presentation, origami workshops, and the performance of the monologue: "my name is Miguel de Cervantes." 3 books were presented in the hall of the library. The one-day event was attended by some four thousand people.

(Doris Ivon Samanez, SC IFLA/LAC)

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NEWS OF INTEREST TO THE REGION

Introducing the Sector Cooperation Forum for Development and Libraries

The Sector Cooperation Forum for Development and Libraries was formally introduced on May 20, 2009, during the 9th FESABID Spanish Documentation Conference held in Zaragoza (Spain).

This professional forum brings together, on common grounds, all librarians and documentalists who work in the Cooperation for Development.

We, as a group, speak on our own behalf and on behalf of the members of the forum, who will speak later, but in doing so we will always try to reflect our plurality. I move on to introduce the group, according to the order of intervention:
José Antonio Moreira: headteacher at Universidad Carlos III of Madrid, and full professor in the Librarianship and Information Science Department.

Cristóbal Urbano, headteacher at the University of Barcelona, and lecturer in the Librarianship and Information Science Department.

Olga Cuadrado is director of the Specialist Library and Information Center of Fundación Tres Culturas del Mediterráneo.

José Juan Arranz is project leader at Biblioteques de Barcelona.

Rafael Sanchez is director of Library and Communication at Fundación Sur.

Juan Antonio Sánchez is the director of the Information Center at Real Instituto Elcano.

Araceli García, Head of service at the AECID's Hispanic Library and associate professor in the Librarianship and Information Science Department at Universidad Carlos III of Madrid.

Library, as used in the name of the Cooperation Forum for Development and Libraries, is taken in its broadest and most comprehensive meaning, as defined in the Reading, Books and Libraries Act of 2007.

The chronicle of the presentation was drafted by Andoni Calderon, a librarian at Universidad Complutense de Madrid, and is available at: http://www.ucm.es/BUCM/blogs/boletinbibliotecario/670.php

Each of the speakers, except Juan Antonio Sánchez, who advocated the creation of a network, developed their speech according to the following scheme:

THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

- Philosophy for the Cooperation for Development according to the type of entity

- Objectives and Cornerstones of action

- Involvement of the library in the conceptual design of the implementation

FACTS

- Projects and experiments carried out by different stakeholders

- Library Participation

PROSPECTS

- Actions that may be coordinated between entities of same or similar typology

- Integration of such actions in the Sector Cooperation Forum for Development and Libraries

- Key stakeholders to be integrated in the Forum

CONCLUSION:

- A commitment you can make to libraries of your own typology under the cooperation for development

Finally, my own thoughts about the day of the presentation, which will reflect the overall interests and objectives of the group:

"AECID (Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation), is the institution of the State General Administration (for all) under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, responsible for implementing the government's development cooperation policy.

AECID Libraries are under the Culture and Scientific Relations Directorate-General.

I referred to libraries in the plural because, together with the Hispanic Library and the Islamic Library in Madrid, you must take into account all 38 libraries comprising the cultural center network located abroad (primarily in Latin America and Africa), or the 3 libraries located in the training centers in Bolivia, Colombia and Guatemala.

The potential role culture may play in the cooperation for development is currently gaining increasing significance at AECID. The idea is that culture creates wealth, also in economic terms, which will help get out of underdevelopment. Let's consider the money behind the cultural industry worldwide: movies, theater, literature, arts, languages and language teaching, etc. But again, in cultural terms, no country is ahead of any other. Each country has cultural manifestations that operate to identify the country's sensitivity and world view. Culture is not a singular concept, but plural. We can learn from each other and reach real co-operation relations. Everybody gives and everybody receives: there are no real donations or alms. Only co-operation.

But besides this idea underpinning AECID's cultural cooperation ideology, I believe that, although no economic wealth will be generated - which will indeed - the culture of every people is a right to be respected, and if possible, to be enjoyed by everyone else. No culture is to be debased for not having the Greco-Roman classical antiquity as part of its conception of art; it is not inferior but rather different.
All cultural centers across the world were created before they became aware that cooperation for development, in cultural terms, is a reality. And there is always a library open to the entire population. Cultural centers provide a space for Spanish artistic activities and local artistic activities to coexist.

With regard to the involvement of libraries in the conceptual design of our cooperation model, I must say that such involvement is rather limited.

Libraries in the third Master Plan designed for Spanish Cooperation, 2009-2012, which is supposed to guide our policy and management model over this period, are only referred to in relation to research, and merely as a means to support research.

Even the Culture and Development Strategy, which provides the guidelines for the Cultural and Scientific Relations Directorate-General, fails to treat libraries as libraries deserve to be treated.

It is a pity because we could take more benefit from them. We are there, we are mature organizations with skilled professionals, and people visit us every day.

I do not think the mantle of necessary impartiality of libraries and supremacy of duties above everything else, avoiding any interested manipulations, is acceptable. One will not remove the other. To my mind, if libraries are to actively work together in the conceptual design of the educational and cultural policies of their institutions, this does not mean to politicize them whatsoever.

Regarding the projects; there are many. They should participate in some, and many others should be funded to improve libraries in developing countries. Primarily through the Open and Standing Call For Grants (the CAPs), or through more ambitious projects such as the Government Grant (approximately € 500,000) granted by BN in Morocco, or the 10,000,000 € granted to BN by José Martí de Cuba, to name a few.

Likewise, the network of libraries under the cultural centers is now being improved, a rather complicate task in view of the vast geographical spread.

But, if I am allowed to, I am going to talk now about a project that is incipient and whose future is unknown to me, but I have been authorized to talk about.

It grew out of the Forum that brings us together today. It occurred to me that we could copy a good idea that is widespread and may already exist in our area without my knowing of it: namely, library twinning. Which would it be: we could, as experienced Spanish libraries workers, and after a twinning between our institutions, go and work 1 or 2 months in developing countries' libraries, thereby providing a direct co-operation. Following, instead of recollecting the experience, we would continue to work with that same library, thanks to telecommunications, and we could bring a colleague from such library... Finally, a link would be established, not only a professional link, but also a personal connection with that library.

If all we are able to allow this idea to fully develop, perhaps AECID could apply for funding from SEGIB (The Iberoamerican General Secretariat).

Regarding the partners we could have an interest to integrating in this forum: on our part, I would include those within our own typology in Europe as well as such international agencies like UNESCO. But I will not go any further developing this idea because I do not want to go over my time.”

Final words

"As you have seen, absolutely pluralistic institutions, we dedicate to cooperation for development. Achieve common goals and work together; this is difficult, but we are trying. I do not want you to think our plurality means a weakness because it is quite the opposite: it is a strength that gives us a wealth of views and possibilities.

I am relatively fresh to the cooperation world, and I’m learning a lot from my colleagues in the Forum, some of them with a long-running background.

And I’m learning at AECID. Just like probably all of us, I have always felt a great love for knowledge, and I have always believed that libraries are good places to work if you want to see knowledge grow. But ever since I started working for cooperation I have learned that this knowledge can help people severely affected by underdevelopment and poverty get out of such disadvantageous situation. Spain has been a major recipient of European aid. We have learned how to benefit from it and we’ve worked hard, and the country has changed. We now want to help others from our libraries. I sincerely believe that our work can help build a better world. All Forum members, in our pragmatic idealism, believe we can.”

(Mª Araceli García Martín, SC IFLA?LAC)
CALENDARIO INTERNACIONAL

2009

July

5–10
Amsterdam, Netherlands. **International Association of Music Libraries, Archives and Documentation Centres (IAML). Annual Conference.** More information: [http://www.iaml.info/en/activities/conferences](http://www.iaml.info/en/activities/conferences) or e-mail Roger Flury, AML Secretary General at: roger.flury@natlib.govt.nz

27–31

August

17–20
Belgium. **IFLA Libraries for the Blind Section Conference.** Tema: Partnerships for print disabled people: publishers and public libraries. Más información: Helen Brazier [helen.brazier@rnib.org.uk](mailto:helen.brazier@rnib.org.uk)

18–20
Bologna, Italy. **IFLA Satellite Conference: Continuing Professional Development and Workplace Learning Section and the New Professionals Discussion Group.** Theme: Moving in, moving up, and moving on: Strategies for regenerating the library and information profession. Más información: Loida Garcia-Febo, Assistant Coordinator, Special Services, Queens Library, 89–11 Merrick Blvd., Jamaica, NY 11432, USA.

E-mail: [loidagarciafebo@gmail.com](mailto:loidagarciafebo@gmail.com) or Roisin Gwyer, Associate University Librarian, The University Library, University of Portsmouth, Cambridge Road, Portsmouth, PO1 2ST, England UK. E-mail: roisin.gwyer@port.ac.uk

23–27
Milan, Italy. **IFLA World Library and Information Congress: 75th IFLA General Conference and Council.** Theme: Libraries create futures: building on digital heritage. More information: IFLA 2009 Secretariat, 4B, 50 Speirs Wharf, Port Dundas, Glasgow G4 9th, Scotland, UK. Tel: +44(0)141 331 0123. Fax: +44(0)207 117 4561. E-mail: [ifla2009@congrex.com](mailto:ifla2009@congrex.com) Conference website: [http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla75/1st-ann2009-en.pdf](http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla75/1st-ann2009-en.pdf) or Milan City National Committee, IFLA 2009 Milan, Italy, Associazione Italiana Biblioteche. E-mail: [ifla2009-pres@aib.it](mailto:ifla2009-pres@aib.it) Website: [www.aib.it](http://www.aib.it)

2010

August


2011

San Juan, Puerto Rico. **IFLA World Library and Information Congress: 77th IFLA General Conference and Council.** More information: IFLA 2009 Secretariat, 4B, 50 Speirs Wharf, Port Dundas, Glasgow G4 9th, Scotland, UK. Tel: +44(0)141 331 0123. Fax: +44(0)207 117 4561.