



# IFLA National Libraries Section

## Newsletter, December 2010

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*Newsletter compiled by Genevieve Clavel, Information Officer with thanks to all contributors*

## Editorial

Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to the latest Newsletter of the IFLA National Libraries Section. You will find information about the minutes of our last meeting and the very successful joint session we held with the Committee on Copyright and other Legal Matters in Gothenburg last August, plus our call for papers for next year. As you can see, we are planning a very rich session on e-legal deposit in cooperation with four other sections plus a further session in cooperation with the Literacy and Reading Section. These, together with the NOIR SIG work, the report on the national bibliographies seminar held in Bamako, Mali last November and news from section members demonstrate our Section's strong efforts and investment in promoting the work of national libraries around the world.

We also remember our colleague, Dr. Vladimir Zaitsev, a former long-standing member of our Committee .

Your comments and suggestions about any aspect of the work of the section are always welcome.

Best wishes to you all,

Martyn Wade  
Chair, National Libraries Section

## IFLA WLIC : Standing Committee Meeting and Session

The Standing Committee met once during WLIC Gothenburg, on Tuesday August 10<sup>th</sup> and was very well attended with thirty observers in addition to the Committee members. Members were encouraged to continue to update the Online Directory of National Libraries at [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\\_of\\_national\\_libraries](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_national_libraries)

Kelly Moore presented the National Organisations and International Relations Special Interest Group which is sponsored by the National Libraries Section: a short report on the year in review is available below. Members attending provided short updates on their activities. The minutes of the meeting are available at:

<http://www.ifla.org/files/national-libraries/minutes/august-2010.pdf>

The Section's conference session *National libraries promoting open access to knowledge*, organised in cooperation with CLM (Committee on Copyright and other Legal Matters) and chaired by Winston Tabb, Sheridan Dean of University Libraries and Museums and Vice Provost for the Arts Johns Hopkins University was very well attended. Following a keynote from Bas Savenije, Director National Library of the Netherlands, four papers were presented highlighting creative commons, and national libraries' viewpoints and activities in the field from Korea, China and Sweden. The papers are available at: <http://www.ifla.org/en/conferences-session-day/2010-08-14>

## NOIR SIG: 2010 in review

The National Organisations & International Relations Special Interest Group (NOIR SIG) continues to attract interest from around the globe. We held a combined business meeting and programme during the 2010 World Library and Information Congress in Gothenburg, Sweden. It was encouraging to see over 60 delegates in attendance at this session.

The first part of the program was dedicated to reports on activities that had been agreed at the 2009 meeting in Milan. We reviewed an international activities checklist developed by Kjell Nilsson for the National Library of Sweden for determining when and how to undertake a new international project. Peter Lor provided an overview of his survey of the international activities of national libraries, and

Sabine Stummeyer introduced a new proposal for ILE: an International Librarian Exchange. The checklist and the survey questionnaire and results are available on the NOIR SIG web page at <http://www.ifla.org/en/noir> . Thanks to all three individuals for their contributions.

The other part of the session was an open discussion during which delegates shared the reasons why their organizations undertake international activities and how they benefit from those activities. From this discussion, we have compiled a list of points to help staff in international relations offices to convince their managers and colleagues that international activities are a critical piece of the work of national-level organisations. The listing, currently available on the NOIR SIG webpage in the powerpoint slides for this session, will be re-structured into a more formal document in 2011.

From the sign-up list at our Gothenburg session and other requests received by email, we have added more than 50 new contacts to the NOIR-L mailing list this year, bringing the total number of subscribers to 150. We hope to expand the scope of our activities in the coming year – information will be distributed through the list and on our web page, so watch for updates.

Look for an exciting programme from NOIR SIG in San Juan in 2011!  
Kelly Moore, Executive Director, Canadian Library association, Convenor

## IFLA WLIC 2011 Puerto Rico

The Section will take part in two sessions during WLIC 2011 in Puerto Rico. In cooperation with Bibliography, Information Technology, Knowledge Management sections together with ICADS there will be a session on the theme *e-Legal Deposit: from legislation to implementation; from ingest to access*. We are pleased to announce that Kai Ekholm, Director of the National Library, Finland and Chair of FAIFE (Committee on Free Access to Information and Freedom of Expression) will present the keynote, followed by presentations in two sessions, one concentrating on policies and issues surrounding the development and implementation of legislation or regulations for e-legal deposit and the other on policy and issues relating to the management, bibliographic control, preservation and provision of access to e-legal deposit materials. The deadline for the call for papers is January 31, 2011 and full details are available at: <http://conference.ifla.org/ifla77/calls-for-papers/e-legal-deposit-from-legislation-to-implementation-from-ingest-to-access>

In cooperation with Literacy and Reading Section there will be a session on the theme: *Beyond the United Nations Decade of Literacy: What Libraries Can Do*, showcasing innovative and effective library-based literacy programs from diverse parts of the world. In a novel format, ten tabletop presentations will be given simultaneously. After an opening plenary keynote address, audience members will rotate to three different fifteen-minute presentations of their choice. Presenters will therefore repeat their presentation three times for three different sets of people. The call for proposals for this session closed on December 1<sup>st</sup>. An impressive number of proposals were received.

Please note these two sessions in your diaries.

## In Memoriam: Vladimir Zaitsev



We regret to announce that the Director General of the National Library of Russia St. Petersburg Vladimir Nikolaevich Zaitsev and former long-standing member of the National Libraries Section Standing Committee passed away on October, 27th, 2010. He worked for the Library 25 years from September 1, 1985 until he died. In 2008 Vladimir Zaitsev was elected a member of the Board of Bibliotheca Baltica. In that year the National Library of Russia was the host of the 9<sup>th</sup> Symposium of Bibliotheca Baltica.

Vladimir Zaitsev was well-known as one of the most prominent leaders of librarianship in his country and abroad. During his directorship the National Library of Russia went through the difficult years of Perestroika, and through the major transition from traditional to computer technologies. He facilitated the construction of the new building with modern facilities and additional storage space. It was due to his efforts that the former Leningrad State Public Library was given a status of the National Library of Russia. He was also one of the “founding fathers” of the Russian Library Association and its president for many years. Due to Vladimir Zaitsev’s proposal, the Russian Federation established the Library Day, which became an official holiday.

Vladimir Zaitsev was an active member of many international organizations and projects IFLA, CENL, CERL, CDNL, Bibliotheca Baltica, the Eurasia Library Assembly, the World Digital Library, The European Library, the UNESCO Memory of the World program and many others.

Vladimir Zaitsev’s professional, research, and public work was marked with many government awards: “Order for the Services to the Fatherland“, “Medal for Labour Valour“ and the “Decoration for Services to Saint Petersburg ». He received the title of ”Honoured Leader of Culture of the Russian Federation “, the “Cavalier’s Cross of the Order for the Services to the Republic of Poland ”, and the ”Legion of Honour“ of the French Republic .

He gained a high appreciation of colleagues and friends for his professional courage, devotion to librarianship and librarians, his wisdom and optimism, and care for people. On behalf of all members of the Section, we send our condolences to his family and staff.



## International seminar on national bibliographies: Bamako, Mali 22-26 November 2010

From 22 to 26 November, 20 participants from 8 French West African countries (Benin, Burkino Faso, Ivory Coast, Guinea, Mali, Mauritania, Senegal and Togo) met in Bamako, Mali for the International Seminar on national bibliographies, funded in part by the National Libraries Section, Bibliography Section, IFLA ALP, UNESCO, the Organisation internationale de la Francophonie, the Mali Ministry of Culture and organised by the National Library, Director Mamadou Konoba Keita and his staff. Full details (in French) are available at <http://www.bn.gouv.ml/>

The importance of the meeting was underlined by the presence of two national ministers – for Culture and Education & National Languages, during the televised opening. Presenters from Mali – Ismaël S. Traoré representing publishers, Amadou Sidibé of the National Library, Abdrahamane Anne, librarian at the Faculty of Medicine, University of Bamako, Ibrahima Djiré for Unesco and Emmanuel Sagara African Academy of languages (ACALAN) were joined by presenters Ramatoulaye Dibor Pouye Diaw, University of Senegal speaking on multilingual aspects, Françoise Bourdon, Bibliothèque nationale de France (BnF), for national bibliographies cataloguing and MARC standards and their implementations at the BnF, Genevieve Clavel-Merrin on deposit, and Janifer Gatenby on the OCLC international collection and its knowledge of French West Africa, identifiers and authorities and on international cooperation – why, where, how and when.

A representative of each country outlined the current state of evolution of the national library and national bibliography. All indicated problems in common, i.e. lack of respect for legal deposit, few staff, poor internet communications, old equipment and the prevalence of viruses. Despite the challenges of this environment, all were motivated to apply standards and reach a high level for their national bibliography. Each day was moderated by a different participant and a summary of the previous day was compiled by 2 participants and commented and edited by the group. Each participant received a CD with all the presentations, reports and a rich selection of photographs.

OCLC provided a file of 117,000 records extracted from WorldCat, selected by country of publication, language and geographic subject heading to enable the libraries to discover manifestations of pertinence to the nation and national bibliography

- Find records for known items
- To enrich cataloguing records already made
- Use as examples of cataloguing to an international standard

Librarians were encouraged to use copy cataloguing where possible and to concentrate on the creation of authority files for the benefit of the cataloguing community world-wide.

### Recommendations

At the end of the seminar 11 recommendations were unanimously agreed upon:

- Use of a common standard for the exchange of bibliographic and authority records
- Creation of national name authority files (Senegal has already produced 2 documents – personal and institution)
- Creation of national ISBN and ISSN agencies
- Advertise and enforce legal deposit (all have active laws)
- Collect and include resources in native languages (there are many, including 41 in Africa that are cross border)
- Adopt a standard schema for the presentation of the national bibliography
- Make the national bibliography available online
- Contribute to a portal in Senegal which will expose the national bibliographies as documents
- Participate in shared cataloguing internationally
- Create a regional committee to monitor progress and encourage all participants

- Exhort UNESCO to ensure that the software WINISIS and its derived products be modified to be compatible with ISO 2709 (MARC syntax) and ISO 10646 (UNICODE) in order to ensure interoperability across the national bibliographies of the participating countries



The follow-up to the seminar and these recommendations will include each country setting priorities and deadlines from the above and working together to ensure that concrete outcomes in the form of national bibliographies and data-sharing.

On behalf of all the participants, grateful thanks to all who supported financially or otherwise : the IFLA, OCLC, the OIF and UNESCO, the Mali Ministry of Culture but especially the Director and staff of the National Library of Mali who launched this idea and who ensured throughout the week that the infrastructure, organization and warm welcome contributed to its success.

Adapted from a text provided by Janifer Gatenby OCLC

## News from some Section members

### Canada: Québec

#### Montreal's Grande Bibliothèque pays fitting tribute to Quebec writers

Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec (BAnQ) thought that paying tribute to Quebec's authors was a fitting way to end the celebrations marking the 5th anniversary of the opening of Quebec's major public library, the Grande Bibliothèque. The writers enthusiastically concurred! And so it was that, on November 8, 2010, they assembled in the very same place to which their readers flock on a daily basis. Indeed, the Grande Bibliothèque receives over 50,000 visitors per week.

At the event, at the library's request, over 125 writers gave a copy of one of their works, dedicated to the patrons of the library. These books will soon be available for borrowing. The addition of these works to BAnQ's collection will strengthen the ties between Quebec writers and their readers.

In the presence of Quebec's Minister of Culture, Communications and the Status of Women, Christine St-Pierre, BAnQ's Chair and CEO, Dr. Guy Berthiaume, emphasized the role Quebec writers have played in the library's success. On behalf of her government, St-Pierre thanked the writers for the fundamental contributions they

#### Hommage aux écrivains québécois à la Grande Bibliothèque, à Montréal

Pour clôturer en beauté les festivités entourant le cinquième anniversaire de l'ouverture de la Grande Bibliothèque, édifice dans lequel elle déploie sa mission de bibliothèque publique, Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec (BAnQ) a voulu rendre hommage aux créateurs de la littérature québécoise. Les écrivains ont répondu en grand nombre à l'invitation, le 8 novembre dernier, et se sont réunis pour une réception dans ce lieu où résonnent, tous les jours, les pas de leurs lecteurs. La Grande Bibliothèque accueille en effet plus de 50 000 visiteurs par semaine.

À l'invitation de l'institution, plus de 125 écrivains ont à cette occasion remis un ouvrage dédié à l'intention des usagers de la Grande Bibliothèque. Ces livres prendront le chemin de ses rayonnages et pourront être empruntés par les abonnés. La présence de ces œuvres dans les collections de BAnQ constituera un lien de plus entre les écrivains québécois et leur public.

En présence de la ministre de la Culture, des Communications et de la Condition féminine du

have made to Quebec culture and society as a whole.



Writers Antonine Maillet and Francine Noël (centre)

Québec, Christine St-Pierre, le président-directeur général de BANQ, Guy Berthiaume, a souligné la précieuse contribution des écrivains du Québec au succès de la Grande Bibliothèque. La ministre St-Pierre a remercié les écrivains pour leur apport essentiel à la culture et à la société québécoises.



« Il y a cinq ans, un grand rêve se réalisait sous nos yeux : celui d'ériger un lieu de culture célébrant la richesse de la création littéraire au Québec », a déclaré la ministre de la Culture, des Communications et de la Condition féminine du Québec, Christine St-Pierre.

## France

### A publishing platform for visually impaired persons in France

The lack of accessibility to reading materials for visually impaired people is well documented. The DAVDSI-law passed on August 1, 2006 is a tool dedicated to fight this inequality. It introduces a copyright exception in favor of visually impaired people. In France from now on, editors have the duty to supply digital files of printed works, within a legal period which can not exceed two months, to recognized organisations producing adapted editions.

The National Library of France is in charge of collecting those digital files and has therefore developed a platform named PLATON designed for the transfer of digital books and launched on June 17, 2010. (<http://exceptionhandicap.bnf.fr>).

This service is a breakthrough. Previously, organisations had to negotiate reproduction rights with the editors for each single document and for any type of medium. The document was first scanned and then went through an optical character recognition process. They have now access to the digital files of the editors related to all books subject to legal deposit within a two-

### Une plateforme pour l'édition adaptée aux personnes handicapées en France

Nul n'ignore la carence des dispositifs permettant aux malvoyants d'accéder à la lecture. La loi DADVSI du 1er août 2006 a institué un dispositif qui donne un véritable outil pour lutter contre cette inégalité. Elle a introduit une exception au droit d'auteur en faveur des personnes handicapées : désormais, en France, les éditeurs sont tenus de fournir dans un délai légal maximum de deux mois les fichiers numériques des oeuvres imprimées aux organismes réalisant des éditions adaptées et agréés par l'État lorsqu'ils le demandent.

C'est la Bibliothèque nationale de France qui a reçu la mission d'être «l'organisme dépositaire des fichiers numériques» transmis par les éditeurs et destinés à être adaptés par les organismes agréés. Pour ce faire, elle a développé la Plateforme de transfert des ouvrages numériques (PLATON), entrée en service le 17 juin 2010 (<http://exceptionhandicap.bnf.fr>).

Ce service constitue une innovation : auparavant, les organismes effectuant des éditions adaptées

year period, this leading to an enhanced production capacity.

When it comes down to the editing world, editors are assured to be informed of the circumstances under which their books are used within the frame of adapted editions. More over, a secure file transfer is guaranteed. Access to the platform is settled by a joint commission which examines the condition linked to e-security.

In the last five months, 15 organisations have ordered over 2000 titles and appealed to 200 publishing groups and editors which in return have sent 1200 digital files. Digital files are immediately turned into Braille or an audio file with voice recognition and put at the disposal of visually impaired people through recognized organisations. This breakthrough permits to be informed about the latest scientific and literary publications without mentioning pupils or students who at last are given access to the works needed for their schooling.

Thus, the recognized organisation BrailleNet orders and adapts a vast array of textbooks and scientific works. For example, The complete works of Platon were ordered on August 31, 2010. Two days later, Flammarion, the editor, sent an XML file and the 2200 pages were transformed within 15 minutes instead of several weeks allowing a visually impaired student to start its college year on an equal basis with his peers.

Likewise, a large number of scholarly or extracurricular books such as recent novels are ordered giving visually impaired people access to education and culture through books.



Laetitia Ferrer

devaient négocier auprès de l'éditeur les droits de reproduction de chaque document sur des supports adaptés. Le plus souvent, ils devaient ensuite scanner le document et corriger «l'océrisation». Désormais, ils ont accès aux fichiers numériques des éditeurs des oeuvres déposées légalement il y a moins de deux ans, ce qui leur permet d'augmenter leur capacité de production d'oeuvres adaptées.

Quant aux éditeurs, ils sont assurés d'être informés de l'utilisation de leurs livres pour la réalisation d'éditions adaptées. De plus, les fichiers transmis sont sécurisés : l'accès à la plateforme est soumis à l'habilitation par une commission paritaire qui examine très précisément les conditions de sécurisation des fichiers.

En cinq mois, les 15 organismes agréés ont demandé plus de 2 000 titres. Les plus de 200 groupes éditoriaux ont été sollicités ont déjà transmis 1 200 documents numériques. Les documents sont aussitôt adaptés, en braille, en fichier audio de lecture par synthèse vocale, par exemple, et mis à la disposition des personnes handicapées par les organismes d'adaptation. Une avancée qui améliore notablement la capacité pour les personnes aveugles et malvoyantes de suivre l'actualité littéraire et scientifique ; sans oublier les élèves ou étudiants qui ont enfin accès aux livres indispensables à leur scolarité.

Ainsi, l'association agréée BrailleNet, sollicitée par ses adhérents étudiants déficients visuels, demande et adapte de nombreux documents scientifiques et universitaires. C'est le cas des Oeuvres complètes de Platon, demandées le 31 août sur la plateforme. L'éditeur Flammarion ayant transmis deux jours plus tard le fichier numérique XML, les 2 200 pages ont été transformées en 15 minutes au lieu de plusieurs semaines, et l'étudiant aveugle a pu ainsi débiter son année universitaire dans des conditions plus égales.

De même, de très nombreux manuels scolaires et parascolaires sont demandés, comme des romans de l'actualité littéraire, afin que les personnes handicapées aient mieux accès à l'éducation et à la culture par les livres.



## Mauritius

### International Book Fair 2010 Mauritius

The National Library has been instrumental in organising the *World Book and Copyright Day Celebrations* at national level since 2003 as proclaimed by UNESCO in 1995.

This year, the first edition of the *International Book Fair* was held at Ebene Cyber Tower 1 from 25<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> August. It was organised by the National Library in partnership with Books and Business Co. Ltd. Booksellers, the Ministry of Education and Human Resources as well as sponsors from the private sector played a key role to make this event a success.

This event received adequate media coverage and attracted no less than 25,000 visitors. Activities organised in the context of this book fair include literary competitions, a symposium on the future of the book in Mauritius, the launching of four school textbooks, a new atlas of Mauritius, interactive sessions with Alena Jezkova, a famous writer and specialist in children's literature from Czech Republic and an encounter between Nikhita Obeegadoo, a student-writer with secondary school students. Publishing houses which were represented included Cambridge University Press, Samir Editions (Lebanon), Auzou (France), B. Jain (India), EPB Pan Pac Education (Singapore), India Book House and Ulmer (France) amongst others.

## Scotland

### Over 1,000 downloads of popular John Murray Archive app

The National Library of Scotland has entered the mobile media world with the launch of a fantastic app for iPod touch and iPhone.

The app allows users to view some of the library's most prized letters, manuscripts and documents in the palm of their hands - letting people get up close and personal with great writers and thinkers including Charles Darwin, Jane Austen, and Walter Scott. Over 1,000 downloads of the app have been made from iTunes since it launched in summer this year.



The free JMA Tour app provides access to the library's John Murray Archive, which is home to over 150,000 papers recording the influential John Murray publishing firm. The collection is housed at the National Library of Scotland as the Library completes efforts to purchase the collection.

Previously, anyone who wished to get a glimpse of the collection's highlights could visit the JMA Exhibition or view the collection in the library reading rooms by becoming a reader at the Library.

Now, anyone in the world with an iPhone or iPod touch can download the app and 'tour' the archive from the comfort of their own homes - or anywhere they have a WiFi or 3G signal

It takes users on a journey through the publishing archive, telling the story of the Murray publishing house and archive collections through audio-visual introductions narrated by Kirsty Wark. With images, audio descriptions and collection galleries, you can dig deeper into the collection and discover more about the authors who shaped the modern world through their pioneering work in literature, science, travel, politics and society.



Martyn Wade, CEO of the National Library of Scotland, said: "This is a fantastic, 21st century resource showcasing a collection spanning over 200 years. We constantly strive to ensure the library is as accessible as possible, and recognising the popularity of apps, this is a fantastic way to share our collections with an even wider audience.

"We are confident historians and technology fans alike will enjoy exploring the 'JMA Tour' app."

The Library has had great feedback since the app launched, with users commenting that it 'provides an excellent experience' and that it has 'helped users to understand the collection in more depth'.

Anyone wishing to download the app can do so, free of charge, via the Apple iTunes store or via a link on the JMA or NLS websites ([www.nls.uk](http://www.nls.uk)/ <http://digital.nls.uk/jma>).

The Library also has a set of iPod touch units which visitors can borrow.

## Singapore

### **When Nations Remember An International Conference on Memory 11 & 12 October 2010, Singapore**

In conjunction with the Singapore Memory Project, "When Nations Remember" an inaugural summit focusing on memory initiatives worldwide was held on 11 and 12 October 2010. The Singapore Memory Project (SMP) is a whole-of-nation collaborative initiative facilitated by the National Library Board (NLB) to build a national digital collection of knowledge assets about Singapore, so as to ensure that the Singapore story is continuously discovered, collected, preserved & promoted.

Organised by NLB, the two-day conference which was attended by some 300 local and overseas delegates, augmented the sharing and discussion of memory-building initiatives from renowned international keynote speakers including Mr John van Oudenaren, Director, World Digital Library, Ms Penny Carnaby, Chief Executive/National Librarian, National Library of New Zealand and Dr J.S.M. (Bas) Savenije, Director General, National Library of Netherlands. Also included in the panel were an interesting mix of speakers from various fields of the arts, digital media and academia.



From left: Mr Gene Tan, Programme Director, Singapore Memory Project, Ms Joie Springer, Senior Programme Specialist, Memory of the World Programme from UNESCO, Mrs Phoon Chew Ping, Chief Executive, National Library Board, Ms Penny Carnaby, Chief Executive/National Librarian, National Library of New Zealand, Dr J.S.M (Bas) Savenije, Director General from Koninklijke Bibliotheek (National Library of Netherlands), Mr John van Oudenaren, Director, World Digital Library, Ms Ngian Lek Choh, Deputy Chief Executive, National Library Board

The dialogue sessions with the local and international speakers representing various established memory projects and individual community efforts enabled delegates to exchange ideas on the best

practices of national memories preservation. The networking opportunities throughout the conference also helped forge new relations amongst companies and individuals who pledged to contribute their memories to this nationwide initiative.

Unique to this conference, apart from attending seminars, delegates were brought outdoors on a series of choreographed experiences to help them understand firsthand, the vital importance of remembrance and personal narratives in national memory building, within the Singapore context.



*Delegates at the "Vanishing Sights & Trades of Singapore" outdoor experience*

For more details about the conference, please visit [www.wnr.sg](http://www.wnr.sg)

### **The ideapolis Research Collaboratory initiative by the National Library, Singapore**



ideapolis (<http://ideapolis.sg>) was developed and piloted by the National Library, Singapore (NLS) in March 2010 to prototype an online research platform across agencies within and outside Singapore to utilize library resources for research, and to collect research content produced as a result of collaboration. Through this platform, NLS hopes to make inroads in these four strategic thrusts:

#### **1) Increase visibility and facilitate connectivity amongst researchers**

Researchers can be connected from remote locations locally and globally through the exchange and deposit of their ideas, publication information and possible collaborative research on a common platform. ideapolis encourages knowledge clustering that would hopefully trigger more ideas and innovation.

#### **2) Preservation and searchability of locally produced research outputs**

One of the roles of the National Library (NL) is to preserve and provide access to the nation's intellectual heritage. The National Library Board Act mandates legal deposit for all published and printed works by Singapore writers and publishers. In the same spirit, ideapolis allows the National Library to preserve and enhance searchability of "born digital" research content.

#### **3) Tap into expertise and research capacity for Information and Knowledge Services**

The various research communities and profiles in ideapolis would form a knowledge network that could be tapped to provide information and knowledge services in different fields of studies. Being able to tap onto these networks is important for the enhancement of National Library's reference and research service offerings.

#### **4. Support the advancement of research in the Library and Information Science**

In strengthening cooperation between NL staff and external research experts working on collaborative research projects, ideapolis enhances the professionalism of National Library staff as facilitators of knowledge discovery for National Library users. Library and information professionals will benefit from content development, enriched content and collaborative research, thereby advancing professional competencies over time.

With close to 900 members drawn from 23 countries, ideapolis is poised to become the region's fastest growing directory of researcher profiles, supported with library resources for collaborative knowledge generation.

Are you a member yet? To find out more about how you can get access to this exclusive community, visit <http://ideapolis.sg> or email [ideapolis\\_adm@nlb.gov.sg](mailto:ideapolis_adm@nlb.gov.sg) for more details.

## Spain

### The "Quixote" goes interactive on the Internet

The copies stored at the BNE (Biblioteca Nacional de España) of the Madrid 1605 and Madrid 1615 first edition of the "Quixote" have been digitised to a very high standard and an interactive portal has been built on this basis, enriched with maps, illustrations, engravings and other content taken from 50 different editions of the "Quixote" and from a further 34 works, all of them belonging to the BNE.



*The interactive "Quixote"* allows users to leaf through the 1282 pages of the two parts of Cervantes' work in a straightforward, effortless manner that is very close to the real experience of reading a book. At the same time functionalities have been added such as high-quality zoom, text searches, the possibility of sharing a fragment on Facebook and of listening to music from that period.

This project enables users to expand their knowledge of the "Quixote" and of the period in which it was published thanks to several types of digital content. Noteworthy among them is the comparison between episodes of the "Quixote" and several books of chivalry, a closer view of life in the 17<sup>th</sup> century, an interactive map where users can follow the different adventures of the Ingenious Hidalgo and his faithful squire Sancho Panza as well as gaining access to the digitised versions of over forty editions of the "Quixote" from 1605 until 1941.

*The interactive "Quixote"* also features a new text transcription that maintains the line separation of the original. The application allows users to superpose and compare this transcription with the text printed in the 17<sup>th</sup> century and to search through its content.

The preparation and development of this project has entailed over 5000 hours' work by almost 20 professionals, among them librarians, experts on the literature, art and music of the period, programmers, analysts and graphic designers.



*The interactive "Quixote"*, besides making Cervantes' work and his period more accessible, contributes to the elimination of geographical barriers, enabling readers and researchers worldwide to access some of the unique copies stored at the Biblioteca Nacional de España.

The home of the interactive Quixote is the National Library of Spain's web ([www.bne.es](http://www.bne.es)), and be accessed directly by clicking the following link: <http://quijote.bne.es/libro.html>

## Wales

### The first Chair in a national library?

The National Library of Wales has established a Chair in Digital Collections - as far as we know, the first such Chair in any national library, and the first chair ever in this field. It will be funded for five years by the University of Wales.

Its first occupant will be Lorna Hughes, Deputy Director of the Centre for e-Research, King's College London.

Lorna will use the Library's existing digital collections, especially digitised collections, as a 'laboratory' for academic research and the development of practical solutions to the Library's challenges in this area. It is hoped that Lorna will be joined by research students and research associates to create a new centre for the study of the creation and especially the use of digital collections.



### Rights matter



The National Library of Wales has appointed Dr Dafydd Tudur to the new post of Rights and Information Manager. This decision highlights the importance to national libraries of intellectual property and information law. These two areas are central to providing access to knowledge in the digital age: from negotiating licences for e-journals to the management of rights in digitisation projects and the integration of Web 2.0 technologies into online services.

As well as ensuring compliance with existing legislation – on data protection and freedom of information as well as copyright - and giving advice and guidance to staff, Dafydd will review the current management of rights and information across the Library and develop and implement new policies and procedures.

While rights are often seen as an inhibiting factor in the movement towards digital access, the Rights and Information Manager is seen as an enabling role within the Library. In accordance with our efforts to incorporate 'lean thinking' the Manager will assess workflows, identify areas where there may be duplication of effort, and seek ways of enhancing efficiency.

Identifying potential business models for exploiting the Library's collections will also be an important aspect of the job. Though we're committed to open access we'll be seeking to generate additional revenue through business models that align free access to digital resources with e-commerce services and potential layers of added value.

Before coming to his new post Dafydd managed Culturenet Cymru, a limited company owned by the Library and charged with assisting local institutions and communities to develop their digital heritage. He can be contacted via [dafydd.tudur@llgc.org.uk](mailto:dafydd.tudur@llgc.org.uk).

Andrew Green

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