Dear Tanja Clausen,

The building of the National Library of Brazil has been going through a restoration in its façade since last year. Due to this, the outside of the building is being repainted including all the windows which are being repainted in dark green, as they were originally painted when the building was inaugurated in 1910.

This restoration also includes the windows of the conservation and restoration lab. Therefore, this year we will not give the 19th Informative Course on Preservation and Security of Bibliographical and Documentary Collections to the public and the members of the Library instead it will be transferred to 2019.

Please see below the photos of the restoration of the building of the National Library of Brazil 2017/2018.
In consequence, we decided to do only two major exhibitions: The first one entitled "A trip to the Ancient World - Egypt and Pompey in the photographs of D. Thereza Christina Maria Collection.

D. Pedro II, emperor of Brazil from 1840 to 1889, was a lover of photography - he is even considered the first Brazilian photographer. He left behind a collection of 23,000 pieces - an integral part of his private collection - most of which was donated to the National Library after the proclamation of the Republic in 1889. Part of this collection of photographs is in exhibition for the first time in National Library, which has started on October 30th.

The second exhibition "Luther - 500 Years of Reformation" displays rare and unpublished material such as manuscripts, images, papal bulls, the "95 thesis" and ancient bibles.
A member of our staff, our Coordinator of the National Digital Library, Angela Maria Bettencourt, attended the IFLA 2017 in Wroclaw/Poland.

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She attended:
- 2 meetings of the Standing Committee of The National Libraries.
- Meeting of the CDNL.
- Meeting of WDL Advisory Board members.

Finally, I would like to inform you that because of the works in the building of the Library and due to the budget already committed, according to the Ministry of Culture, it is possible I will not be able to attend the IFLA WLIC 2018 / KUALA LAMPUR. However, I am willing to help in whatever is needed.

Best wishes,

Jayme Spinelli
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