Dear colleagues,

SET Bulletin wishes you a professionally rewarding WLIC 2015 at Cape Town, South Africa!

SET Bulletin is a platform to share news and events on LIS Education and Training from all over the world. This issue also includes a slice of the global SET activities.

In this issue, you will find reports of different LIS activities held in Egypt and in Russia.

Happy browsing! – SUSMITA CHAKRABORTY
Message from the Chair: Michael Seadle (Co-Chair)

Michael Seadle (Co-chair)

Dear SET members,

IFLA will meet in Cape Town, South Africa this year, and it is an opportunity to learn about and to engage directly with the African library community. The book we are putting together in honor of the 40th anniversary of the IFLA Section on Education and training has several chapters on Africa. It is striking that each chapter begins with a reference to the “Ibadan Seminar of 1953 on ‘The Development of Public Libraries in Africa’” (Sturges et al, forthcoming). This means that the history of libraries in the immense African continent is less than a century old. The chapters also all talk about the colonial influence, which had both positive aspects (an emphasis on literacy and books) and negative ones (a strong European bias). The meeting in Cape Town is an opportunity to engage first hand with African colleagues, both to understand their struggles and resource shortfalls, and more importantly to understand the cultural differences that make African libraries unique.

Our Section of IFLA is undergoing something of a generation change. Many of those who have led the section very successfully in the past are at or near retirement age. I am also in my final year as a section member. I have only a few more years left before compulsory retirement, and the number of years is too few to continue as an active member of the section. This opens opportunities for younger and newer members to take leadership roles in the Section. I strongly encourage you to consider the various officer positions that the section has, and to play an active role. You can also be active in the section without taking on a formal office. One of the strength of the Section has traditionally been that its general membership has been active in proposing and implementing projects that support our mission of education and training.

I hope to see many of you in Cape Town.

Best wishes … Michael Seadle (Co-chair)
Report from Egypt 1: ILTP at Bibliotheca Alexandrina reported by Suzanne Samir

1. The International Librarianship Training Program (ILTP) at the Bibliotheca Alexandrina

The Educational Services Section, Information Services Department announced the starting of new International Librarianship Training Program (ILTP) courses on November 9th 2014 at the Bibliotheca Alexandrina. The International Librarianship Training Program (ILTP) at the Bibliotheca Alexandrina is a program to train librarians on the latest techniques in the field of Library and Information Science, especially in Egypt, the Arab Region and Africa. The Program aims at promoting the importance of learning and knowledge sharing for librarians through the provision of training programs to support them with knowledge and professional experience in various fields of library science, as continuity to the BA objectives and its leading role in supporting the library and information profession.

The ILTP is based on the combination between academic and practical perspectives. It covers various areas of the library profession by providing two basic types of training: Integrated programs, courses, workshops and separate lectures.

Report from Egypt 2: Agreement between Senghor University and Bibliotheca Alexandrina reported by Suzanne Samir

2. Agreement between Senghor University and Bibliotheca Alexandrina

The Bibliotheca Alexandrina had an agreement with Senghor University to host its master’s degree students to spend a practicum period in October of every academic year.
Through this practicum, they will learn how to reformat the studied theories in order to interact in a practical way in their future professions. It includes modules serving the information fluency field which is very important to enable students to interpret and make informed judgments as users of information sources, as well as to become producers of information in their own right.

As second step of the information fluency training, students are asked to practice what they learned and they will go through the online production.

Also, the practicum contains a self-development skills module. This module is of a high importance for the students in general, as it allows them to go through their future practical life.

The practicum provides 40 hours of a supervised work experience and will be counted as 2 credit hours.


Report from Egypt 3: the Arab and Chinese experts Visits in Bibliotheca Alexandrina reported by Suzanne Samir

3. Arab and Chinese Delegation to visit the Library of Alexandria

Under the constant cooperation between the Library of Alexandria and the Arab League, the Library of Alexandria, on Tuesday, April 28, hosted a delegation from the Arab and Chinese experts in the field of library and information under the title "Arab-Chinese cooperation in the field of library and information: promising prospects for real partnership" under the auspices of the General Secretariat of the Arab League.
The delegation included Deputy Director of the National Library of China and many of the senior officials of the libraries in the Arab region of Sudan, Bahrain, Algeria, Qatar and Lebanon. BA is seeking to host more events that promote the exchange of experiences in the field of libraries and information.

During the visit, members of the delegation expressed admiration for the library activities and services provided to the public and professionals.

4. **Bibliotheca Alexandrina Joins MIT and Harvard University’s edX Program**

Dr. Ismail Serageldin, Director of the BA, and Wendy Cebula, edX President and COO, have signed a partnership agreement which states that the BA will provide free educational materials through the edX program website: [https://www.edx.org/course](https://www.edx.org/course). This partnership is considered to be a major contribution to e-learning using the Massive Open Online Course method (MOOC). The BA will provide the edX website with free educational materials and lectures in Arabic and English, making them available to students and researchers around the world and encouraging Egyptian youth to continue learning and gaining new skills and experiences. **edX is a free online educational program established by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and Harvard University in 2012.** The aim of the program is to provide free online educational lectures in different languages. These lectures are offered by over 60 universities and international institutions and cover different fields, such as architecture, physics, and chemistry, among others. These courses are accessible anywhere in the world, and more than three million students are currently using edX, which now offers over 300 different courses.
5. Sixteenth Annual BA Board of Trustees Meeting

President Abdelfattah Al-Sisi presided over the opening session of the sixteenth annual BA Board of Trustees meeting, which was held on 18 and 19 April 2015 in the presence of a number of prominent Egyptian and foreign scientists and intellectuals. The President began his speech by commending the historic and contemporary role of the BA as a center of culture and enlightenment in the MENA and Mediterranean regions. He also admired its role in preserving heritage in different fields, such as science, art, and culture. In his speech, the President emphasized the importance of extending the activities of the BA to every corner of Egypt, including the Delta and Upper Egypt, pointing out the importance of exerting every effort to spread decentralization. Moreover, he stated that the BA should move forward with its projects and focus especially on education.

Russian libraries meet IFLA President Sinikka Sipilä, reported by Albina Krymskaya and Polina Nilova

In November 2014 the Russian Academy of Sciences Library (BAN) celebrated its 300th anniversary. Representatives from different Russian libraries participated in the jubilee event. One of the guests was Sinikka Sipilä who visited the jubilee meeting at the St. Petersburg brunch of the Russian Academy
of Sciences. BAN is the IFLA member from Library and Information Sciences Department of St. Petersburg State University of Culture met with Sinikka Sipilä and discussed possible cooperation. Olga Ustinova (Director of the St. Petersburg State Library for the Blind and Visually Impaired) and Natalia Kolpakova (Deputy Director for Scientific Research of the Russian Academy of Sciences Library) were also present.

**Sakharov's Readings 2014, reported by Albina Krymskaya and Polina Nilova**

On December 4-5, 2014 the International scholarly and practical conference took place at the library and information sciences department of Saint-Petersburg State University of Culture. Introductory and welcoming statements were made by the University Prorektor Professor Arkadii Rusakov and Professor V.V. Brezhneva, Dean, Department of Library and Information Sciences. This time “Sakharov's Readings” were dedicated to the 25th anniversary of the Saint-Petersburg Library Society, the first professional community of library workers, which was created in the Soviet times, in the wave of democratic changes. Today this Society is still continuing its intensive activity and it unites people, who are partial to the fate of the library, books and reading in the 21st century. Papers were presented by researchers from Bulgaria, Germany, Mongolia and Russian authors from Saint-Petersburg, Moscow, Kaliningrad, Novosibirsk, and Simferopol. The important tradition is involving young researchers, undergraduates and postgraduates of our specialization.

**News of Kemerovo State University of Culture and Arts, reported by Lyubov Taranenko and Marina Li**

Library public debating the draft project of the occupational standard for "Teacher-librarian” A research team from Kemerovo State University of Culture and Arts (KemGUKI), Kemerovo, Russia, has developed a draft project specifying the standards of performance expected from a teacher-librarian. The project was ordered by Russian School Library Association (RSLA) –
Russian social professional association of school libraries. **RSLA initiates the introduction of the position of a "teacher-librarian" in Russian schools.** The project developers are specialists in the fields of library services, information and educational: Professor I.S.Pilko, Director of the Research Institute of Information Technologies in Social Sphere (KemGUKI); Professor N. I. Gendina, Head of Technology Department of Documentary Communications; Associate Professor L. G. Taranenko; G. A. Starodubova, Assistant Professor, Department of Communications Technology documentaries; O. V. Abalakov, Assistant Professor, Department of Communications Technology Documentaries; Associate Professor L. I. Lazareva, Head, Department of Social Pedagogy; L. N. Ryabtseva, Senior Researcher, Institute of Information Technologies in Social Sphere of KemGUKI; E. V. Kosolapova, Researcher, Research Institute of Information Technologies in Social Sphere (KemGUKI). According to the project developers, a teacher-librarian is a professional competent in the field of information culture and individual information security. This project integrates both the educational and library-informational components and includes the activities: pre-school and primary education; basic general and secondary (complete) general education, on the one hand, and library and archival issues, on the other.

The project is currently undergoing public discussion among those in library services. For instance, there was a webinar devoted to the Teacher-librarian occupational standard project held in December, 2014. The event was attended by the project developers from KemGUKI (Kemerovo), employees of the Education Development Center of Samara and school librarians of Samara. During the webinar they discussed issues on the following pressing matters: What is the fundamental difference between the project developed in KemGUKI and standards developed elsewhere? What are the educational and library functions of the teacher-librarian? What is the main mission of the school librarian: promotion of reading or classes on the basics of personal information culture? Why have the project developers put the pedagogical component...
on the first place in their professional standard? Might the fact be of any threat to the essence of the profession of a school librarian? Can it be that the activities of the school librarian will be reduced to giving lessons in formation culture? Etc. The draft standard developers managed to give detailed answers to the questions asked by the librarians in practice. For public discussion and evaluation of the project of occupational standards for a teacher-librarian, the Interregional Public Foundation Center for Development of Interpersonal Communications and the Russian School Library Association created a special website (http://vote.ruscenter.ru), where everyone interested in the matter may express their opinion.

**Professional Growth of Students** reported by Albina Krymskaya and Polina Nilova

Library and Information Sciences Department of St. Petersburg State University of Culture cooperates with a variety of different libraries in Saint-Petersburg. These libraries annually invite our students as volunteers to take part in library’s events which are full of fascinating projects. Students lend support in event management. Furthermore, they carry out different amazing concerts, memorable evenings, excursions and exhibitions. These activities have a favorable impact on professional consciousness of students and allow them to find a well-paid job and to find themselves in society successfully.

**Annual International Conference on Continuing Library and Information Sciences Education**, reported by Anna Gruzova

Annual International Conference on Continuing Library and Information Sciences Education was held at the St. Petersburg State University of Culture (SPbGIK) on March 19-20, 2015. It was 11th LIS Conference dedicated to the memory of Dr. Valentina A. Minkina, head of Information Management Division of LIS.
Department SPbGIK. This Conference brought together practitioners, researchers and educators from around the world who are engaged in LIS. The agenda included issues of multilevel LIS education consisting of three steps in Russia – secondary vocational education (library colleges), higher education (graduate and undergraduate universities curricula) and the post-graduate training system. Emphasis was placed on the reform of LIS education in Russia, the introduction of new educational standards, cooperation of LIS education and practice of librarianship. There were representatives of LIS schools of thoughts from all over Russia, such as Dr. Arkady Sokolov and Dr. Valentina Brezhneva (SPbGIK), Dr. Vladimir Klyuyev (Moscow State University of Culture), Dr. Irina Pilko (Kemerovo State University of Culture and Arts), Dr. Rudzhero Gilyarevskyi (VINITI) and others.

Among special guests were Dr. Omar Larouk (École Nationale Supérieure des Sciences de l'Information et des Bibliothèques (ENSSIB), University of Lyon, France), Dr. Primož Južnič (Standing Committee Member of the IFLA Education and Training Section, Dean of the Department of Library and Information Science and Book Studies, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia), Dr. Nikolai Yatsevich (Dean of the Faculty of Information and Documentary Communications, Belarusian State University of Culture and Arts).
The Conference was dedicated to the memory of Dr. Oleg Zusman, Professor of Information Management Division of LIS Department SPbGIK. Graduate students reported on their research results: history of publishing and reading policy, book studies, innovations, cross-cultural communication and communication policy of libraries, knowledge management, using of mobile technologies and intellectual robots, etc. Next day there were undergraduate students’ presentations in the field of history of book and publishing in Russia, management of regional library programs, information literacy and innovation culture, the creation of electronic collections, libraries and social media interaction, fanfiction and so on. The conference demonstrated a wide spectrum of research activity of students of LIS Department SPbGIK, their interest in research and their professional competence. All reports were very original. Each presentation evoked a discussion, which involved students and professors. In 2014, the Library and Information Sciences Department of St. Petersburg State University of Culture began issuing newsletter titled as BIF INFO, http://www.spbgik.ru/structura_university/fac/biblio_inf_fac/bif_info/