IFLA Social Science Libraries Section Pre-Conference Success!
Disappearing disciplinary borders in the social science library - global studies or sea change? University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada 6-7 August 2008

The Social Science section collaborated on a two day satellite conference with the University of Toronto Library and Faculty of Information, the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign library, and the Illinois' Center for Global Studies. The conference focused on the ways in which libraries can support research and resource development on interdisciplinary topics that require data and knowledge from multiple disciplines within the social and natural sciences, humanities, or professional fields of study. Much of this research is focused on global phenomena such as climate change and economic sustainability. The scholarly networks within these areas tend to blur traditional disciplinary and institutional boundaries. As a growing number of institutions and scholars venture into interdisciplinary global studies, academic libraries are responding with new services and resources for researchers and students.

Pre-conference attendees in Session Toronto

Sixty-five librarians and researcher from North America, Europe, Asia, and Central America gathered at the University of Toronto's Faculty of Information from August 6 through 7, 2008 to share new practices, and
focus on the development of collaborative partnerships. The conference focused on changes within the social sciences and ways in which academic and special libraries can continue to provide services and resources to researchers who are working on necessarily interdisciplinary research questions within the constraints of organizational structures (universities, libraries, associations, and journals) that can’t easily support this work.

Twenty papers explored the multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary aspects of the social sciences with a view to the effects of emerging disciplines. Themes included interdisciplinarity, data services in the social sciences, continuing challenges, social networks and interdisciplinary networking, and social science portals.

Conference papers will be edited and reviewed for publication by the conference chairs, Steve Witt, CGS Associate Director, and Lynne Rudasill, Global Studies Librarian, for a forthcoming volume to be published by K. G. Saur Verlag in 2009. All conference papers are also archived in the University of Illinois’ digital repository.

The conference received financial support from the University of Illinois library, the University of Toronto Faculty of Information, the World Universities Network, and CQ Press, and the U.S. Department of Education’s Title VI NRC grant program.

Québec City
There’s nowhere like it!

“Welcome/Bienvenue”

"Libraries without borders: Navigating towards global understanding"

The IFLA Social Science Libraries Section enjoyed a busy and productive August, hosting a satellite conference with the University of Toronto and successful program on Borderless collections in the social sciences: platforms for digital access, disseminations and preservation.

In collaboration with the IFLA Map and Geography Section and Division II, Special Libraries, the Social Science Libraries section hosted a four hour session which featured eight papers and much lively discussion. The session was organized by Jacques Hellemans of the Université Libre
Social Science Libraries Standing Committee Meetings
9 August and 15 August 2008

The Social Science Libraries Standing Committee held its business meetings on Saturday prior to the 74th IFLA General Conference and Council in Quebec, Canada, and on Friday, following the conference. The pre-conference meeting discussed the just concluded Toronto conference held on 6-7 August, 2008, reviewed the programs for the main conference for Quebec, and IFLA business matters relating to Standing Committees in general.

Milan, Italy the conference venue in 2009 will also be the sight of newly elected members of Standing Committees as well as the IFLA President and other Steering Bodies of the organization.

For accessing the IFLA Social Science Libraries Standing Committee Discussion click here.

At the concluding session wrap-up of Toronto was discussed relative to papers, survey of participants, and a possible follow-up on the same theme for a pre-conference to IFLA Brisbane in 2010.

The Milan program for 2009 generated excellent discussion and ideas addressing the theme “Libraries create futures: building on cultural heritage.” The group also discussed a possible pre-conference in association with Puerto Rico IFLA 2011.

For minutes of these two committee meetings please connect here. We would be interested in your feedback as well as your own ideas too on our discussion site.
Leaping Wolf!!!!

The Social Science Libraries Standing Committee members continued their traditional evening together, dining at the "Leaping Wolf." Thanks again this year to Liz Cooper who has become our de facto "social secretary," to everyone’s delight.

Everyone is invited to attend this social event that comes to the Committee’s business meetings. And, friends and spouses or welcomed as well. This year the group gathered at Chair, Steve Witt’s apartment for a reception with him and his family before walking a short distance to the restaurant. See pictures on our evening together. These evenings are always provocative and often prove eventful—for everyone—and provide a more intimate setting for professional and personal exchanges.

"In 2009 we will celebrate the 75th anniversary of the IFLA Congress which first took place in Rome in 1928. This represented the first meeting for the newborn International Foundation 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, 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”.

"Milan as well as the whole of Lombardia and Italy, will do their best to welcome you warmly and show you your most beautiful libraries - ancient and modern - as well as valuable pieces of art, music, fashion, design, landscape, food and wine, all things that 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. In this new millennium, where distances and cultural differences often seem to fade away, I hope everyone will join us and make the Congress truly memorable.

Come as many as you can! See you in Italy! See you in Milan in August 2009!

Mauro Guerrini
University of Florence
President of the Italian Library Association
President of the Italian National Committee
IFLA 2009 Milan
WORLD LIBRARY AND INFORMATION CONGRESS: 76TH IFLA GENERAL CONFERENCE AND ASSEMBLY

"Libraries: Engaging, Embracing, Empowering"
14-19 August 2010, Brisbane, Australia

As Australia’s fastest growing capital city, there certainly is a lot to discover in Brisbane. Boasting all the attractions of a vibrant, modern city, plus the natural charms of a world you’ve never known, there’s no shortage of things to see or do.

Clear skies, warm sunny days and mild nights create a tropical ambience that is perfect for soaking up Brisbane’s outdoor lifestyle. Brisbane offers the excitement and diversity of a big city; yet peaceful bush and rainforest hinterland, the islands of Moreton Bay, the Sunshine Coast and Gold Coast are all within an hour’s drive.

Brisbane by Night
Brisbane locals love to dine out and encourage visitors to live as they do. Choose from sipping coffee and people-watching from an alfresco café, gazing at the views from a gourmet riverfront restaurant, tasting local delicacies at the weekend riverside markets or enjoying a relaxed meal at one of hundreds of superb restaurants located around the city and suburbs.

The Conference Venue
In 1991 the Queensland Government committed to the construction of a dedicated convention and exhibition centre in Brisbane on the site of the former World Expo 1988 Fun Park. The purpose built Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre, is a Brisbane architectural landmark.

“The convention centre was designed to maximize flexibility and efficiency, and to provide an optimum level of user comfort. With its innovative design and structural form the Centre has received world-wide recognition for its architectural and operational appeal.

“BCEC is embarking upon a $130 million expansion, which will be completed in time for IFLA 2010. The expansion design incorporates five levels of boutique convention and event space establishing the Centre as Australia’s most flexible meetings and events venue.

What’s Worth Seeing
Brisbane lies on the banks of the winding, picturesque Brisbane River—a colourful waterway for ferries, paddle wheelers, water skiers and rowers. Brisbane is convenient, compact and connected.

Brisbane delivers all manner of attractions for the culturally-inclined and the artistically-oriented. World-class galleries mix it with art-house exhibition spaces and home-grown street art sculptures.

“The cultural heart of Brisbane is the Queensland Cultural Centre at the South Bank Precinct, a stone’s throw from the Convention Centre. Here you’ll find the Queensland Art Gallery, State Library, Queensland Museum and the Queensland Gallery of Modern Art.

Brisbane is home to two world class botanic gardens, the City Botanic Gardens and the Brisbane Botanic Gardens. If the outdoors is our passion, the Kangaroo Point cliffs offer excellent rock climbing and abseiling. The cliffs are floodlit for night climbing if you’re really keen. Golf Enthusiasts are well catered for with two public golf courses, both close to the city.

Transport & Accommodation
Brisbane is big! Car, train, ferry, bus or bike—the transport options are many and varied to get where you need to go in Brisbane. Whatever your preference, wherever your destination, Brisbane’s safe, modern public transport system will get you there—7 days a week. The local Translink system offers visitors an extensive and integrated network of trains, buses, CityCats (high-speed catamarans) and ferries—all reliable, environmentally-friendly and cost efficient. One ticket is all it takes!

“Brisbane’s domestic and international airports sit side-by-side in what is rapidly becoming a global Airport City of trade and commerce. Both airports are guaranteed to set the perfect opening scene for your Brisbane experience. They’re modern, fresh, super-efficient hubs of activity. And they’re conveniently located just 20 minutes from the city centre.

“Brisbane is a delegate friendly city and offers high international standards of accommodation at surprisingly competitive rates. With more than 5 million visitors to Brisbane every year the City has more than 13,000 hotel rooms.”

(From First Announcement www.ifla.org)
San Juan, Puerto Rico

“San Juan” (IPA: [san hwan]) (from the Spanish San Juan Bautista, “Saint John the Baptist”) is the capital and largest municipality in Puerto Rico. As of the 2000 census, it has a population of 433,733, making it the 42nd-largest city under the jurisdiction of the United States. San Juan was founded by Spanish colonists in 1521, who called it Ciudad de Puerto Rico (“Rich Port City”). Puerto Rico’s capital is the second oldest European-established city in the Americas, after Santo Domingo, now in the Dominican Republic. Several historical buildings are located in San Juan; among the most notable are the city’s former defensive forts, Fort San Felipe del Morro and Fort San Cristobal, and La Fortaleza, the oldest executive mansion in continuous use in the Americas.

“Today, San Juan serves as one of Puerto Rico’s most important seaports, and is the island’s manufacturing, financial, cultural, and tourism center. The population of the Metropolitan Statistical Area, including San Juan and the municipalities of Bayamón, Guaynabo, Cataño, Canóvanas, Caguas, Toa Alta, Toa Baja, Carolina and Trujillo Alto, is about 2 million inhabitants; thus, about half the population of Puerto Rico now lives and works in this area. San Juan is also a principal city of the San Juan-Caguas-Fajardo Combined Statistical Area. The city has been the host of numerous important events within the sports community, including the 1979 Pan American Games, 1966 Central American and Caribbean Games, 2006 World Baseball Classic and the Caribbean Series.

“Originally, the city of San Juan was called Puerto Rico meaning “rich port”, and the entire island was called San Juan. The capital and the island’s names were later accidentally switched.” (From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia)

Did You Know?
The San Juan National Historic Site comprises the oldest European constructions in the National Park Service? (From US National Park Service, Department of the Interior)

See http://www.ifla.org for more on IFLA
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The content of this newsletter is somewhat different than previous issues. Some material, for example, the Minutes of the IFLA Social Science Libraries Business Meetings are no longer published here but you are directed to our IFLA website.

Additionally, there are more pictures and a discussion space available, now online. You will see access to these throughout this issue. Just CLICK and you are there.

Please provide your ideas and suggestions for future inclusion on our electronic forums and the newsletter too.

The newsletter is always posted on our website and distributed to Section and Standing Committee members, as well as through our IFLA list serve.


Here you can access our photographs and discussion through Flickr

http://www.flickr.com/groups/1050916@N23/