Letter from the Chair

Hello Everybody! Welcome to our Social Science Libraries Section Newsletter 2014. Let me take this opportunity to invite all members of Social Sciences Libraries Section who will be traveling to Lyon to attend our first standing committee meeting on 16 August 2014 at 9.15 a.m. Non-members are also welcome as observers.

Secondly, please take note that we will have our conference program (Session 166) on 20 August 2014 from 9.30 a.m.-12.45 p.m. in the Auditorium Lumière. The program title is Librarians as Change Agents: Finding, Using and Managing Data for Social Change. The presentation will be held in collaboration with the Women, Information and Libraries Special Interest Group.

Our Special Interest Group, Religions in Dialogue, will be holding a post-conference Satellite meeting in Paris, thanks to the efforts of our standing committee member and Convener, Odile Dupont. The program Libraries at the Heart of the Dialogue of Cultures and Religions: History, Present, Future will be on 25-26 August 2014 at the Institut Catholique de Paris. There are eight very interesting papers to be presented. I hope you will all enjoy the well-researched papers!

In this newsletter, a number of stimulating library related articles from Cuba, Germany, Namibia, United States, and the International Association for Social Science Information Services and Technology are presented. I hope you will all enjoy reading the wonderful articles.

Enjoy your reading!

Dr. Chiku Mnubi-Mchombu
Chair, IFLA Social Science Libraries SC
Human Rights and Documentation Centre
University of Namibia, Windhoek, Namibia
New Regional Resource Centres in Namibia

By Chiku Mchombu

One of the most exciting developments in Namibia has been modernisation of Namibia Library and Archives Services (NLAS) through the creation of regional study and resource centres to replace the former regional community libraries. Three centres have been built, so far, through the support of the Millennium Challenge Account – Namibia, a programme sponsored by the United States of America government.

The ultra-modern centres will serve as regional hubs for community libraries, provide the community with free ICT training and internet access, children’s services, provide information services on poverty alleviation, provide services to primary, secondary, and open and distance learning students, and provide information to small business people.

The Ministry of Education plans to roll out the RSRC project by funding 10 more resource centres in other regions of the country.

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IFLA Social Sciences Libraries Section

Satellite Meeting in Namibia in 2015

By Chiku Mchombu

IFLA Social Sciences Libraries Committee will hold its satellite meeting in Namibia from 11-12 August 2015. Thanks to the Namibia Information Workers Association (NIWA) in collaboration with Namibia Library and Archives Services (NLAS) and Human Rights and Documentation Centre, University of Namibia for agreeing to host this noble gathering. The theme of the conference is The Role of Libraries and Information Centres in Supporting National Development. Details of the conference will be announced in the next newsletter. You are all welcome!

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INFO 2014: International Congress on Information, Cuba

By Maria Elena Dorta-Duque

The International Congress on Information, INFO 2014, organized by the Institute of Scientific and Technological Information, IDICT, of the Ministry of Science Technology and Environment of Cuba, CITMA, took place in the Convention Center in Havana, Cuba from April 14-18, 2014. With the theme Information: Transformation and Integration, the congress included many inspiring sessions, including a round table discussion Legal Issues and ICT (Information Communications Technology) in the Information Society.

Maria Elena Dorta-Duque of Cuba, member of IFLA Social Science Libraries Section standing committee, presented the paper “Open Access, Digital Libraries, and the Copyright
Exceptions.” Her paper discussed issues emanating from ongoing restructuring of global scientific information since the 1990s.

The open access movement created new opportunities for active participation from developing nations and enabled a global flow of scientific communication. The IFLA Declaration of Open Access articulates IFLA’s advocacy for open access, which is represented as one of the pillars of its 2010-2015 strategic plan.

Demonstrating its commitment, IFLA also published the book titled *Open Access and Digital Libraries: Social Science Libraries in Action* (IFLA Publications 158) in April 2013. The editors of the book, Lynne M. Rudasill and Maria Elena Dorta-Duque, had the opportunity to officially introduce this valuable title at the exhibition held during the IFLA Congress in Singapore in August 2013.

During the International Congress on Information, INFO 2014, the above book was presented to the aforementioned round table delegates. The book includes essays and poster presentations by authors from Argentina, Cuba, Spain, and the United States who presented at the IFLA Satellite Conference in Havana in 2011. The theme of the conference was *Social Science Libraries: a Bridge to Knowledge and Sustainable Development*. It was sponsored by IFLA Social Science Libraries, and was held at the National Library of Cuba.

(Maria Elena Dorta-Duque is a member of IFLA Social Science Libraries Section Standing Committee and Director of Information Science, Instituto Superior de Relaciones Internacionales Raul Roa García, Cuba)

**Spanish version:**

Durante el Congreso Internacional de Información, INFO 2014, convocado por el Instituto de Información Científica y Tecnológica, IDICT, del Ministerio de Ciencia Tecnología y Medio Ambiente de Cuba, CITMA, y celebrado en el Palacio de Convenciones de La Habana, Cuba, del 14 al 18 de abril de 2014, bajo el lema: “Información: transformación e integración,” se convocó la Mesa redonda sobre “Derecho y las TICs en la Sociedad de la Información.” En este contexto fue presentado el trabajo titulado *Acceso abierto, Bibliotecas digitales y las Excepciones del Copyright*, por María Elena Dorta-Duque, de Cuba, miembro del Comité Permanente de la Sección de Bibliotecas de Ciencias Sociales de IFLA, en el cual se reconoce que la Internet y la Web propiciaron, desde los años 90, una estructuración progresiva del flujo de producción de información científica en el mundo.

Se afirma que el movimiento de acceso abierto ha creado nuevas oportunidades para la participación activa de los países en desarrollo en el establecimiento y operación de un sistema global de comunicación científica. La IFLA en su DECLARACIÓN SOBRE EL ACCESO ABIERTO establece su posición y da a conocer su estrategia, toda vez que el acceso abierto es uno de los pilares del Plan Estratégico 2010-2015 de la IFLA.

Se reconoce en el trabajo presentado que las excepciones del copyright permiten a las bibliotecas preservar y a la vez hacer accesibles las obras sin limitaciones. Se reconoce como necesario un sistema actualizado que permita a las bibliotecas ofrecer a los usuarios tanto los servicios anteriores habituales, como los nuevos, al ritmo de los cambios tecnológicos en curso, para cooperar y compartir recursos con varias partes del mundo.

En este contexto, la IFLA aprueba llevar adelante el proyecto de publicar el libro titulado: *Open Access and Digital Libraries: Social Science Libraries in Action* (Accesso Abierto y Bibliotecas Digitales: Bibliotecas de Ciencias Sociales en Acción) Ed. por Lynne M. Rudasill y María Elena, Dorta-Duque, IFLA Publications 158, publicado en April 2013, el cual fue presentado oficialmente por las editoras, en el Congreso Internacional de la IFLA celebrado en Singapur, en agosto pasado, durante la exhibición de bienes y servicios de información que se realiza como parte del Congreso.

En esta ocasión se presentó el libro ante los delegados asistentes al Congreso Internacional INFO 2014, en La Habana, Cuba, durante la Mesa Redonda mencionada. Los capítulos de este libro tratan de enriquecer y ampliar el conocimiento que se encuentra en las ponencias y pósters presentados por autores de Argentina, Cuba, España, y Estados Unidos en la Conferencia Satélite de IFLA celebrada en agosto de 2011 en La Habana, Cuba, bajo el título *Bibliotecas de Ciencias Sociales: un puente hacia el conocimiento necesario para el Desarrollo Sostenible*, la cual fue convocada por la Sección de Bibliotecas Ciencias Sociales de IFLA y se celebró en la Biblioteca Nacional de Cuba.
IFLA Trend Report at INFO 2014, Cuba

By Maria Elena Dorta-Duque

The IFLA Trend Report was presented at the International Congress on Information, INFO 2014, organized by the Institute of Scientific and Technological Information, IDICT, affiliated with the Ministry of Science Technology and Environment of Cuba, CITMA. The congress with the theme Information: Transformation and Integration took place in the International Conference Center in Havana, Cuba, from 14th-18th April 2014.

Lynne Marie Rudasill, member of the IFLA Governing Board and Chair of the Professional Committee, attended the congress and presented the paper "The IFLA Trend Report and Library Horizons," showcasing each of the five pillars in the IFLA Trend Report and their implications for shaping libraries of today and tomorrow.

Additionally, Rudasill clarified the rationale and the goals of the IFLA Trend Report to delegates in the audience. The Trend Report takes a broader approach and identifies five level trends shaping the information society. It is a selection of resources to serve as the starting point for IFLA members all over the world to exchange ideas, engage, and design their own path in the information environment. It should serve as a framework to distinguish trends or conflicts between them, as well as to identify their implications for libraries in each institutional, national, or regional context.

This paper was presented during the International Congress, in the Round Table: Libraries, Present and Future section, convened by the National Library of Cuba José Martí. Dr. Eduardo Torres Cuevas, Director of the National Library, served as section chair. A broad representation of delegates attended the presentation.

The Revised German Copyright Law: Opening a Path for Green Open Access?

By Sebastian Nix

Open Access is no longer “only” a movement primarily driven by libraries and the scientific community (for an overview see Sitek/Bertelmann 2014).

Nowadays, political actors have begun to understand the particular tensions inherent in the scientific publishing system: publicly funded research is sold by commercial publishers which, to a considerable extent, have tremendous influence on scientific reputation by monopolizing the most relevant scientific communication channels: journals.
Thus, the European Commission has announced that research results published in journals have to be openly accessible if the underlying research activities are funded by the European Union in its Horizon 2020 program. Another recent example: The Danish government has presented an Open Access strategy, the aim of which is to make all new research results published by Danish research institutions freely available until 2022.

Since January 1st, 2014, a revised version of the German copyright law has also opened a path for Open Access. What is remarkable about the recent developments in Germany is the fact that the German government is clearly in favor of “green” Open Access, which means the secondary publication of research results were already published elsewhere, usually in a toll access journal.

Actually, an amendment §38 (4) to the German copyright law establishes a right to secondary publication after an embargo period of 12 months for articles in research journals which are based on research projects funded by at least 50% with public project grants (see also Bruch/Pflüger 2014). This right to secondary publication, which applies only to the postprint (i.e. manuscript) version of an article (and not to the journal version!), is considered to be an inalienable right which cannot be undermined by individual agreements, e.g. by an individual publishing contract.

At first sight, this new legal framework seems to be rather “conservative” and very much oriented towards respecting the economic interests of commercial publishers. Moreover, there are some drawbacks and legal uncertainties which must not be underestimated: Thus, it is not clear whether university based research that is not funded by third parties such as the (publicly funded) German Research Foundation (DFG) would be inside the scope of this new amendment. Another uncertainty is due to the fact that it is not clear how foreign publishers will react to this new legal framework in Germany especially in such cases where publishing contracts are not based on German law.

Nevertheless, the potentially positive impact of the revised German copyright law should not be underestimated for several reasons:

1. It makes green Open Access much easier because the publishing conditions for a secondary publication are now always the same whereas, in the past, they were defined by what a publisher would allow for (or not) in a publishing contract.
2. Thus, hopefully, it will be easier for researchers to republish a postprint version of an article that was published previously in a scientific journal.
3. Now, service providers such as libraries can develop workflows for helping authors to make actively use of their legally guaranteed right to republish their research results without having to cope with a wide range of differing regulations defined by scientific publishing houses.

Thus, in the end, the revised German copyright law may also contribute to counterbalancing the potentially negative effects of an Open Access strategy which relies too much on “golden” Open Access, i.e. an Open Access business model, which is often based on publication fees in order to make an article freely accessible in an Open Access journal. This model is now applied by a growing number of commercial publishers, which may lead to the consolidation of monopolistic structures in the scientific publishing system (see also Nix 2013).

References:


(Sebastian Nix is a member of IFLA Social Science Libraries Section Standing Committee and the Head of Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin für Sozialforschung, Germany)
The Case for Small Press Acquisitions

By Gene H. Hayworth

At the 2013 Charleston Conference in North Carolina, my colleague Yem Fong and I presented a study of small press titles owned by U.S. libraries titled “Acquiring Small Press Monographs: Trends and Analyses.” Unlike the small press market in Europe and other parts of the globe where independent publishing seems to be thriving, small presses in the United States come and go, and only a handful have achieved financial stability. Identifying these presses proved to be a challenge: there is no consistent definition for the term “small press”, and organizations such as such as The Independent Book Publishers Association and The Association of Publishers for Special Sales (formerly Small Publishers Association of North America) have very different criteria for membership. In our study, we identified 637 companies that met our criteria: a small press as an independently owned publisher with sales of 1 million or less per year, which produces 15 or less titles per year.

Why should libraries care about collecting small press titles? A 2013 online report suggests that the Big Six publishing firms—Hachette, Macmillan, Penguin, HarperCollins, Random House, and Simon & Schuster—are relying on small press publishers as “farm leagues” to scout out talent, because “many of the best well-established writers are represented by the small presses.”1 Because of the financial instability of many small presses, the literature they publish is often ephemeral. If it is not collected quickly it may not be available long. And these presses often produce the type of material which can create distinctions between our collections. The University at Buffalo Libraries Special Collection Poetry Collection, one of the world’s largest collections of poetry first editions and other titles, and the Dylan Williams Collection of small press and self-published works at the Ohio State University Billy Ireland Cartoon Library & Museum, serve as excellent examples.

Library acquisitions can make all the difference to the success of a small press operation. Even a brief search of library literature will reveal that serendipity plays a large role in how our users discover library material. This suggests that we should be proactive in selection of materials that users may never discover unless it is available on our shelves. According to a 1988 study in Library Journal, the library market accounts for 10% of all book sales, yet,2 at least anecdotally, small press publishers firmly believe that they do not have access to this market. The high cost of distribution agreements, the lack of support from book review sources, and the high production costs for small runs are all factors which weigh against the small press publisher.

From a professional perspective, two of the American Library Association’s key action areas, Intellectual Freedom and Equitable Access to Information and Library Services, underscore the notion that libraries and librarians play a key role in providing access the wealth of information available only through small press publishers.

Findings from our initial study, “Acquiring Small Press Monographs: Trends and Analyses,” indicate that acquisitions of small press titles by libraries continues to grow. Our statistical study and additional information from our presentation is available online, at: http://www.slideshare.net/CharlestonConference/small-press-acquisitions

References:


(Gene Hayworth is the co-information coordinator of IFLA Social Science Libraries Section and the Director of the William M. White Business Library, University of Colorado, Boulder, U.S.A.)
The IASSIST Conference Report

By Ryan Womack

IASSIST, the International Association for Social Science Information Services and Technology, celebrated its 40th anniversary at its annual conference, held this year in Toronto, Canada from June 3 to June 6, 2014. IASSIST’s core areas of interest are social sciences data, but research data management, scientific data, data wrangling, DDI and other metadata standards for data, institutional repositories, and data-intensive research and applications were all addressed at the meeting.

The opening day saw nine half-day training workshops on advanced aspects of data management, data curation, data visualization, and other specialized tools of the data librarian’s trade. Workshops were held in modern facilities at the Robarts Library, the main library of the University of Toronto.

This year’s conference theme was “Aligning Data and Research Infrastructure”. Barbara Entwistle, Vice Chancellor for Research at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, addressed the assembled audience in the opening plenary. Attendees numbered 290 from 20 different countries. The following three days saw papers presented by over 100 speakers in 26 themed sessions grouped into the following four tracks: Data Discovery and Tools, Data Profession, Research Data Management, and Research Infrastructure. Vibrant pecha kucha and poster sessions rounded out the offerings, all held in the Ted Rogers School of Management at Ryerson University.

Social events included an opening reception featuring a live (amateur) hockey game in the former Maple Leaf Gardens, as well as a dinner at the Steam Whistle Brewery at the foot of the landmark CN Tower.

The continued efforts of universities and data archives to collect, share, and make interoperable the data from faculty research was a persistent theme among presenters this year. Among other sessions, the future of data professionals was a topic of discussion at a popular impromptu session led by IASSIST veteran Chuck Humphrey from the University of Alberta. But there were simply too many new developments presented at the conference to be quickly summarized. To learn about new metadata tools, outreach and education initiatives, research developments, and much more, the conference program can be consulted at www.library.yorku.ca/cms/iassist/program/. The full presentations will be posted soon as well.

The IASSIST membership consists of large blocks of data librarians and information specialists from North American academic libraries and from European Data Archives, but that broad generalization belies the diversity of the group. IASSIST is a unique mix of librarians, archivists, data scientists, and other professionals all seeking to improve the data services they offer by learning from the most active leaders in the field. Conference locations alternate between Europe, the United States, and Canada.

Interested in IASSIST? New members can be paired with experienced mentors to help them make the most of their experience. Next year’s meeting will be held from June 2 to June 5 in Minneapolis, hosted by the Minnesota Population Center at the University of Minnesota. Presenting or attending will bring you in touch with a group that really cares about data.

(Ryan Womack (rwomack@rutgers.edu) is a Data Librarian, Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey, U.S.A.)

See you all in Lyon!
IFLA World Library and Information Congress
80th IFLA General Conference and Assembly
16-22 August 2014. Lyon, France

Social Science Libraries Section: Meetings and Programs of Interest:

Session 10: Sat. 16 August 2014. 9.45-12.15 | Room Foyer Gratte-Ciel Parc
First Social Science Libraries Standing Committee Meeting

Session 103: Mon. 18 August 2014. 13.45-15.45 | Room Salle Gratte-Ciel 1-3
Religious Libraries in Dialogue Special Interest Group Meeting

Session 129: Tues. 19 August 2014. 11.30-13.00 | Room: Salle Tête d’Or 2
Second Social Science Libraries Standing Committee Meeting

Session 166: Wedn. 20 August 2014. 9.30-12.45 | Room Auditorium Lumière
Social Science Libraries & Women, Information & Libraries Special Interest Group
Librarians as Change Agents: Finding, Using and Managing Data for Social Change for Women

- The socially responsive design for a library catalogue and thesaurus in a non-profit community organization
  LANA SOGLASNOVA and MARY HANSON (University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada)
- ESMT Information Center: School and Services for Sustainable Business
  KAREN LA MACCHIA (European School of Management and Technology, Berlin, Germany)
- Information Literacy + Service Learning= Social Change
  TIFFINI TRAVIS and JENNIFER GRADIS (California State University, Long Beach, CA, United States)
- Librarians contribution to social change though information provision: the experience of Makerere University library
  MARIA MUSOKE and LYDIA NAMUGERA (University of Makerere, Kampala, Uganda)
- LandWise: A Women & Land Library
  JENNIFER CHANG (Anneal, Inc. on behalf of Landesa, Seattle, WA, United States)
- Targeting Disadvantaged Women – Advancing Women’s Empowerment through Library Entrepreneurship Workshops.
  GIANINA ANGELA CELINE CABANILLA (School of Library and Information Studies, University of the Philippines Diliman, Quezon City, Philippines)
- The librarian as agent of change in contexts of social vulnerability: an experience with young women in Uruguay
  MARTHA SABELLI and PAULINA SZAFRAN (Departamento de Información y Sociedad. Instituto de Información. Facultad de Información y Comunicación. Universidad de la República, Montevideo, Uruguay)
- Memory: Feminine Noun
  SIMONETTA PASQUALIS DELL’ANTONIO (Università degli Studi di Trieste Trieste, Italy) and MARINA ROMI (Consiglio Regionale del Friuli Venezia Giulia/Casa Internazionale delle Donne, Trieste, Italy)

Session 217: Thu. 21 August 2014. 11.30-13.00 | Room Salle Tête d’Or 2
Religious Libraries in Dialogue Special Interest Group Business Meeting

Session 96 - Poster Session: Mon. 18 August 2014. 12.00-14.00 | Exhibition Hall

Session 132 – Poster Session: Tues. 19 August 2014. 12.00-14.00 | Exhibition Hall
Complete List of Poster Presentations
Presentations by Social Science Libraries Section Standing Committee Members:

KAYO DENDA. “Documenting the Past and Engaging Young Women with Digital Humanities: Library as a confluence for intergenerational Women at Rutgers.”
Poster Presentation.
Session 96. Mon. 18 August 2014. 12.00-14.00 | Exhibition Hall
Session 132. Tues. 19 August 2014. 12.00-14.00 | Exhibition Hall

KINGO JOTHAM MCHOMBU AND CHIKU MNUBI-MCHOMBU. “The role of Information and Knowledge in Poverty Eradication in Africa: the Case Study Namibia.”
Session 189. 20 August 2014. 13.45-15.45 | Room: Amphithéâtre
Access to Information Network - Africa (ATINA) Special Interest Group
Effective Access to Information as Key to Sustainable Poverty Reduction and Thriving in Africa

Satellite Meeting in Paris

Sponsored by the Religious Libraries in Dialogue Special Interest Group:

Libraries at the Heart of the Dialogue of Cultures and Religions

Libraries at the Heart of the Dialogue of Cultures and Religions
History, Present, Future

Monday, August 25th 2014
Tuesday, August 26th 2014

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