



**International Federation of
Library Associations and
Institutions
Government Information and
Official Publications Section
(GIOPS)**

**Newsletter [No. 7]
May 2009**

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News from the Chair

Jackie Druery (Chair, GIOPS; Head, Learning & Research Services, Stauffer Library, Queen's University, Kingston, Canada. drueryj@queensu.ca)

Greetings from Canada where in our part of the country we are beginning to see signs of spring as the tulips are starting to appear. Several months have passed since the World Library and Information Congress: 74th IFLA General Conference and Assembly was held in Québec. It was the sixth consecutive conference that I have attended, my first being in Berlin in 2003. The experience is quite different when held in one's own country. You somehow feel responsible for everyone having an enjoyable and productive learning and networking experience and you want everything to run smoothly. Fortunately, due to the hard and creative work of Claude Bonnelly, Chair, National Committee and the many volunteers the conference was well planned and executed. Québec was an amazing venue and the events celebrating the 400th anniversary of the founding of the city made for an exciting addition to the conference events. The opening ceremony showcased the history of Canada and Québec and we were very fortunate to have as our guest Her Excellency, Right Honourable Michaëlle Jean, Governor General of Canada to open the conference.

The GIOPS program was well attended, the papers were excellent, and there were many questions for the presenters, which is always a positive sign that the material was well-presented and of interest to the audience. There is a fuller report of the program in this newsletter and the papers are available on the GIOPS website. Both GIOPS Standing Committee meetings were also well attended by both members and observers. We had lively discussions about issues and about the new professional structure of IFLA which will be implemented in Milan in 2009. In the new structure the number of Divisions will be reduced from eight to five and GIOPS will be in Division II – Library Collections.

Congratulations to Jane Wu and Irina Lynden who published their book of edited papers from previous GIOPS programs and seminars – *Best Practices in Government Information: A Global Perspective* – in 2008. There is more information about the book in the New Publications section of this newsletter.

This was a nominating year for members of the Standing Committee and I welcome three new members to the Committee for the four year term from 2009-2013 – Satendra Singh Dhaka, India, Narios Rankoto Mpholefole, South Africa and David Oldenkamp, USA. Satendra is the Director (Library and Information), Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi; Narios is the Legal Deposit Coordinator, National Library of South Africa; and, David is International Studies Librarian at Indiana University. A complete list of GIOPS Standing Committee members is included in this newsletter.

Planning has begun for the World Library and Information Congress: 75th IFLA General Conference and Assembly in Milan 2009. Thanks to Nan Hyland and Eleanor Friersen, USA, and to the Standing Committee Executive who have been working with me on the GIOPS program. We had an excellent response to our Call for Papers making it a difficult task to choose five papers. There is certainly a tremendous amount of work being conducted throughout the world to ensure that the citizenry continues to have access to government information and that as it becomes increasingly electronic it is preserved for future generations.

I have also been doing some preliminary investigation into holding a satellite conference in conjunction with the Law Libraries Section in Sydney, Australia prior to the 76th Conference which will be held in Brisbane, Australia in 2010. The theme of the satellite conference will be the changing nature of legal deposit and depository programs for government publications. We are currently awaiting approval of the program and confirmation of a Sydney location.

This issue of the newsletter includes an article by Michèle Girard, Librarian, OECD Development Centre, about her library in Paris and its relocation to smaller premises. If you have suggestions for the next newsletter or would like to contribute an article about some aspect of government information or about your own library please let us know.

Thanks to Takashi Koga for all of his hard work on writing and compiling the information for this newsletter and publishing it in an interesting and easily readable format. Thanks also to Takashi for taking photographs at the conference so that we have a record of events. And congratulations, Takashi, on your new position as Associate Professor at the Research and Development Laboratory, Kyoto University Library.



Report on World Library and Information Congress: 74th IFLA General Conference and Council, Québec and the “Science Policies and Science Portals” Satellite Meeting in Montréal, August 2008

By: Takashi Koga (Information Coordinator, GIOPS; Associate Professor, Kyoto University Library, Kyoto, Japan / Visiting Associate Professor, National Institute of Informatics, Tokyo, Japan. tkoga@kulib.kyoto-u.ac.jp)

1. Introduction

The IFLA 2008 Conference (World Library and Information Congress) was held on August 10-14, 2008 at the Québec City Convention Centre in Québec, Canada. Before the conference, the “Science Policies and Science Portals” satellite meeting sponsored by the Science and Technology Libraries Section and GIOPS was held on August 8 at Ecole Polytechnique de Montréal, Montréal, Canada. Both meetings stressed the importance and issues of government information, as well as the activities of GIOPS, to the library community worldwide.

2. IFLA 2008 Conference

2.1 GIOPS Program

The GIOPS program, titled “Globalization of government information: creating digital archives for increased access”, was held on the morning of August 13. The presentations dealt with archiving of digital government information, especially in the form of websites. The speakers raised issues such as the mission of libraries and governments to ensure permanent public access to government information, domestic and international cooperation for the mission, and technical and legal challenges to archiving government websites. The full papers for the presentations are all available on the IFLA website.

Five presentations – with seven speakers representing four countries (Canada, Rwanda, USA, China) - made up the program.

- Gillian Cantello and John Stegenga (Library and Archives Canada, Ottawa, Canada) presented their work on archiving Canadian government publications. Their paper “Government web content in Canada: a national library web archive perspective” is available on the web at http://archive.ifla.org/IV/ifla74/papers/130-Cantello_Stegenga-en.pdf.
- Andrea Singer (Indiana University Libraries, Bloomington, USA) talked about her work in ensuring permanent electronic access to international statistics. Andrea’s paper “Archiving foreign government statistical websites for all at Indiana University Libraries” can be read at <http://archive.ifla.org/IV/ifla74/papers/130-Singer-en.pdf>.
- Anne-Marie Auger and Jonast Mutwaza (Tribunal penal international pour le Rwanda, Kigali, Rwanda) discussed very important issues around preserving the documentation of the international tribunal in Rwanda in their paper, “La documentation juridique au Rwanda: l’accessibilité par le biais du numérique”, which can be read at http://archive.ifla.org/IV/ifla74/papers/130-Auger_Mutwaza-fr.pdf.

- Starr Hoffman (University of North Texas Libraries, Denton, USA) discussed projects at her university to ensure permanent access to government websites that may no longer be current because agencies of the U.S. federal government have ceased to exist. Her paper, “Preserving access to government websites: development and practice in the Cybercemetery”, is available at <http://archive.ifla.org/IV/ifla74/papers/130-Hoffman-en.pdf>.
- Xiaowen Ding (Library of Jiangsu Provincial Party Institute, Nanjing, China) was unable to attend the conference to present his paper, “Access to Government Information Resources via RSS: Digitalized Individual Files of Self-employees in China”, but the paper is available at <http://archive.ifla.org/IV/ifla74/papers/130-Ding-en.pdf>.

2.2 Authenticity of legal information in digital form

On the morning of August 14, four sections – Law Libraries, Library and Research Services for Parliaments, Government Libraries, and GIOPS – jointly held a program titled “The seal of approval: official and authentic law in digital form”. The purpose of this program was to investigate technical and policy issues to ensure authenticity of legal information issued in digital form – not only the text of law, but also other kinds of legal information such as court opinions, administrative orders, and official gazettes. The topics in this program were: activities of the American Association of Law Libraries, digitization of legal information in the EU and France, activities of the Legal Information Institute, Cornell University Law Library, USA – a pioneer of legal information websites, and the Global Legal Information Network, a worldwide portal site of legal information managed by the Library of Congress, USA. The papers can be found on the IFLA website at <http://archive.ifla.org/IV/ifla74/Programme2008.htm>.

2.3 Access to Information Network – Africa (ATINA)

The second program of ATINA was held on the afternoon of August 13. The topics in this program dealt with the issues and challenges affecting access to government and public information in North, Central and West Africa. In addition, Mr. Stuart Hamilton, IFLA Senior Policy Advisor, gave a presentation about the effect of the World Summit on the Information Society on freedom of information in African countries.

Regarding the status of ATINA, it was established as a limited-term discussion group (ending in August 2008) of the Committee on the Free Access to Information and Freedom of Expression (FAIFE), GIOPS, and the Africa Section. However, the Professional Committee of IFLA approved that ATINA would continue, under the new professional structure of IFLA, as a special interest group (SIG) mainly sponsored by the Africa Section. GIOPS continues to support the important work of this group.

2.4 Other programs concerning government information

Other programs which did not relate to GIOPS directly but had much to do with issues of government information included the following. On August 11, the Copyright and other Legal

Matters Section and FAIFE held a program titled “Barriers of access to government information.” Speakers from Canada, Denmark, Uganda, South Africa and the USA discussed how copyright protection of government information prevents public access to such information.

In addition, the program of the Government Libraries Section on August 14 was closely related to the issue of government information. At the beginning of the program, Mr. Jerry Mansfield, the chair of the section, introduced the Section’s new publication *Guidelines for Libraries of Government Departments*. Jane Wu, Past-Chair, GIOPS, collaborated on the editing of this publication with members of the Government Libraries Section. The other topics in this program were the activities and challenges of the Library and Archives of Canada, management of a one-person government library in Catalonia, and issues of privacy and protection of personal information in electronic environments.

3. Satellite Meeting

The “Science Policies and Science Portals” satellite meeting was a collaborative effort of the Science and Technology Libraries Section and GIOPS. Jane Wu, Past-Chair, GIOPS worked with members of the S&T Section for several years to make this program a reality. She also contributed to the management of the “National Science Portals Meeting” held along with the IFLA 2005 and 2006 conferences. This meeting led to the establishment of the international portal site, WorldWideScience.org, which was introduced at the satellite meeting, as well as at the program of Science and Technology Libraries Section at the IFLA 2008 conference.

WorldWideScience.org (<http://worldwidescience.org/>) provides cross searches among science information provided by government agencies worldwide. As of August 2008, the object of this cross search included 44 databases in 32 countries (As of March 2009, the number increased to over 50 databases in over 40 countries). While the Department of Energy of the USA and the British Library are basically in charge of managing WorldWideScience.org, the WorldWideScience alliance was established in 2008 in order to promote the management and its members consist of the major countries involved.

We were very fortunate to have Howard Alper, Chair, Science, Trade and Innovation Council of Canada as the keynote speaker for the satellite conference. Dr. Alper presented Canada’s approach to shaping innovation through governmental policies and incentives.

The other topics of this meeting were the paradigm shift of the information world and Alexandria Library, and issues of science policy and science portals in China, Korea, UK and France. The presentations are available at http://lib.tkk.fi/ifla/IFLA_Science_Portals/.

Photos from the IFLA Conference (*) and the Satellite Meeting (**)



Conference venue: Québec City Convention Centre (*)



Presentation by Ms. Hoffman at the GIOPS program (*)



Opening ceremony (*)



Exhibition party (*)



Meeting venue: Ecole Polytechnique de Montréal (**)



Before the presentation about WorldWideScience.org (**)

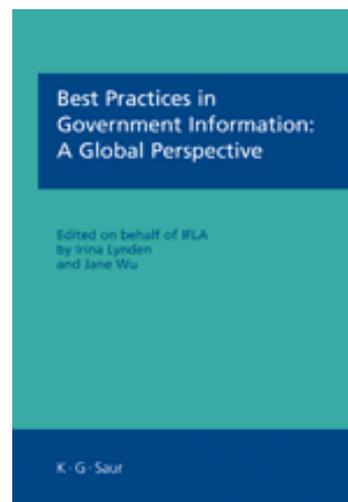


New Publications concerning Government Information and Official Publications

Lynden, Irina and Jane Wu, eds. (2008) *Best Practices in Government Information: A Global Perspective*. Munich: K.G. Saur.

This book is the brainchild of Irina Lynden, Past GIOPS Standing Committee Member and Jane Wu, Past-Chair, GIOPS. Their idea to edit papers that were presented over the past five years at GIOPS open sessions and seminars has come to fruition in this superb collection of papers that outline best practices in government information around the world. As they state in the introduction “the editors of this special volume were faced with the difficult task of selecting the best and most representative from each region and requesting the authors to bring them up to date for this publication” (p. 9).

The book is divided into three sections. Section I – The Struggle to Make Government Documents Accessible to Citizens; Section II – New Solutions to Making Electronic Government Information Available to the Public; and, Section III – Building Blocks for Making Government Information Available to the Public and so covers all the important issues facing producers and providers of government information today. The papers and ideas come from many countries and regions including Kenya, Nigeria, Italy, Canada, United States, Singapore, India, Iran, Russia, Sub-Saharan Africa and the Caribbean. They cover important issues such as providing access and archiving electronic government publications, providing access to individual sectors including business and agriculture, providing training in the use of government information to both library staff and citizens, and providing access to strengthen democracy and economies and to ensure an informed citizenry. This publication is available for purchase from K.G. Saur at <http://www.degruyter.de/cont/imp/saur/saurEn.cfm>.



Bolt, Nancy and Suzanne Burge, eds. (2008) *Guidelines for Libraries of Government Departments* (IFLA Professional Reports: 106). The Hague: IFLA.

The Foreword to this publications states that it is the result of “several years of brainstorming, planning, meetings, writing, and hearings” that has “culminated with this working guide for managers and line staff of government libraries” (p. 3). All of the hard work put into this publication by the editors – Nancy Bolt and Suzanne Burge – and by Jerry Mansfield, Chair of the Government Libraries Section, and Jane Wu, Past-Chair, GIOPS and the contributors to the individual chapters has resulted in a

very useful set of guidelines for staff working in government libraries at all levels including national, regional or in non-governmental organizations. The individual chapters cover both

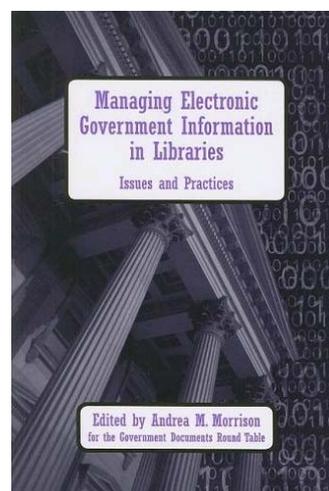


management and day-to-day issues related to the running of government libraries including user assessment, challenges of working in a political environment, collection development, staffing and personnel, managing finances, marketing and advocacy. The Guidelines are available online at <http://archive.ifla.org/VII/s4/pubs/Profrep106.pdf>.

Morrison, Andrea, ed. (2008) *Managing Electronic Government Information in Libraries: Issues and Practices*. Chicago: ALA Editions.

Andrea Morrison is a librarian at Indiana University, USA and has for many years been active in government documents librarianship and advocacy through her various roles on the American Library Association's Government Documents Round Table (GODORT). This book is divided into two parts: part one helps us to understand the historical contexts and contemporary issues of government documents and part two offers practical help in managing the everyday issues associated

with electronic government publications. The chapters, each written by a government documents expert, range from "Managing local electronic government information in libraries" to "Electronic government spatial information" to "Integrating online government documents into library reference services". Although some of the chapters pertain specifically to the United States situation much of the information can be applied in any context or country. Ordering information available at <http://www.alastore.ala.org/detail.aspx?ID=2340>.



The Library of the Development Centre of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development in the Digital Era

By: Michèle Girard (Librarian, OECD Development Centre, Paris, France.
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The mission of the OECD Development Centre Library since its inception is to serve the highly educated and expert users of the Centre in the transmission of knowledge and to develop and preserve the collections in its keeping. This mission has made it a key location for the dissemination of culture, dialogue and information exchange.

Its cultural services, featuring consultancy and meetings, have developed substantially. The meetings which we organize on a regular basis with information professionals, our digital library training sessions and the development of our consultancy and information exchange activities in the information and communication sciences are rooted in a commitment to knowledge sharing. We regularly propose and organize seminars in digital knowledge publishing.

I regularly give conference presentations and advice on key information-related topics, particularly concerning digital resources and intranet site creation for agencies including Unesco/International Institute for Educational Planning, Paris; World Bank European Office, Paris; Agence française de développement, Paris; and, OECD Nuclear Energy Agency. The Development Centre Library, an acknowledged centre for documentary resources on development, shares its expertise and gives priority to collaboration built on human and scientific ties.

The Development Centre is an OECD knowledge centre on development. Its mission is to forge on-going dialogue between Member and non-Member countries. Currently, it is an acknowledged source of authoritative reports tailored to the needs of decision-makers and thus facilitates dialogue on the adoption of evidence-based policies. The Development Centre focuses its efforts on its role as a recognized interface between decision-makers and the scientific community. It provides added value for the OECD, its Member and partner countries, through its substantial and innovative contributions to development policy.

This article reports on our success with reorganizing a specialized library in smaller premises and with fostering co-operation between the different parts of the OECD and other organizations. It shares our experience of reorganizing our collections in a smaller space, particularly our heritage stock for conservation; discusses the development of the digital library and new methods of disseminating knowledge; outlines a donation to a cultural NGO; and, discusses our consultancy role.

The library, established in 1963, is as old as the Development Centre itself. It is a vector for the recognition of knowledge on development and a testament to the transmission of such knowledge.

The very first librarian was from the Economic Growth Center at Yale University, which explains our established tradition of open stacks and the use of the Library of Congress classification, Class H (Social Sciences), the same classification as is used at the Joint World Bank/IMF Library in Washington, D.C. I should note that our partnership with the OECD Nuclear Energy Agency (NEA), which has its premises in the same building, evolved as an intellectual partnership which has been particularly active since 2004.

The fate of the library has always been closely linked with that of the Centre: from the very start, its collections were built up around key programmes and activities. Acquisition policy is conducted in liaison with researchers.

Moving the collections of a well-endowed library is a huge cultural heritage problem, an almost insoluble one. A library is a working tool for the use of the Organization's economists. In its specialized area, development economics, it is unanimously acknowledged as a centre of excellence and a valuable asset: its collection of approximately 15 000 volumes and a hundred or so current print periodicals, can be consulted by authorized readers by appointment. Most of the collections have been kept on open access.

The Centre's administration and management – ever attentive to heritage and ethical aspects – were very actively supportive and helpful during the different phases of the move and reorganization in these new premises.

Reorganizing the collections to fit in smaller premises, particularly the older publications that are kept for archival purposes was a mammoth task, in both the volume of collections and the time required. Preparation of the existing collections (storage/checking, weeding, and preparing materials for donation to a cultural NGO) meant that we had to handle a large volume of materials, a time consuming and labor intensive task that required a great deal of supervision. It was a long and complex process to move out of the old premises and move toward a greater reliance on the digital library. It is very important to the library, even with the move to the digital library, to have a consistent, up-to-date book collections and this means ensuring that we have enough space to house the paper collections and to make them accessible.

I also designed and put in place an internal library communications strategy, developing a new tool for this. In May 2007, I created an Intranet SharePoint /Wiki 2007 site, which is the first of its kind at the OECD. This new Intranet site – a Microsoft product – is highly regarded and I have a free hand in updating it daily. This new site replaces the library's old Intranet site, which was created in 2002. You can see the new site at <http://oecdshare.oecd.org/dev/bib/default.aspx>.

Development of the Digital Library

Sound management of a library and the move toward the digital library required trade-offs,

particularly choices between paper and electronic journal subscriptions in order to provide information increasingly in electronic format. We had to seek innovative solutions to make the right choices to safeguard the future for paper and electronic stock by using new methods of disseminating knowledge. We are purchasing more digital subscriptions and diverting financial resources that were previously for resources in paper to electronic subscriptions. This also allows us to increase our share costs with other OECD libraries.

We now have access to over 12,000 scientific journal titles including the entire catalogue of Elsevier/Science Direct periodicals including 1,900 titles with digital archives going back to 1995; 800 Blackwell titles with digital archives from 1997; 1, 200 Springer titles with digital archives from 1997; plus 110 JSTOR titles; 4,386 open access titles from OpenJGate; 3,365 DOAJ open access titles; and other electronic resources such the Economist Intelligence Unit, Datastream and the complete collection of Elsevier/North-Holland's Handbooks in Economics series.

Donations to a cultural NGO

In the spirit of information exchange and sharing, which is part of the Centre's mandate, we prepared targeted endowments of books/CD ROMs (French and English) and journals (French) for an NGO, "Le français en partage". These endowments were for university libraries and translation/interpreting schools in various countries. The OECD Development Centre Library has always had a tradition of targeted endowments that can be used directly by the recipient.

Figure 1 : A view of the new premises



Thank you for your attention



Centre de développement de l'OCDE
 « Le Seine Saint Germain »
 12, Boulevard des Îles
 92130 Issy-les-Moulineaux
 France



The Development Centre library welcomes you by appointment,
 Monday to Friday, from 9:00am to 6:00pm

The Library's Current Premises

The new premises are the work of Alexandre Deslandes of Meudon (Hauts de Seine, France), an accomplished architect who is familiar with cultural heritage properties. The project, with its understated elegance, uses specially manufactured materials (for instance, the glass partitions made by St Gobain, which involved a great deal of research into light and lighting) and allows for developments in new technologies.

The work space for researchers is rectangular in shape, almost industrial, its austerity tempered only by its brightness, day-light being provided by the rhythmic flow of the bays of its transparent facade. The detailing is more secular, more practical: the glass façades are designed to modulate heat and light and the result is anything but the closed sanctuary of the classic library (not a temple, an open space). The sophisticated shell, the use of light and the work done on transparency, allow the use of a simple method of assembling books, journals, images and digital archives together in one and the same space, which holds a mass of information that cries out to be close together rather than split off into a series of rooms.

This site of recognized scholarship, useful at a cultural level, also plays a part in the dissemination of publications and in the visibility of the Centre's library: hundreds of professionals pass through each year to attend meetings of the three units at the Issy-les-Moulineaux site (to the West of Paris): the Nuclear Energy Agency, the Sahel and West Africa Club and the Development Centre. Now, we are keen to maintain a certain standard of excellence, reliability and prestige at the same time, which is quite a challenge in itself. The library, which plays an active part in the visibility of the Development Centre, by developing a cultural heritage centre that is largely open to the outside world, organized a two-month exhibition (October-December 2007) featuring the Centre's new logo, which has been seen by a hundred or so professionals.

The library currently occupies 583 linear meters in a surface area of 108 m² (98+10). The staff consists of one professional librarian and a part-time library assistant.

Figure 2 : Flagship publications of the OECD Development Centre



Consultancy

In the last 20 years of the 20th Century, libraries went through the introduction of digital technologies: the first digitization work undertaken benefited from higher visibility and usage thanks to these new resources being on line.

Now the time has come for mass digitization, the widespread virtualization of documents, increasing quantities of metadata and collaborative and community access. The new library at the OECD's "Issy site", which has the advantage of very high visibility, gives us an opportunity to build synergies with, for instance, the Units of the OECD Development Cluster (Development Centre, Centre for Co-operation with non-Member Countries, the Sahel and West Africa Club, the Development Co-operation Directorate – Development Assistance Committee, Africa Partnership Forum) and the NEA, along with other partners, and to accommodate researchers and external experts in international relations for on-site consultation. The library, which is WiFi enabled, has also recently taken a major step in environmental responsibility and sustainable development.

Conclusion

This is indeed a great turning point for libraries, which are seeing their activities profoundly changed under the significant impact of this new phase of the digital age.

- My responsibility is to advocate the long-term conservation of a development heritage unparalleled in its richness and diversity and to identify the issues it involves. We have attempted to find innovative solutions consistent with responsible library management for

this location, which is host to and expressly designed for research work and the needs of researchers.

- If we must discard material: irrevocable loss of memory/waste of cultural assets/public money: prejudicial to the image of the Organisation/ethical issue.
- If we must discard portions of a collection in a good state of conservation, it is essential that we prepare targeted endowments: we have a duty to share knowledge. This is a fundamental principle in sound library management.
- Careful/prudent identification of the parts of the collection which must remain in paper form.
- Conserve knowledge for future generations, taking heritage aspects into account.
- The Development Centre Library plays a major role in knowledge and culture in the field of social and economic development.
- Political commitment – vision – the most renowned research Centres all have well endowed libraries.
- Our information and research library is now one of a very exclusive circle of heritage resources directly which originated with a policy decision to make a commitment to future generations.

Relevant Internet links

OECD: <http://www.oecd.org/>

Development Centre: <http://www.oecd.org/dev>

CCNM: <http://www.oecd.org/ccnm>

DAC: <http://www.oecd.org/dac>

African partnership forum: <http://www.africapartnershipforum.org>

NEA: <http://www.nea.fr/>

OECD Online Bookshop : <http://www.oecdbookshop.org>



Invitation to GIOPS Program of the IFLA 2009 Conference in Milan, Italy

The Government Information and Official Publications Section will hold its programme for the World Library and Information Congress: 75th IFLA General Conference and Assembly in Milan, Italy. In keeping with the IFLA conference theme, “Libraries create futures: building on cultural heritage”, the GIOPS programme theme is “Government publications as cultural heritage: preserving the past, keeping up with the present, embracing the future”.

Government, non-governmental and intergovernmental knowledge resources are important components of the world’s cultural heritage. They are often the largest and most valuable collections of primary source documents representing the history of a jurisdiction such as a nation, a time period, or the interactions between jurisdictions on a global scale. There have been dramatic changes in the way that these publications are created, disseminated, collected, accessed and preserved. This programme will address the historical importance of these publications, the issues surrounding the changing nature of legal deposit programs, and, the challenges of ensuring that this important part of our cultural heritage continues to be preserved and disseminated in the digital age.

Call for paper now closed. The details of GIOPS programme will be posted on the conference website.

**World Library and Information Congress:
75th IFLA General Conference and
Assembly in Milan, Italy
Aug. 23–27, 2009**

**For more information about the conference,
please visit:**

<http://www.ifla.org/annual-conference/ifla75/>



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