



**International Federation
of Library Associations
and Institutions:
Division I: Library Types
Section: Social Science Libraries**

Newsletter 2009: 2

IFLA Social Science Libraries Section

Celebrates Successful Program Sessions in Milan! 23-27 August 2009

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**Editor and Information Officer,
Ms. Wilda Newman**
Knowledge Associates Resources,
LLC
Email: wildanewman@yahoo.com

Chairperson, Ms. Lynne Rudasill
University of Illinois at Urbana
Champaign
Email: rudasill@illinois.edu

**Secretary/Treasurer
Ms. Elizabeth Cooper**
Emory University
Email: liz.cooper@emory.edu

“Libraries create futures: Building on cultural heritage”



Although the city was quiet—holidays, for most people in Italy—and the heat was consistent, IFLA and the Social Science Section celebrated a very successful program in Milan!

The theme was appropriate to the city and the country—both exuding cultural heritage—and IFLA's return to ITALY, with its first meeting in Rome in 1928.

Social Science Libraries Chair, Steve Witt, represented the Division of Special Libraries (our Section was within this Division), in a day long program, “From Cultures to Sacred Books: Modern functions of Libraries in the religious traditions of Mediterranean Civilizations.” (Or, as promoted at [ABEJ](#), “Babel, Bible and Kor’an from Texts to Contexts”)The program was convened at the [Biblioteca Ambrosiana](#). The esteemed panel included: Presiding, Mons. Franco Buzzi, Prefect of the Biblioteca Ambrosiana; Greeting, Dionigi Tettamanzi, Archbishop of Milan; and Steve Witt, Introductions. The program began with Speeches/reports by Prof. Beit-Arie Malachi, Professor emeritus of Codicology and Paleography and Mons. Cesare Pasini, Prefect of the Biblioteca Apostolica Vaticana. Libraries of Islamic Area followed and then a debate was scheduled, more like a discussion.

This session ended with a break for lunch (on your own) and if you chose food for the soul as opposed to the body, you could take a guided tour of the Biblioteca Ambrosiana with the Prefect.

The program continued with Presiding, Mons. Pier Francesco Fumagalli, Vice Prefect of the Biblioteca Ambrosiana. Reports included [BETH](#) – Bibliothèques Europeennes de Theologie; [CEI](#) – Conferenza Episcopale

Italiana. Ufficio Nazionale per I beni culturali ecclesiastici; [CDEC](#) - Centro di Documentazione Ebraica Contemporanea; [ABEI](#) – Associazione dei Bibliotecari Ecclesiastici Italiani; [URBE](#) – Unione Romana Biblioteche Ecclesiastiche, and Debate (discussion). The speaker from ABEI (Italian Catholic Librarian Association) spoke in Italian but used slides in English. He indicated that there were 1,469 libraries and those could be identified at their website and that an authority list, [ACOLIT](#), would be published.

This was an amazing program even if it suffered, from my perspective, because of the beautiful, old room we were in—not well suited for seeing or hearing, especially with most people, although not all, speaking English with heavy accents. None of the papers or talks was available. In the concluding remarks, however, Mauro Guerrini, President of the Italian Organizing Committee, IFLA 2009, Milan, said consideration will be given to publishing a short proceeding. This session was considered to be the first of its kind and people agreed it would be good to continue. Hopefully, too, a proceeding will in fact become available.



The Gothic Duomo Milan (Photo by W. Newman)

The Gothic Duomo of Milan provided inspiration and beauty to IFLA attendees for the 75th World Library and Information Congress: Conference and General Council

The primary program for the Social Science Libraries Section “[The convergence of the social science libraries with libraries, archives and museums in preserving cultural heritage.](#)” addressed the role of social science knowledge and libraries, the world digital library, conservation of heritage and cultural development of Latin America and the Caribbean, and the European perspective.



Galleria Vittorio Emanuele II, Piazza Duomo (Photo by W. Newman)

In collaboration with the IFLA Geography and Map Libraries, Science and Technology Libraries, and Division 1, Special Libraries, a program was also presented on “[Cultural heritage preserved: the role of digital maps.](#)” After clicking, continue to program item 121 for all of the papers presented at this session.

Social Science Libraries Standing Committee Meetings 22 August and 27 August 2009

The Social Science Libraries Standing Committee held its business meetings on Saturday prior to the 75th IFLA General Conference and Council in Milan, Italy and on Thursday, following the conference. The pre-conference meeting discussed the programs for the main conference for Milan, and IFLA business matters relating to the Standing Committees in general. The second meeting continued discussion and planning for future projects and conference programs, and feedback from the group to IFLA leadership. See [Minutes 2009](#).

L'Oasis in Milan and it was...

The Social Science Libraries Standing Committee met for their traditional gathering, this year with Wilda Newman, Information Coordinator and Editor, and her husband Edward, at Hotel Raffaello for drinks and snacks before walking to a "local" restaurant, L'Oasis that Edward discovered. Lots of places were closed for holiday and this neighborhood find provided good food with reasonable prices and al fresco dining. We were the hit of the evening's entertainment as well, since this neighborhood restaurant doesn't typically see tourists.



Photos at Hotel Raffaello and L'Oasis provided by W. Newman



10-15 August 2010, Gothenburg, Sweden

The IFLA World Library and information Congress 2010, 76th IFLA General Conference and Assembly will take place at the [Swedish Exhibition and Congress Centre](#) (Svenska Mässan) in Gothenburg, Sweden.

The [theme](#) chosen for the 2010 Congress energizes and supports the [Presidential Theme](#) of IFLA President, Ellen Tise: *Libraries driving access to knowledge.*

[Welcome to Sweden and to Gothenburg 2010!](#)

"On behalf of the 2010 World Library and Information Congress' National Committee and the Swedish Library Association, we are honoured and happy to welcome you all to Sweden and Gothenburg. Thank you for entrusting us with the challenge of organising the 2010 World Library and Information Congress: the 76th IFLA Conference and General Assembly. The National Committee and the Swedish Library Association are working with great enthusiasm and with wonderful support from all over the world. We are sure we will offer you a conference and a visit you'll remember for a long time...."

See you in Sweden and Gothenburg 2010!

Inga Lundén
President of the
Swedish Library
Association

Agneta Olsson
Chair of the 2010
WLIC National Committee



(Click on the logo above)

World Library and Information Congress: 77th IFLA General Conference and Assembly

"Libraries beyond libraries: Integration, Innovation and Information for all"

13-18 August 2011, San Juan, Puerto Rico

Congress Information

The World Library and Information Congress 2011, 77th IFLA General Conference and Assembly, will take place at the [Puerto Rico Convention Center](#), San Juan, Puerto Rico.

For a short **video introduction to San Juan and Puerto Rico**, please visit this YouTube link:



IFLA 2011 - Puerto Rico

In preparation for 2012 click on the IFLA Green Logo below to follow plans for Helsinki!



World Library and Information Congress: 78th IFLA General Conference and Assembly

Theme: "Libraries Now! - Inspiring, Surprising, Empowering"
 Helsinki, Finland; 11-16 August 2012



Helsinki (listen[ⓘ] ([help](#)·[info](#)); **Swedish:** *Helsingfors*, listen[ⓘ] ([help](#)·[info](#))) is the **capital** and largest **city** in [Finland](#). It is in the southern part of Finland, on the shore of the [Gulf of Finland](#), by the [Baltic Sea](#). The population of the **city** of Helsinki is 584,420 (31 March 2010),^[2] making it the most populous municipality in Finland by a wide margin. Helsinki is located some 400 kilometres (250 mi) east of [Stockholm, Sweden](#), 300 kilometres (190 mi) west of [St. Petersburg, Russia](#) and 80 kilometres (50 mi) north of [Tallinn, Estonia](#). Helsinki has [close connections](#) with these three cities.

Helsinki is Finland's major political, educational, financial, cultural and research center. Helsinki is also an important regional city on the Baltic Sea and northern Europe. Approximately 70% of foreign companies operating in Finland have settled in the Helsinki region.^[6]

In 2009, Helsinki was chosen to be the [World Design Capital](#) for 2012^[8] by the [International Council of Societies of Industrial Design](#). Helsinki narrowly beat [Eindhoven](#) for the title.
<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Helsinki>

Milan Continued!

The main event: Milan outdid itself with the “Social Evening at the Galleria Vittorio Emanuele II.” At first note one could be skeptical of how



Galleria Vittorio Emanuele II

well this would be pulled off. A major center of the city completely open to everyone, and IFLA delegates finding their way to restaurants, listed in the invitation, for dinner. Additionally, there



Typical street for al fresco dining

were events open for delegates, including a concert for piano and Stradivari violin, at Duomo, Milan [“Stradivari instrument” ‘Marechal Berthier 1716 ex Napoleon’ with kind permission of Pro Canale Foundation”]; Palazzo



Inside Duomo, Milan

Reale offered Monet, the Water-Lily period, and more; Piazza Scala – Palazzo Marino, included



Concert for IFLA, Duomo, Milan

an interactive exhibition on Leonardo da Vinci’s Codex Atlanticus and on display in the Galleria “1497 De Divina Proportione,” illustrated by Leonardo da Vinci; and, at Castello Sforzesco, “...six centuries of book binding.”



“Divina Proportione,” illustrated by Leonardo da Vinci

One of several signs flashed on the screen in the Piazza del Duomo announcing IFLA. And, if there was any doubt of the influence libraries and culture play in Italy, this evening would surely have persuaded them differently.



Sign on Piazza Del Duomo for IFLA

This was a first, but something says, it will not be the last. A fantastic evening, leisurely and incredibly fulfilling.

Thank you Milan!

Note: Photos by W. Newman

SOCIAL SCIENCE LIBRARIES**Standing Committee Members**

Elizabeth Cooper: 2007-2011 (First Term)
 Secretary Div I & Secretary SocSciLib Section
 Anthropology Librarian
 Woodruff Library, Emory University
 540 Asbury Circle
 ATLANTA GA 30322 United States
 Tel. + (1) (404)7270115 Fax + (1) (404)7270827
 Email: liz.cooper@emory.edu

Ralf Depping: 2007-2011 (First Term)
 Head of Lending Departments
 University and City Library of Cologne
 Universitätsstrasse 33
 D-50931 KÖLN Germany
 Tel. + (49) (221)4702357 Fax + (49) (221)4705166
 Email: depping@nb.uni-koeln.de

Maria Elena Dorta-Duque: 2009-2013 (First Term)
 Directora de Información Científica
 Biblioteca, Instituto Superior de Relaciones
 Internacionales
 Calzada No 308 esq. A H Vedado
 Havana 10400 Cuba
 Tel. + (53) (7) 8319495 FAX + (53) (7) 8333460
 Email: medd@isri.minrex.gov.cu/
ortizmarielea35@yahoo.es

P.R. Goswami: 2007-2011 (First Term)
 Director, National Social Science Documentation
 Centre
 Indian Council of Social Science Research
 35, Ferozeshah Road
 NEW DELHI 110001 India
 Tel. + (91) (11)23385959 Fax + (91) (11)23383091
 Email: prgoswami@icssr.org/
prgoswami@hotmail.com

Jacques Hellema: 2007-2011 (Second Term)
 2003-2007 (First Term)
 Premier Attaché
 Université Libre de Bruxelles
 50, Avenue F.D. Roosevelt, CP 181
 B-1050 BRUXELLES Belgium
 Tel. + (32) (2)6504417 Fax + (32) (2)6504198
 Email: jhellema@ulb.ac.be

Stanislav Kalkus: 2007-2011 (First Term)
 Assistant Professor
 Institute of Information Studies and Librarianship
 Charles University U Krize 8
 15800 PRAGUE 5 Czech Republic
 Tel. + (420)251080205
 Fax + (420)251551182
 Email: kalkus@cuni.cz

Ms Wilda B. Newman: 2009-2013 (Second Term)
 2005-2009 (First Term)
 Information Coordinator &
 Editor, IFLA SocSciLib Section Newsletter
 Information Resources Manager, Lecturer/Consultant
 Knowledge Resources Associates, LLC
 5964 Rosinante Run
 COLUMBIA, MD 21045 United States
 Tel. + (1) (410)7307583 Fax + (1) (410)7307583
 Email: wildanewman@yahoo.com

Ms Lynne M. Rudasill: 2009-2013 (Second Term)
 2005-2009 (First Term)
 Chair, IFLA SocSciLib Section
 Associate Professor of Library Administration
 Center for Global Studies
 University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign
 306 International Studies Bldg; MC-402
 910 South Fifth Street
 CHAMPAIGN, IL 61820 United States
 Tel. + (1) (217)2656879 Fax + (1) (217) 3336270
 Email: rudasill@illinois.edu

N.J. Sebastian
 Corresponding Member
 National Council of Applied Economic Research
 Parisila Bhawan 11 Indrastra Estate
 NEW DELHI 110 002 India
 Tel. + (91) (11)3379861 Fax + (91) (11)3370164
 Email: njsebastian@ncaer.org

M. Mohamed Syhir Janjar
 Corresponding Member
 Deputy Director
 Fondation du Roi Abdil-Aziz Al Saoud pour
 les Etudes Islamiques et les Sciences Humaines
 B.P. 12585 20052 CASABLANCA Morocco
 Email: directeura@fondation.org.ma

Steve W. Witt: 2007-2011 (Second Term)
 2003-2007 (First Term)
 Chair, Div 1/IFLA Governing Board
 Associate Director
 Center for Global Studies, University of Illinois
 303 International Studies Bldg; MC-402
 910 South Fifth Street
 CHAMPAIGN, IL 61820 United States
 Tel. + (1) (217)2657518 Fax + (1) (217)3336270
 Email: swwitt@illinois.edu

See
<http://www.ifla.org>
 for more on IFLA