



**International Federation of Library Associations
and Institutions**

**Preservation and Conservation
Section**

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NEWSLETTER

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Message from the Chair



By Per Cullhed
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The IFLA conference in Gothenburg is next month. Preservation and sustainability will be the focus of this year's joint program between the Preservation and Conservation Section and the IFLA PAC-Core. This issue has been given some attention at previous conferences, such as the LIBER 2006-conference and the IFLA-conference in Oslo in 2005, but this year we are pleased to have a full program covering this important topic. Climate change is a common topic in the media and while the general topic is under debate, one fact stands clear: there is a close relationship between climate and the preservation of library collections. Different future scenarios need to be addressed, especially since

many of the issues are linked to library buildings, which are difficult and expensive to adapt. The topic also includes future energy questions – peak oil and oil depletion have also become common in the news media. Another fact stands clear: there is a close relationship between library economy and preservation. When budget cuts become necessary, a stable climate in the stacks may be one of the first preservation measures sacrificed. Long-term digital preservation also relies on sophisticated systems for updating and backing up files and if more money has to be spent on energy, less will be left for preservation and digitization. We hope that many questions concerning these important issues will be raised in Gothenburg, and that some of these difficult questions will be answered.

Disasters are a constant reminder of the vulnerability of societies to uncontrollable external factors. The Haiti earthquake was, apart from its almost unbelievable human suffering, yet another in a long line of disasters that have ruined or damaged library collections. The International Blue Shield organization, with its IFLA representative, Danielle Mincio, Secretary of the P&C Section, has participated in the important work of mitigating damage. A report of their work can be found at <http://www.ifla.org/en/news/international-blue-shields-mission-to-haiti-online-report>

Directly after the main World Library and Information Congress in Gothenburg, the Preservation and Conservation Section, together with the IFLA Section for Rare Books and Manuscripts, will open the Satellite Conference "New Techniques for Old Documents: Scientific examination methods in the service of preservation and book history." The venue is Uppsala University, Sweden's oldest university, founded in 1477. The general theme of the conference is sub-divided into several parts, ranging from DNA-analysis of books and fragments in books, dating of documents, pigment analysis, and paper conservation research to OCR and image

analysis of books. Just a small comment on the last theme: A good result in OCR is highly dependent on the quality of the image files; therefore, decisions on the quality of these files can be critical for a successful digitization project which includes OCR.

The program also has some interesting tours such as one to the 17th c. Skokloster Castle and its unique library. Other options are the university library in Uppsala and the university museum.

The full program and the registration page of the Uppsala conference can be found at <http://www.ub.uu.se/en/Just-now/Conferences-and-seminars/2010/IFLA-2010-Satellite-meeting/>



News from IFLA- PAC Core Activity

By Christiane Baryla,
Director

Since the end of 2009, PAC published three issues of its main publication, *International Preservation News*. The themes selected for the special reports are emblematic of PAC activities.

End of December: PAC chose to focus on disaster preparedness and presented several papers about the management of emergency situations, supporting strongly Jane Long's significant title: "*The Power of Partnerships*" (<http://www.ifla.org/files/pac/ipn/49-december-2009.pdf>)

On January 18th a terrible earthquake in Haïti showed us how important it is to work on preventive preservation and to have emergency plans ready. It showed also the big difference between rich, organized countries and poorer ones that have not been able to plan, and the importance of climatic conditions as well. Clearly, collaboration makes sense. We have to thank and congratulate our colleague Danielle Mincio, P&C Section Secretary and Governing Board Member, for her energy and assistance to Haïtian colleagues and for having successfully started a recovery centre for books. I took part in International Blue Shield (ICBS) meetings and I would like to underline that ICBS was, with IFLA, on the first line to help to find solutions. The important point to note is that there is a continuation to these actions. Last week our President, Ellen Tise signed an agreement in Port au Prince on this topic. There is an Haïtian maxim:

"Nèg di san fè" (People are talking but don't take action). This time with IFLA "Neg di nèg fè" (we talk and we react)! Thanks to Danielle and others.

(<http://www.ifla.org/en/news/blue-shield-rescue-center-to-be-established-in-haiti>)

In May, *IPN* 50 was dedicated to Research, with an issue entitled *CSI: Conservation Scientific Investigation, Laboratories, Projects and Technologies*. (<http://www.ifla.org/files/pac/ipn/50-may-2010.pdf>). Once again, we benefited from Dianne van Der Reyden's excellent experience. This theme will also be the focus of the joint satellite meeting organised in Uppsala by P&C and Rare Books and Manuscripts Sections. (<http://www.ub.uu.se/en/Just-now/Conferences-and-seminars/2010/IFLA-2010-Satellite-meeting/>)

Research is very important. In Europe, but I suppose everywhere, we see the growing importance of "digital preservation and curation." With the help of PAC network (our 14 regional centres) I would like to emphasize how dangerous it is to create (or to accept) a break between digital and traditional preservation. Our role is to preserve both paper and digital collections and to work in collaboration. I recently attended the annual LIBER conference in Aarhus (Denmark) and was struck by the importance given to digital preservation.

(<http://www.statsbiblioteket.dk/liber2010>)

A balance should be found and maintained. The P&C Section and our PAC program are the perfect places to work in both fields.

IPN 51 will be published by the end of the month. The title is "Training in the Digital Age: E-learning Experiences in Preservation." Training is another very important field for PAC. We still have projects for seminars and workshops. However in this domain too, cooperation is the only way to organize a good training program.

We will have a joint session (PAC and Section) in Gothenborg with a strong program. I invite you all to join us. (<http://www.ifla.org/en/conferences-session-day/2010-08-12>).

I would also like to invite colleagues who are interested in our PAC Core Activity Meeting to participate as an observer. We need new ideas to work in preservation. Please contact me for more information (christiane.baryla@bnf.fr)

Haitian Earthquake of January 12th, 2010: Situation Update

By Danielle Mincio
IFLA P&C Section Secretary
IFLA's Haiti liaison for the Governing Board

IFLA actions for Haiti

From the day after the disaster, IFLA and its members reacted and issued their support through the publication of a statement on January 15th and an action plan published on February 15th. The major IFLA actions for Haiti are at <http://www.ifla.org/en/haiti-earthquake-2010>



The street in front of St Louis de Gonzague Library and National Library of Haiti on 12 April

The International Blue Shield Committee (ICBS) sent a mission to Haiti from April 11 to 16, to evaluate the need for assistance to libraries and archives in restoring their collections and re-establish their services to the public.

This mission also looked for a location to build a processing centre to treat damaged cultural property. This centre is not only to treat documents damaged by the disaster, but also to train Haitian professionals (training by doing) in the treatment of documents, to prevent continuing deterioration through conservation, and to draw up plans for emergency evacuation. See the report at <http://www.ifla.org/en/news/international-blue-shields-mission-to-haiti-online-report>.



Inside the National Library

The results of this mission were very heartening. Our Haitian colleagues from libraries, archives, and museums formed the Haitian Blue Shield which was recognized at the international level on May 28th. <http://www.ifla.org/en/news/official-recognition-of-a-new-blue-shield-committee-in-haiti>

This structure allows the Haitians to be involved directly and to master the rescue of their cultural heritage by being the conduit for all the foreign actions of cooperation in Haiti for the rescue of cultural heritage.



The birth of the Haitian Blue Shield April 16

More than 5 months after the earthquake, what's happening with the IFLA engagement for Haiti?

IFLA will give full support to relief initiatives for destroyed or damaged libraries in Haiti, focusing on collaboration with Blue Shield committees, ACURIL, ABINIA and the National Library of the Dominican Republic.

IFLA with ICA, for ICBS, is the project manager for the Centre of Treatment which will be built in Port-

au-Prince to help Haitian libraries. The IFLA LAC Section provides assistance to find library buses. ACURIL will set up a special campaign for Haiti; the National Library of the Dominican Republic will be the focal point to receive books and other donated materials for the Haitian libraries. There are many other IFLA groups and other organisations like UNESCO, CFI, ALA, BSF, and COSADCOA who support the IFLA actions in Haiti.

During the next IFLA Congress in Gothenburg, a special session will be dedicated to the situation in Haiti with Françoise Thybulle, Director of the National Library of Haiti and Elizabeth Pierre Louis, Director of the Fokal speaking. This session will be held on 13 August 13:45 to 15:45 with simultaneous translation. Check the time and location in the updated schedule. During this session you can receive a complete list of all the associations and institutions that are helping the Haitian libraries.

Volunteers wanted

IFLA will promote Blue Shield initiatives to register experts and encourage IFLA members to provide expertise and consultancy where possible. Special attention will be paid to help bring two IFLA members.

The construction of the centre for documents will begin this summer and the first foreign volunteers will be welcomed in autumn for two weeks to treat documents and train the Haitian librarians and archivists.

The Haiti Session in Gothenburg will provide you with the latest updates. To create this centre to accomplish the treatment of damaged documents we will need specialist volunteers in conservation and preservation. You can join the effort at the following address:

<http://haiti2010.blueshield-international.org/>

Funding for Haiti

IFLA will seek collaboration with the CER of the Prince Claus Fund in Amsterdam, Netherlands in finding emergency assistance for the libraries and archives in Haiti.

We are in very close contact with the CER foundation that supports the creation of the treatment centre for library and archival materials in Haiti.

We also received funds from the City of Geneva, the Danish libraries, the library of Lausanne

(Bibliothèque cantonale et universitaire) and others. If you want to organize fundraising, you can send the money to the account of IFLA Stichting specifying it is for "Haiti".



The field for the Blue Shield Treatment Centre

All the funds collected will be use to save documents and to rebuild the library network in Haiti.

Presidential visit to Haiti

Ellen Tise and Ingrid Parent were in Haiti in June to meet with the Ministry of Culture and to finalize the agreement introduced during the April mission, between the international Blue Shield and the Haitian Blue Shield for the construction of the document treatment centre.



In Case You Missed It

Websites

Issue no. 13 of e-conservation magazine is online and available for free download or online reading from at

<http://www.e-conservationonline.com/>

There is a bilingual website (English-French) for those interested in the conservation of new media.

<http://www.docam.ca/en.html>

IADA Symposium 2010 'Out of Sight—Out of Mind?'

The International Association of Book and Paper Conservators, in collaboration with the National Museum, the National Library and the National Archives of CZ-Prague, held the 2010 Symposium 'Out of Sight—Out of Mind?'.
http://www.iada-online.org/iada_fra_e.html

Digital Information Management Podcasts

The University of Arizona Digital Information Management (DigIn) certificate program recently hosted a series of talks by members of the program's national advisory panel. The resulting podcasts offer an in-depth discussion of critical themes to help information professionals meet the challenges in the digital environment.

All podcasts are available at:

<http://digin.arizona.edu/presentations.html>

DigIn is part of the University of Arizona School of Information Resources and Library Science. Major funding for the program comes from the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), which has also provided scholarship funding.

Additional details on the program, may be found on the program website:

<http://digin.arizona.edu/>



Information Updates

Conservation in Focus. ICON Conference, 24 -26 March 2010 Cardiff University

By Jocelyn Cuming
Co-editor P&C Newsletter
IFLA P&C Section

The UK Institute for Conservation (ICON) held its first conference at Cardiff, Wales supported by the University of Cardiff's School of History and Archaeology. The conference was significant in bringing together for the first time in the UK,

conservators from every specialty. This conference proved the immensely positive aspects of conservators from different disciplines sharing their experiences and insights. The recent closure of some conservation courses in the UK combined with the ever increasing tightening of funds for the heritage sector make it imperative that we speak as one voice in order to get our message across.

The conference aims were to:

- Advance and share knowledge about conservation issues in and beyond ICON's members
- To have an enjoyable conference where people have time to talk and network
- To leave ICON stronger as an organization.

The first full day of the conference consisted of a plenary session focused on the themes 'evidence based decision making in conservation' and 'a sustainable future for UK conservation.' A number of papers in this first day spoke to the role of advocacy. A particularly interesting paper was delivered by Alison Richmond and Laura Drysdale who stressed the importance of framing conservation in a language that policy makers will hear. They cited politicians talking about the parlous state of the economy as well as talking about 'repairing our broken society'. As conservators we have to be sensitive to this message and dovetail our messages about conservation to cohere with the political climate. They quoted the Demos Report, 'It's a Material World: Caring for the public realm' (Samuel Jones and John Holden) which identified lack of policy attention at government level as one of the greatest threats to conservation. Other papers in this first day dealt with the issues of sustainability ranging from Conservation Education and Training in the UK to specific case studies such as Andy Calvert from St. Alban's Museum Service talking about the successful use of buffering agents to control environmental conditions. The Collections Care and Conservation team at Birmingham Museums and Art Gallery have devised a risk assessment tool of 20 questions entitled 'Twenty Questions' (or There's a RAT in the Museum!) a simple Risk Assessment Tool (Jane Thompson Webb and Simon Cane). These questions have been carefully formulated from their experience of dealing with over two hundred museums and heritage organizations within their care and by analyzing the various risk assessment tools that are already in use. The highly useful concept of risk analyses has now been around a long time in heritage institutions but for small institutions the existing tools are often too elaborate and laborious to use. At the moment RAT

has just been piloted but the speakers spoke of their hopes for this tool to be available nationwide.

The second day consisted of speciality groups having separate sessions. These groups included – Book and Paper; The Care of Collections and Conservation Science; Ethnography and Textile; Archaeology and Ceramics and Glass; Paintings; Emergency Planning and Management (Scotland Group); Furniture and Wood; Stone and Wall Paintings; Metals; Professional Accreditation.

The morning session of the Book and Paper Group examined techniques involving conservation materials for new solutions. An interesting paper was given by Karin Scheper demonstrating the compatibility of Tyvek with linen, parchment and leather. The talk was illustrated with photographs from the Middle Eastern Manuscript collection in Leiden. A talk from conservators at the British Library (Caroline De Stefani, Cordelia Rogerson and Arthur Green) highlighted the advantage of conservators being able to work across disciplines to find new solutions. They presented case studies that showed adhesive techniques from textile conservation being used to repair and support damaged textiles in book structures. It was a good example of a collaboration between book conservators and a textile conservator. The afternoon sessions concentrated on paper and photographic conservation materials and techniques.

The parallel session on The Care of Collections and Conservation Science had a number of presentations relating to environmental issues. Andy Calver gave another very informative paper relating to simple techniques for the leakage Measurement for Buildings, “Cases, Bags and Bottlers: a practical guide.” He argued that the poor results reported by many users of silica gel (this was just one example he used to illustrate his talk) can usually be explained by the fact that the air exchange rate was not known rather than the type of buffer that was selected. He gave examples of simple techniques for measuring air exchange. An update on the very valuable work the National Trust has done on conservation heating was given by Nigel Blades, Susan Poupard and Leisl Barber. Dr. Nigel Blades described the Trust’s work in evaluating energy use of its conservation heating systems and introduced the concept of ‘conservation heating degree days.’ Other papers dealt with environmental issues facing large institutions like the computer based modelling being developed at the National Archives repository in Kew. (Sung H.Hong, Kostas Ntanos, Matija Strlic, Ian Ridley, May Cassar and Nancy Bell) A fascinating paper was delivered by Constantina

Vlachou-Mogire on vibration monitoring at historic royal palaces. The presentation focused on vibrations caused by visitor use and the recent availability of loggers which are small and light and hence can be used effectively to gather vibration data. Previous work has concentrated mainly on the impact of vibration during transport of art works. Other papers within Care of Collections and Science concentrated on materials testing and included a useful update on Oddy material testing at the British Museum.

There was a trade stand with suppliers from around the UK and as far afield as Australia (RH Conservation Engineering). There were also posters by Icon student members. The conference included very pleasant social functions which gave opportunities for meeting friends and colleagues.

To see the programme go to the ICON website: <http://www.icon.org.uk> The conference program is on there and soon there will be more information as to when papers will be available.



Training Paradigms Around the Globe

Irmhild Schäfer
Bavarian State Library, Munich (Germany)

New “Book and Paper” specialization of the Bachelor/Master degree program CONSERVATION, ART TECHNOLOGY AND CONSERVATION SCIENCES at the Technische Universität München (TUM)

In July 2009, the last class of the ACADEMY OF CONSERVATORS FOR ARCHIVES AND LIBRARIES graduated from the Bavarian State Library (BSB), Munich. The Bologna Process, with the purpose to create uniform university degrees in Europe, led to a restructuring in Munich as well as at other universities. Since winter semester 2009/10 the BSB has changed the focus of its course program and has launched a scientific cooperation with the Technische Universität München (TUM).

The CONSERVATION, ART TECHNOLOGY AND CONSERVATION SCIENCES program at TUM features a unique cooperation with the Bavarian State Office for Monuments and Sites, the Bavarian National Museum, the Bavarian State Painting

Collections and – from now on – the Bavarian State Library. Students benefit from this cooperation as theoretical and practical courses are offered at those institutions, providing them with experience in a wide variety of conservational tasks and methods.

The new "Book and Paper" courses are provided by the Bavarian State Library's Institute of Book and Manuscript Conservation (IBR), which used to be home to the Academy of Conservators before the Bologna Process. Theoretical courses like Codicology, Materials Science and book-specific Preventive Conservation are combined with practical skills of paper as well as binding conservation. The 4-year BA program includes a stay abroad requirement, and students can later on continue with a 2-year MA program.

Terms of admission, amongst others

- German Overall Maturity for Higher Education
- Internship in a national or foreign conservation studio of at least 12 months (cultural heritage institution, or freelance conservation studio) or study relevant apprenticeship
- Application period for each winter term May 15 until July 15.

For more information visit

http://portal.mytum.de/studium/index_html_en or
<http://www.bsb-muenchen.de/index.php?L=3> or
contact Dr. Irmhild Schäfer, Bavarian State Library,
Institute of Book and Manuscript Conservation,
Email: irmhild.schaefer@bsb-muenchen.de



Preservation and Conservation Section

P&C Section Website

<http://www.ifla.org/VII/s19/index.htm>



Frederic Blin,
Webmaster

When IFLA decided to renew its website in 2009, it was the purpose of enhancing the relationship with its members. The new web software Drupal was chosen to simplify the updating of the web pages by the different IFLA communities among which, of course, the sections.

The Preservation and conservation section pages are built to give colleagues with interest in these matters information about the section and its activities. On our webpage you will find contact information of all members of the P&C standing committee, whom everyone is welcome to contact for any matter in relation with the preservation or conservation of library collections. You will also be informed of the next section conference sessions or satellite conferences, or check all of these events organized previously. You will have access to the sections publications: annual reports, strategic plans, guidelines, and of course, the newsletter. A short bibliography can also be found along with a list of online resources or links to major institutions in the field of preservation and conservation.

This page belongs to the P&C section and to all its members, but even non members are invited to submit ideas, comments or information on any topic related to our common interest. Frédéric, our webmaster, will be happy to add your contribution to our page, which is yours as well.

Contact: frederic.blin@bnu.fra

New Members Profiles



Charlotte Ahlgren's background is in the studies of humanities, ending up with a degree in paper conservation in the late 80's. Since then she has been involved in cultural heritage care working in the museum, library and archive sectors and gaining experience from a wide range of preservation issues regarding paper based collections. In 2001 she joined the National library of Sweden, since 2007 as head of the library's Collection care division. Main interest in the professional field includes the writing and drawing media used by artists and scribes from early times until present. I have also been active in different positions of the Swedish national organisation for conservators, IIC Nordic Group. Within IFLA and the committee I hope to contribute to the interface of specialists of different professions involved with heritage care in the library community. You can contact Charlotte at charlotte.ahlgren@kb.com.



Constança Costa Rosa is a new member of the PAC section for the term 2009-2011. She has

been working for Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation (Lisbon, Portugal) since 1995, at first as a librarian of the Documentation and Research Department of Modern Art Centre. In 2000 Constança Costa Rosa became senior librarian at the Art Library – the largest Portuguese library specialized in Visual Arts and Architecture, where she is responsible for the Reading and Collection Management.

Constança Costa Rosa is also responsible for the Conservation and Restoration work, which includes a wide range of relevant documents, namely 190 photographic collections, architectural assets and plastic artists' works.

She was a trainee in Conservation and Restoration of Documents at RILEY DUNN & WILSON (Scotland) and has also acquired further professional training in this area at several certified institutions. Constança Costa Rosa has developed, presented and coordinated (alone or in cooperation with other specialists) several works about Preservation and Conservation problems of architectural assets, photographic collections and graphic documents.

Constança started her Professional career as librarian as a scholar at the Technical Information Centre (CITI) of the National Engineering and Industrial Technology Laboratory (LNETI). Next she has become an employee at CTT, the Portuguese National Post Office which was later on merged into the Portuguese Telecom, where she was responsible for the management of data bases. Constança Costa Rosa is also a member of the Portuguese Association of Librarians Archivists and Documentalists (APBAD).

She has also developed a career as a Librarian Trainer and from 1988 until 2005 she was responsible for the Coordination of the National Training Program of APBAD.

She is now involved within IFLA Preservation and Conservation Section and, as a librarian, she would like to contribute for this section's activities. You can contact Constança at crosa@gulbenkian.pt.

P&C News from the Editor

I will be ending my term on the committee in 2011, so will end my editorship for the newsletter. I would like to suggest that we transition from one editor to another during this coming year to allow for a smooth transition. I have very much enjoyed working with all of you both on the committee and in publishing the Newsletter.



Translations

Did you notice? The January and July 2008 issues were also available in Spanish and one in French see: (<http://www.ifla.org/VII/s19/index.htm>)

Would you be willing to provide a translation of our Newsletter? In the past, newsletters have been available in Russian as well as Spanish and French. To volunteer your expertise, please contact the newsletter editors.



Transitions

This is to let you know that I'm leaving my position at Biblioteca Nacional de España to start a new position at Ministerio de Cultura, Subdirección General del Libro.

It has been a great pleasure to meet you all and work for the P&C Section. Fuensanta Salvador, Director of the Preservation and Conservation Department of the BNE will be glad to assist the Section from now on. She will be in charge of the IFLA P&C Section Newsletter's translations to Spanish.

Fuensanta's e-mail address is:

fuensanta.salvador@bne.es

Best regards,

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