



## Science and Technology Libraries Section Newsletter

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### Greetings from the Chair

The Science and Technology Section was quite busy during the 2008 IFLA World Conference held in Quebec, Canada. Our Section planned and held a pre-conference, "National Science Policies and Science Portals", in Montreal at the Ecole Polytechnique de Montréal. The program was a great success and evaluations were very positive. The Science and Technology Section's open forum session was also a great success. We were pleased to have a wonderful panel of



speakers who addressed: "Science Across Libraries: Provision of Science and Technology Information Resources and Services in Diverse Settings". Our speakers addressed this topic from a global to a local perspective. Our third successful program was sponsored by our Agricultural Libraries Discussion Group focused on "Trends in Agricultural Information Transfer Systems

Worldwide"

Program plans are underway for the 75<sup>th</sup> IFLA World Conference which will be held in Milan, Italy on August 23-27, 2009. The theme for the Science and Technology Section's program is "**Open Access to Science and Technology Research Worldwide: Strategies and Best Practices**"

We hope to see you in Milan.

Jill Byerly Mayer, Chair, Science & Technology Section

### Last Coordinating Board Meeting of IFLA

On Friday afternoon, 21 August 2009, there will be the last Coordinating Board (CB) meeting of each of the Eight Divisions. Most probably on Sunday 23 August 2009, there will be "Leadership Forum" meeting of Officers, Conveners and Core Activity Chairs grouped by their new FIVE DIVISIONS.

## Preconference Meeting at Montreal, Canada

8 August 2008 at Montréal, Canada –Report By Irma Pasanen

In conjunction with the IFLA 2008 conference, the Science and Technology Libraries section organized a pre-conference in Montreal. The satellite event, a one-day seminar on “Science Policies and Science Portals” brought together information experts from all around the globe and participants enjoyed a full day of interesting presentations and discussions. The event was hosted by the Library of the Ecole Polytechnique in their new building, the “Pavillion Lassonde”.



---Photo Courtesy of Ray Schwartz

It is Quebec’s first “green building” where the principles of sustainable development have been applied already in the design phase. All levels of the building are colored differently, and the colors symbolize the elements of the earth. The modern library on the very top floor offered a magnificent view over Montreal. After the sessions the interim library director M. Marc Hiller with his great staff invited the participants for a reception and a guided tour in their beautiful library. The warm atmosphere generated by their hospitality further promoted discussions among participants, some of whom had their only IFLA 2008 experience during this event. The presentations of the satellite event are available at [http://lib.tkk.fi/ifla/IFLA\\_Science\\_Portals/](http://lib.tkk.fi/ifla/IFLA_Science_Portals/)

**Preconference Meeting at Montreal, Canada** - Report by Janet Webster

This pre-conference, held at Polytechnique de Montreal, Canada on “Science Policies and Science Portals” presented a spectrum of speakers starting with Howard Alper who chairs Canada’s Science, Trade and Innovation Council. He presented Canada’s approach to shaping innovation through governmental policies and incentives. Others such as Liu Xiwen from the National Science Library of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, Elizabeth Newbold from the British Library and Ho Nam Choi from the Korea Institute for Science and Technology Information described their institutional efforts to scientific information with researchers and decision makers. Thomas Lahr from the USGS Biological Informatics

Program explained how Science.gov, a portal to US government science, is a piece in the larger effort, worlwidescience.org. Many in the audience were intrigued by his description of his audience as the



“Science attentive citizen”. It is a phrase that suggests engagement and curiosity. Richard Ackerman from the Canadian Institute of Science and Technology Information provided a wrap-up of the variety of speakers, approaches and scales. The common theme concerned how digital content motivates change, why we need to look beyond our traditional communities of users, why we should support higher levels of analysis and policy support and how to integrate tools and technologies outside of our libraries. Of course, the real wrap-up was a tour of the library (<http://www.polymtl.ca/biblio/>), and talking out the ideas of the day with colleagues.



Photo: Courtesy of Marcel Brannemann

## Science and Technology Section Focuses on Global Partnership in Online Sharing of Scientific Resources



The Science and Technology Section presented a well attended open session on Tuesday 12 August 2008 on the theme “Science Across Libraries: Provision of Science and Technology Information Resources and Services in Diverse Settings”. Jill Mayer, Chair of the Section, welcomed everyone to the program and introduced Dr. James Andrews, Associate Professor of Professor of Library and Information Science, South Florida State University, USA, who would moderate the session.



Dr. Walter Warnick, Director, US Department of Energy, Office of Scientific and Technical Information, Washington, DC, provided an overview of the global science gateway, WorldWideScience.org. This project heralds new trends in global communications including how technology opens borders by providing access both to sources and the users located in diverse settings. Aimed at global sharing of scientific information that is not available through conventional search engines like Google and Yahoo, this expanding project has been launched with the international cooperation of over 50 institutions located in over 50 countries. Through multilateral partnership, WorldWideScience.org enables anyone with Internet access to launch a single-query search of national scientific databases and portals in many countries. From the user’s perspective WorldWideScience.org makes the databases act as if they were a unified whole.



association with ten major natural history museum libraries, botanical libraries, and research institutions in the United Kingdom and the United States and is a part of the *Encyclopedia of Life*. Gwinn and Rinaldo presented an overview of the BHL portal and its potential impact of biodiversity and its innovative search services.

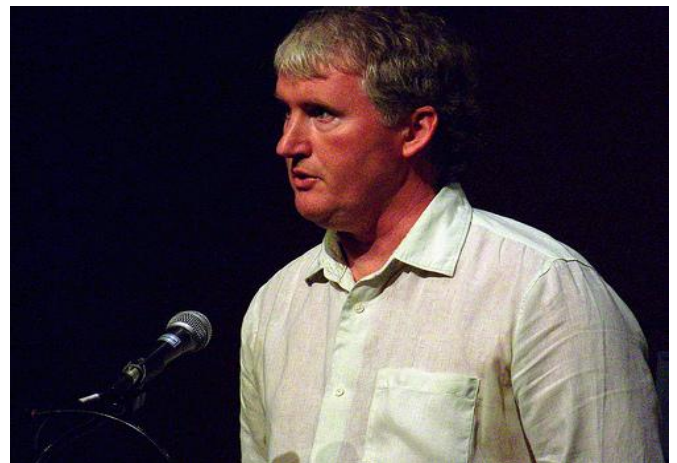
Elizabeth Greyling, Senior Systems Librarian, EThekweni Municipal Library, Durban, South Africa, presented a case study of the use of information and communication technology (ICT) to enable rural communities to become part of the global information society. She outlined the role of public libraries in a collaborative initiative in developing digital competencies and providing online information. Digital Doorway Kiosks include educational programs, games and snapshots of Wikipedia. Health and educational materials are updated via satellite. Small community libraries housed in refurbished shipping containers complement the Digital Doorway units. Together the digital library and the container library provide compact one-stop information shops to remote rural communities.



Dr. Don MacMillan, University of Calgary Library, Canada focused on how to make use of scientific and technical information sources for information literacy classes in an academic setting for undergraduate students. He illustrated how to teach critical aspects of each resource and the joys and pitfalls of learning and using them and how effectively one can make the program when partnered with the respective professors or instructors.

--Report by Dr. Deva E. Reddy

--Photos: Courtesy of Ray Schwartz



## **Agricultural Libraries Discussion Group Session at Quebec, Canada**

A two hour session of the Agricultural Libraries Discussion Group was held at IFLA conference on Wednesday 13 August 2008 on the topic "Trends in Agricultural Information Transfer Systems Worldwide". Dr. Jacinta Were, University Librarian, University of Nairobi, Kenya chaired the session. Dr. Peter Ballantyne, President of the International Association of Agricultural Information Specialists (IAALD), and Dr. Deva Eswara Reddy, Associate Professor of Library Science, Texas A&M University, United States presented papers followed by discussion on implications of the theme in developed and developing countries.

## **IFLA Special Interest Group Approved**

In its meeting on 1st December 2008 IFLA's Professional Committee (PC) confirmed the establishment of an Agricultural Libraries Special Interest Group (SIG) along with 10 other groups. This group will be granted two hour sessions at each of World Library and Information Congresses 2009-2012. Dr. Deva Eswara Reddy, Associate Professor of Library Science, Texas A&M University, United States, has been appointed as the Convener of this Group. This SIG reports to Science and Technology Section. (Source: Sjoerd Koopman, Director, Professional Programs, IFLA)

## **30th Annual IATUL Conference**

The International Association of Technological University Libraries (IATUL) and the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven (KULeuven), Campusbibliotheek Arenberg, will be organizing the 30th IATUL Conference with the theme "Just for you, Quality through Innovation" at Heverlee (Leuven), Belgium, from 1 to 4 June 2009. <http://wbib.kuleuven.be/iatul2009/>

## **Response to European Commission's Green Paper**

The standing committee of the Science and Technology Libraries after its meetings in Quebec submitted a statement to IFLA decision makers about our concerns with the European Union's Green Paper and urged IFLA to take a stand in the matter. IFLA's position paper "Response from IFLA to the European Commission's Green Paper 'Copyright in the Knowledge Economy'" incorporated these concerns. [http://www.ifla.org/III/clm/p1/IFLA\\_Response\\_Green-paper-copyright.pdf](http://www.ifla.org/III/clm/p1/IFLA_Response_Green-paper-copyright.pdf)

## **Best Librarian Award**

Dr. B. S. Kademani, Scientific Officer, Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC), Mumbai, India was honored with IFLA-Kaula Best Librarian Award 2008 in recognition of his contribution to the profession for over 25 years at the International Conference organized jointly by Indian Library Association and Tata Institute of Social Sciences at Mumbai during November 2008.

## Restructured Divisions & Sections of IFLA

### Division I Library Types *Sections*

- National Libraries
- Academic and Research Libraries
- Library and Research Services for Parliaments
- Government Libraries
- Public Libraries
- Metropolitan Libraries
- Libraries for the Blind
- Law Libraries
- Art Libraries
- School Libraries and Resource Centers
- Health and Biosciences Libraries
- Science and Technology Libraries
- Social Science Libraries

### Division II Library Collections *Sections*

- Acquisition and Collection Development
- Document Delivery and Resource Sharing
- Government Information and Official Publications
- Preservation and Conservation
- Geography and Map Libraries
- Rare Books and Manuscripts
- Audio Visual and Multimedia
- Newspapers
- Serials and Other Continuing Resources
- Genealogy and Local History

### Division III Library Services *Sections*

- Reference and Information Services
- Information Literacy
- Libraries for Children and Young Adults
- Library Services to Multicultural Populations
- Libraries Serving Disadvantaged Persons
- Literacy and Reading
- Bibliography
- Classification and Indexing
- Cataloguing
- Knowledge Management
- Information Technology

### Division IV Support of the Profession *Sections*

- Management of Library Associations
- Management and Marketing
- Education and Training
- Continuing Professional Development and Workplace Learning
- Library Buildings and Equipment
- Statistics and Evaluation
- Library Theory and Research
- Library History

### Division V- Region *Sections*

- Africa
- Asia and Oceania
- Latin America and the Caribbean