

# SET Bulletin

IFLA Education and Training Section  
Volume 18 No. 2 July, 2017 ISSN: 1450-0647



International Federation of Library Associations  
and Institutions

## Editorial

**Dear colleagues,**

SET Bulletin wishes you a professionally rewarding conference experience in WLIC 2017 at Wroclaw, Poland!

This issue of SET Bulletin provides you **SET Programs at a glance**: a ready reference index of SET activities during IFLA WLIC at Wroclaw.

On behalf of the **IFLA BSLISE** (Building Strong LIS Education) **Working Group**; Clara M. Chu, Jaya Raju and Primož Južnič present a progress report of the global research work on Building Strong LIS Education.

*From the St. Petersburg State University of Culture, Library and Information Sciences Department; Alena Katina, Nadezhda Maltseva and Polina Nilova have sent us reports of LIS events in Russia.*

Ch. Ibohah Singh has reviewed a book entitled

'*Readings in Library and Information Science Education in India*' written by C. R. Karisiddappa and A. Y. Asundi.

SET Bulletin is a platform to share news and events on LIS Education and Training from all over the world. Please send all such info of your region to SET Bulletin.

Happy browsing! See you at Wroclaw!

- **Susmita Chakraborty** (Editor, IFLA SET Bulletin)

*Editorial*

*Message from the Chair*

*Report from IFLA IFLA BSLISE Group*

*Report from Russia*

*Book Review*

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*SET Bulletin is available at <http://www.ifla.org/publications/newsletter-set-bulletin>*

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## Message from the Co-Chairs:



**Primoz Juznic**

Dear colleagues,

This our last message before our meeting in IFLA World Library and Information Congress, 83th IFLA General Conference and Assembly, 19-25 August 2017 Wroclaw, Poland.

Through the past six months, the IFLA Section on Education and Training (SET) joint with the School Libraries Section and the Continuing Professional Development and Workplace Learning Section were organizing the open session "Bridging the Gap from School to Library: Best practices for planning, participation,



**Suzanne Samir**

and assessment of internships, practicums, field experiences, and mentorships in LIS education". The open session is scheduled for 13:45 to 15:45, on Monday, August 21, 2017.

The SET is having more collaboration this year with the LIS Education in Developing Countries SIG, and the Library Theory and Research Section, in organizing the open session: Building Strong LIS Education: Work In-Progress and Critical Engagement. The open session is scheduled for 10:45 to 12:45 on Thursday, August 24, 2017.

Please book the dates below for our business meetings:

- **Saturday, 19 August 2017,**  
08:00 – 10:00  
SC I - Education and Training  
Conference Room B
- **Tuesday, 22 August 2017,**  
16:15 – 18:45  
SC II - Education and Training  
Conference Room D

Looking forward to seeing you all soon in Wroclaw.

Best wishes,

IFLA SET Co-chairs,

**Primoz Juznic**

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**Building Strong LIS Education (BSLISE): The First Year of the IFLA BSLISE Working Group by Clara M. Chu, Jaya Raju and Primož Južnič On behalf of the IFLA Building Strong LIS Education (BSLISE) Working Group**  
<https://lisedu.wordpress.com/>

**Clara M. Chu**, Director and Mortenson Distinguished Professor, Mortenson Center for International Library Programs, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Email: [cmchu@illinois.edu](mailto:cmchu@illinois.edu)

**Jaya Raju**, Associate Professor and Head, Library and Information Studies Center, University of Cape Town, Email: [jaya.raju@uct.ac.za](mailto:jaya.raju@uct.ac.za)

**Primož Južnič**, Professor, Department of Library, Information Science and Book Studies, University of Ljubljana, Email: [Primož.Južnič@ff.uni-lj.si](mailto:Primož.Južnič@ff.uni-lj.si)

- On behalf of the IFLA Building Strong LIS Education (BSLISE) Working Group <https://lisedu.wordpress.com/>

## **Background and Year One**

*The IFLA Building Strong Library and Information Science Education (BSLISE) Working Group emerged out of deliberations at the 2016 IFLA Satellite Meeting (Dublin, Ohio, USA) <https://publish.illinois.edu/ifla-set-ltr-2016/> on quality assessment of LIS education programs, hosted by the IFLA Section on Education and Training and the Section on Library Theory and Research. The BSLISE Working Group is comprised of members from across the globe and is an initiative of the IFLA Section on Education and Training (SET), LIS Education in Developing Countries (LISEDC) SIG, and Section on Library Theory and Research (LTR). The BSLISE is working towards the development of an international quality assessment framework that promotes quality in LIS education programs, is inclusive of regional and national contexts, and recognizes the LIS education needs arising out of such geographical and cultural diversity. The framework would also seek opportunities for articulation of principles of reciprocity and transferability of LIS education programs in an effort to promote better mobility of LIS professionals across the globe.*

*Since its inception in August 2016 to date, the BSLISE Working Group has been active on a number of fronts. It has promoted its visibility and that of its activities*

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through the development of its own website (<https://lisedu.wordpress.com/>) where it posts news of its activities and webinars, resources related to LIS education and research, and information about the members and work of the BSLISE Working Group and its sub-groups. A significant BSLISE event in November 2016 was the hosting of a webinar (*Developing an international quality assessment framework for LIS Education: experiences and opportunities from three accreditation programs*), which considered how associations cooperating internationally could create an international quality assessment framework for LIS education. The presentation drew on the experience of delivering accreditation of LIS education programs by the American Library Association (ALA), Australian Library and Information Association (ALIA), and the Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals (CILIP), and the wider international context for quality assessment. It also considered the challenges and opportunities in developing a framework and how it could promote parity between accreditation criteria used by national library associations to promote professional mobility globally. The presentation by Simon Berney-Edwards (CILIP), Judy Brooker (ALIA) and Karen O'Brien (ALA) was followed by discussion involving around 50 participants from around the globe. For those who were not able to join the webinar, a recording of it is accessible via the BSLISE website (<http://tinyurl.com/BSLISE-2016-11-audio>).

As part of the research endeavours of the BSLISE Working Group, in 2017 much of its time was dedicated to the development of an international survey as part of a study on qualification requirements for library and information "professional" practice in different parts of the world, in order to understand equivalence of credentials. Details of the survey are provided in the next section. A joint project funding proposal by SET to IFLA secured a small grant which was used to employ the services of a student researcher to assist the Working Group with the survey data analysis and dissemination. Findings from this first international survey of its kind will be presented at an Open Session during the 2017 IFLA World Library and Information Congress, Wroclaw, Poland, 19-25 August. Critical engagement with participants on the findings will inform the development of a White Paper on Building Strong LIS Education.

The BSLISE Working Group meets regularly using Blackboard Collaborate Ultra hosted by the Mortenson Center for International Library Programs at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, to which the Working Group is grateful for technological as well as administrative support. The BSLISE Working Group is co-chaired by Clara M. Chu and Jaya Raju. Beth Sandore Namachchivaya, now at the University of Waterloo, co-chaired until March 2017.

## **International Survey of Entry Requirements for Library and Information "Professional" Practice**

To address the deficiency in the knowledge on international education and to map the LIS professional and educational landscape around the world, the BSLISE conducted a survey that was available in six languages (Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish) and administered online on March-May, 2017. The online questionnaire, that included multiple choice and open-ended questions, examined: (1) LIS qualification and certification requirements; (2) the definition and meaning of an LIS "professional"; and (3) authorities that determine professional entry requirements. The online questionnaire (<https://www.1ka.si/a/115316>) was deliberately kept short as the goal was to receive answers from all countries worldwide. The survey received 801 responses from 102 countries. Especially valuable were answers to question 8: In your country, who is considered an 'LIS professional'? Please provide a short definition that is common in your country and if appropriate, cite the source(s); and to the last question where comments or information on LIS qualification and/or certification in your country or region were requested.

### **Implications/Contributions to LIS Education**

The BSLISE Working Group is committed to strengthening LIS education globally and its activities meet this goal by understanding the common and distinct practices internationally, and by shining a light on the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and challenges in educating and training future library and information professionals. Along with our webinar and conference presentations that highlight research on and/or practice of LIS education, the major effort in our first year has been to undertake an international survey to learn the differing qualification requirements (education, certification, individual credentialing system) for library and information "professional" practice in order to develop a better understanding of the equivalence of credentials. The findings allow LIS education programs and other stakeholders to determine the diverse education a library and information professional has, and the role they can have in identifying pathways to facilitate the transition of a professional who only has an undergraduate education to a professional marketplace that requires a master's degree, and vice versa.

LIS educators can further examine any differences in quality and type of education for countries where there are official/legal education requirements and those where there are not. By mapping the landscape of LIS education, a closer assessment of content may help countries consider whether the education should be



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at the undergraduate vs. graduate level and to move their program in one direction or the other AND/OR prompt an international dialogue on the level of studies appropriate for an LIS professional.

## **Forthcoming Plans and Participation**

The BSLISE looks forward to the Open Session at the 2017 IFLA World Library and Information Congress, Wroclaw, Poland on 24 August 2017 at which findings from its international survey will be presented and input sought from participating delegates, including LIS practitioners, educators and other stakeholders. Drawing from the engagement at this Open Session, an international panel comprising of members of the BSLISE Working Group intends to participate in the 2018 ALISE (Association for Library and Information Science Education) Conference taking place in Denver, Colorado on 6-9th February 2018. The BSLISE Working Group has submitted a panel proposal to ALISE. Further plans for its second year include the BSLISE continuing with its Webinar Series involving topics of interest in LIS education and research. In looking forward to a second year of activities and the development of a White Paper on Building Strong LIS Education, the IFLA BLISE Working Group invites interested individuals to visit its website (<https://lisedu.wordpress.com/>) and to join its international collaborative ventures towards strengthening LIS education internationally.

## **SET Programs at a glance**

**First Business Meeting: Saturday, August 19, 2017; 08:00 - 10:00; Session 5; Conference Room B and Second Business Meeting: Tuesday, August 22, 2017; 16:15 - 18:45; Session 176; Conference Room D**

*Open session: "Bridging the Gap from School to Library: Best practices for planning, participation, and assessment of internships, practicums, field experiences, and mentorships in LIS education". 13:45 to 15:45, on Monday, August 21, 2017 [with School Libraries section]*

**Open session: Building Strong LIS Education: Work In-Progress and Critical Engagement. 10:45 to 12:45, Thursday, August 24, 2017 [with LIS Education in Developing Countries SIG, and the Library Theory and Research Section]**

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**Report from Russia: reported by Alena Katina, Nadezhda Maltseva, St. Petersburg State University of Culture, Library and Information Sciences Department**

The Library and Information Sciences Department of St. Petersburg State University of Culture hosts events aimed at bringing together students from different parts of the world. During the events international and nonresident students share their cultures and learn many interesting facts, thus deepening their overall knowledge and improving communication. The cultural, educational and scientific activities held at the University help students to gain wider knowledge and learn how to offset bad influences causing mistrust, fear or cultural disenfranchisement. Students also learn to shape their own opinion and develop independent judgement all based on ethical values, and start to respect, appreciate and understand other people.

A unique educational project for freshmen called "Russian Libraries Hot Line" was held on December 7, 2015. The aim of the project was introducing federal regions of Russia through libraries. Students from different federal regions presented libraries. Another student project was held in November 2016 at the branch of the V.V. Mayakovsky's Central public

library "Okhta-Lab". The mission of the project was to popularize Russian historical and cultural legacy, and present a library as the most important updated information center allowing to search for and process any required information. It should be noted that students from different levels of study participated in this event together with their Faculty lecturers.

The annual international students' festival "Bibliofest" commenced in 2013 became a unique

event as well. Its five-year history made it known in St. Petersburg and throughout Russia. Each "Bibliofest" is special as every year a new student generation develops it. Four awards were included: video, creative fantasy "I am a librarian", project "Library as a culture and leisure center", and professional excellence "Professional podium". In 2016 one more award was added "World is our motherland". Its main property came from the national and international cultural diversity principle as a foundation for developing and improving cross-cultural communication and forming a tolerance culture.

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Japan, Mongolia, China.



One more event - "The Oriental Culture Week" – was held on October 24 - 28, 2016. Each week day was devoted to a certain country: South Korea, India,

This project was aimed at establishing scientific and cultural contacts between representatives of different nationalities, cultural experience exchange and arranging mutual scientific and creativity projects between the faculties of the Institute in the research and preservation of the unique cultural legacy. All these projects should be considered as events aimed at developing tolerant attitude in students communicating different cultures.

**Report from Russia: The International Student festival «BiblioFest-2017»** reported by **Polina Nilova**, Library and Information Sciences Department, St. Petersburg State University of Culture

The International Student festival «BiblioFest-2017» was held at St. Petersburg State University of Culture from 16 to 25 of May. This year the festival celebrated its 5th anniversary and was dedicated to the Year of Ecology in Russia. There were 22 events within the festival. The festival was organized by students under the leadership of the dean of the library and information sciences department Valentina Brezhneva and the deputy dean Albina Krymskaya. Every day of the festival was bright: traditional and completely new events were replaced one by one.





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The new events were: «The Day of understudy» is a unique opportunity for students to try the role of a librarian, and the chance for librarians to be students and the competition of tourist routes: «Library as an object and resource of cultural and educational tourism». The students developed five completely new routes in the historical center of St. Petersburg. There are events that have become popular and traditional: a contest of creative fantasies: «I am a librarian!», the presentation: «Our homeland is a world. National Family Tradition», a contest of projects: «Library - Information and Cultural and Leisure Center» and a video contest: «Book. Reading. Library. From the ecology of the soul to the ecology of nature».

Within the festival there was a round table: «The Baltic Libraries as Centers for Science, Culture and Education». Students presented the results of the educational trip to Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania, where they visited national and university libraries.



**The year 2018** will be special for library and information department. We will celebrate the **100th anniversary of library education in Russia**. With no doubts, «BiblioFest-2018» will become even more interesting and exciting, there will be more participants and guests! Welcome to «BiblioFest-2018»!

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## Book Review

### Readings in Library and Information Science Education in India by C. R. Karisiddappa and A. Y. Asundi

reviewed by **Ch. Ibohal Singh**, Dept. of Lib. & Inf. Sc., Manipur University, Canchipur, Imphal- 795003, Manipur, India. E-mail: ibohal68@gmail.com

### **Readings in Library and Information Science Education in India**

**Authors:** C.R. Karisiddappa and A.Y.Asundi

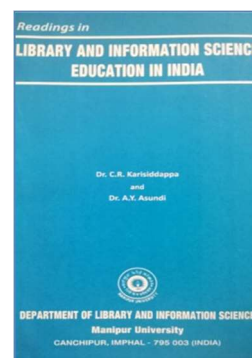
**Publisher and Place:** Department of Library and Information Science, Manipur University, Imphal, Manipur, India.

**Date of Publication:** 2011; **Pages:** v,213p. **Size:** 23cm; **Price:** INR 500.

**ISBN:** 978-81-920583-1-3

**Included:** Indexes.

**No. of Chapters:** 9 (nine)



### **Background:**

The present work is an outcome of two prominent disciples of Prof. M. R. Kumbhar of Karnataka University of South India who, on invitation, once came, way back in early Nineties, to Manipur University in the tiny state of Manipur located in the northeastern corner of India. Both Dr. Karisiddappa and Dr. Asundi are well experienced and well toured Professors in the field of LIS. It may be noted that Prof. Karisiddappa was the man under whose Chairmanship the LIS curriculum was developed for the third time in 2001 in the country through University Grants Commission, after S. R. Ranganathan and P.N. Kaula. The book is fore worded by Prof. H. N. K. Sarma, Vice-Chancellor, Manipur University. The same is a new and rare title in the stock of Knowledge in the field of Library and Information Science (LIS). It presents a full complement of issues related to the subject.

### **The Chapters:**

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The book contains altogether nine chapters such as: 1. LIS Education in India- A Profile 2. LIS Education in India: Development Perspectives 3. Curriculum Models for LIS Education: A Review 4. Innovative Teaching Methods in LIS-A Review 5. Collaboration in LIS Education 6. Networking of LIS Departments: a proposal 7. Open Courseware in LIS- Need and Approach 8. Emerging Specializations in LIS 9. New Generation Information Professionals- an agenda

## **The Thought Content:**

The book initiates with the desired contributions on the status and profile of LIS Education in India and its progressive development and evolution as well. The chapter on curriculum design deals with several efforts that have been pursued and gone through since the very inception of educational facility for Librarianship in the country. The diverse views of the curriculum design are well documented and the modular approaches such as networking of LIS Departments, Open Courseware and Emerging Specializations show a new direction that is a novelty for this subject. Final Chapter on New Generation Information Professionals –an Agenda has increased the value of the subject in the emerging information environment. The vision for the future LIS professionals is really a contribution to reckon with and invites national deliberation on the thought and content.

## **Intended Audience:**

The volume addresses various issues associated with the LIS Education, Research and Training in India. It is hoped that the same will receive accord from among the LIS fraternity of the country-students, scholars, researchers, planners, and teaching community as well.

## **The Drawbacks:**

Keeping into account the issues concerning the employability problem, need based programs, services and activities, etc. being introduced in the library and information systems of the new environment, the book could have incorporated certain aspects for conducting module-based short term courses by the LIS Schools of the country. This would have increased the acceptability of the work.

## **Conclusion:**

Even then, the book has provided a comprehensive view about the LIS education in the country. Going through this book, LIS schools of different countries can have a glimpse of the LIS Education in India.

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## **GLIMPSES of PAST Events:**

**IFLA Global Vision Meet, Athens, 2017:**  
**<https://globalvision.ifla.org/about/>**



“ IFLA’s Global Vision discussion brings together thousands of representatives of the library field worldwide to explore how a connected library field can meet the challenges of the future.

IFLA launches and facilitates this global discussion through a series of high-level meetings and workshops in different parts of the world following the kick-off event in Athens, Greece. Representatives of 140 countries engaged in the discussions during six regional meetings organised by IFLA: in Washington D.C., Yaoundé, Alexandria, Buenos Aires, Singapore and Madrid. The workshops have focused on how to strengthen the ties within the library field, helped identify future challenges and opportunities for the library field, and prioritise actions that the library environment could take in response to the fast-pacing changes in societies.”



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*IFLA President Elect with SET members Anna Maria Tamaro and Susmita Chakraborty at IFLA Global Vision Meet, Athens, 2017*

**1st International Conference on Transforming Libraries, July 2017, Kokrajhar, BTC, Assam, India**



*A group photo of the participants of the very first International Conference organized by the LIS professionals of North East India featuring two SET SC members Clara M. Chu and Susmita Chakraborty along with organisers Prof. Sanjay Singh, Dr. Sangram Brahma and others.*

## Forthcoming Events

**iConference 2018**  
25th-28th March 2018  
Sheffield, UK

Organised by The University of Sheffield and Northumbria University

# TRANSFORMING DIGITAL WORLDS

The University of Sheffield  
iSchools  
northumbria UNIVERSITY

**Dates:**

**Organiser:**

**Contact:**



*International Conference on Digital Humanities  
January 18-19, 2018  
Department of Library and Information Science  
University of Calcutta, Kolkata, India  
[susmita@caluniv.ac.in](mailto:susmita@caluniv.ac.in)*