



IFLA National Libraries Section

Newsletter, June 2009

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Editorial

Dear Colleagues

I am looking forward to seeing you all at our Standing Committee meeting and conference session in Milan. Our Standing Committee meeting will be held on Saturday 22 August, from 8.30am to 11.20am. The agenda for our meeting is at Item 2. Please let our secretary, Jasmine Cameron, know if you wish to attend the meeting as an observer.

In Milan we will farewell Dr Zaitsev, Director General of the National Library of Russia, who will complete his second term on the Standing Committee and Araceli Sanchez-Pinol de Anta, Head of Coordination and Institutional Relations, National Library of Spain, who completes one term on the Standing Committee. Galina Kislovskaya, Director of International Activities, Russian State Library, is taking up a new position as Director of the Russian State Children's Library and so has resigned from the Standing Committee. I would like to thank our three colleagues for their service to the Standing Committee and the Section.

I will also be completing my second term as Chair of the Standing Committee and Jasmine Cameron will be completing her first term as Secretary. We will therefore have an election at our Standing Committee meeting for the positions of Chair and Secretary.

The results of elections held for vacancies on IFLA standing committees were announced in May. I am pleased to tell you the results for our Section. Several members have been elected for a second term: Elizabeth Niggemann (Germany); Martin Boessenbroek (Netherlands); Vigdis Moe Skarstein (Norway); Deanna Marcum (United States) and Jasmine Cameron (Australia).

We have also been joined for the first time by several new members: Gerald Grunberg (France); Pepa Michel Rodriguez (Spain); Irina Lynden (Russian Federation); Melita Ambrozic (Slovenia) and Janne Andresoo (Estonia).

Those continuing on the committee in their current term are: Genevieve Clavel-Merrin (Switzerland); Antonia Ida Fontana (Italy); Zhan Furui (China); Kristiina Hormia-Poutanen (Finland); Magdalena Gram (Sweden); Colette O'Flaherty (Ireland); John Tsebe (South Africa) and Martyn Wade (Scotland).

Our conference session in Milan, *National Libraries in the Digital Age: Leadership and Collaboration*, will be held from 8.30am-10.30am on Thursday 27 August. Penny Carnaby (CEO and National Librarian, National Library of New Zealand and Chair, CDNL) will be our keynote speaker. We will also have papers from three other speakers: Martin Boessenbroek (Director of Collections and Services, National Library of the Netherlands) *Reinventing the Tricycle*; Minna Karvonen (Secretary General, National Digital Library, Finland) *National Digital Library of Finland – Enabling Access to Digital Cultural Material to Users of Today and to Future Generations*; Vigdis Moe Skarstein (National Librarian, National Library of Norway) *Strategies for a National Digital Library*. I hope that you will be able to attend this interesting and very topical session.

I have enjoyed my time as Chair of the Standing Committee of the National Libraries Section and I wish all members of the Standing Committee and Section the very best for your future deliberations. I will be taking up my new position as President-elect of IFLA in Milan and will continue to follow the discussions and progress of the Section with great interest.

Best wishes

Ingrid Parent, Chair, National Libraries Section

Agenda for the Standing Committee Meeting in Milan

We do not have a room allocation yet for the meeting of our Standing Committee on Saturday 22 August in Milan. However, the draft agenda is set out below for the information of Section members. We will have only one meeting in Milan of the National Libraries Section.

Standing Committee Meeting 1, Milan, Saturday 22 August 2009

8.30am-11.20am

Agenda

1. Welcome and introduction of new and re-elected members (includes presentation of IFLA certificates to outgoing members)
2. Adoption of the agenda
3. Approval of the minutes from the SC1, Quebec, 2008
4. Report from outgoing chair on Professional Committee and Division meetings
5. Review of conference session and procedure for selecting a paper for publication
6. Online directory of National Libraries
7. Update on IFLA Special Interest Group: International Relations for National Organisations
8. Report from CDNL by chair of CDNL
9. Election of the Chair, Information Officer and Secretary for 2009-2011
10. Theme for session at IFLA Brisbane, Australia, 2010
11. Strategic directions for 2009-2011
12. News from members and observers
13. Other business

News from Section Members

France

French BnF Gallica materials available through audio format (or "*mode écoute*")

In March 2009 new Gallica has been put online : <http://gallica.bnf.fr/>:
BnF digital library recently has been enriched with new documents, partners and services.

Among those services, the audio format through text-to-speech technology starts a dramatic development.

Gallica OCR materials are converted in phonetic speech output.

Such device allows everyone and specially the blind reader great reading access.

Renovated Gallica also provides users with new services as blogs, newsletters and private accounts.

Gallica gives readers access to 820 000 items, now including digitized manuscripts, sound materials, music scores as well as 100 000 books, 230 000 still images and 400 000 newspapers issues.

Beyond the scope of public domain collection digitized in the BnF framework program, Gallica ensures access to copyrighted documents belonging to government institutions and also private sector.

This operation outreach started in 2008 showing Gallica involvement in extensive partnership.

Norway

50,000 Norwegian books accessible on the net - at no charge and perfectly legal!

On April 23 this year, The National Library signed an agreement with Kopinor -- The Bokhylla (Bookshelf) project will make 50,000 Norwegian books available on the net for free.



Kopinor Executive Director Yngve Slettholm and National Librarian Vigdis Moe Skarstein
Photo: Anne Tove Ørke

Based on the results of the High North Project, the National Library through this project will make available on the Internet all books published in Norway through three decades, namely those between 1790-99, 1890-99 and 1990-99. In November 2008, the Ministry of Culture established a working group that was to recommend principles for calculating compensation for making available copyrighted material in the National Library's collections.

Based on the group's recommendations, the Ministry authorized the National Library to negotiate with Kopinor in order to reach methods of compensation for the Bokhylla project. The parties have worked quickly and over the recent weeks they have negotiated an agreement on economic terms and conditions for the project.

On April 23, the World Book and Copyright Day, National Librarian Vigdis Moe Skarstein and Kopinor Executive Director Yngve Slettholm met to sign [the agreement](#).

During a three year period, the public will get easy access to a considerable body of Norwegian literature, around 50,000 books. 10,000 books will be ready when the service opens. Payment for access to the material will not be charged from the user, but will be covered through the Extended Collective License agreement that Kopinor signed on behalf of the rights organizations. To begin with, access will be granted during a limited period, from May 2009 till the end of 2011.

- The project will provide new and important information, and will be an important step on the road towards permanent solutions for net access to Norwegian literature, says Vigdis Moe Skarstein.

- This shows that it is possible to find good solutions for the dissemination of our cultural heritage on the Internet, says Yngve Slettholm. Being a collective licensing organization, Kopinor can enter agreements on behalf of many, and this is a milestone which will be of considerable international interest, says Slettholm.

On Wednesday May 27, Bokhylla.no was officially opened at the National Library by Minister of Culture Trond Giske launching the service and performing the first search. - Bokhylla in itself is a great project, making the cultural heritage accessible is important and the project serves as a model for others, the Minister said in his speech.

Serbia

The National Library of Serbia (NLS) European Romani Digital Collection

The NLS became the full partner of the European Library (TEL) in 2005. The initiative for the project European Romani Digital Collection was presented by the director of the NLS to the TEL board meeting in The Hague in March 2006. The initiative was also presented and accepted at the CENL meeting (Conference of European National Librarians) in September 2006 in Sankt

Petersburg. The NLS became a coordinator of the project.

The main objective of the project was to create the European bibliography on Romani literary heritage from the European countries and then to create digital collection on Romani written heritage accessible through internet portal.

Within the first stage of the project, NLS and TEL Office in Hague sent to all libraries the letter asking them to create from its databases the bibliographies of books and serial publications in Romani languages. All digital documents created within the project should be in the NLS storage system and accessible through TEL portal. However, the tempo of the project activities that started in late 2006 was slowed down. The most of libraries had problems to search their catalogues and make a list on Romani language publications. Some e-catalogues are not possible to be searched by language, and in some cases there is not continuing recording of this production in national libraries, no CIP and ISBN, or literature published by different Romani associations was not collected regularly.

During 2007-2008 the NLS received bibliographies from about 25 European libraries, in total about 1300 records. The NLS created the central index of all bibliographies which is accessible on the NLS portal of European Romani Collection (www.romi.nb.rs) and which will be posted on the TEL portal. The NLS also digitized about 50 books from its collections which are also accessible on the mentioned web site. In September 2009 the virtual exhibition on European Romani cultural heritage will be presented on the TEL portal.

Serbian presidency of Decade of Roma inclusion July 2008- July 2009

During the Serbian presidency of Decade of Roma inclusion, from July 1, 2008 to July 1, 2009, with the support of the Serbian Government and the Ministry of culture, the NLS organized the "physical" exhibition "Written Romani word" ("Alav e Romengo") in the National Bank of Serbia. The Exhibition was opened on the 8th April 2009, for the World Roma Day. The exhibition's author, eminent Serbian Romani expert, Mr. Dragoljub Ackovic, said that it was, unfortunately (!), the first exhibition of Romani written heritage in the whole world. Mr. Ackovic was so kind to give to the NLS many materials from his private collection (books, journals, photos, postcards, audio and video records), mostly in Romani language, but also in all other languages. The NLS is now in the process of digitization of all this material (about 30.000 items). As soon as the NLS finished the digitization, this material will be posted on the Romani portal of the NLS. The NLS will also have the right to post this digital collection on the TEL portal as "European Romani Heritage".

Vesna Injac, Deputy Director of the National Library of Serbia



Spain



The ENRICH project at the National Library of Spain

FINAL CONFERENCE

5 – 6 November 2009
Madrid



The National Library of Spain will hold the final conference of the ENRICH project, a two year project (2007-2009) funded under the eContentPlus programme to provide seamless access to distributed digital representations of old documentary heritage from various European cultural institutions in order to create a shared virtual research environment for the study of manuscripts, early printed books and other historical documents. The project builds on the Manuscriptorium Digital Library (<http://www.manuscriptorium.eu>), based on the National Library of the Czech Republic, which has managed to aggregate data from 46 collections from the Czech Republic and abroad.

The ENRICH consortium consists of 18 partners and is also supported by a number of other institutions among which there are several important content owners, accounting for almost 85% of the digitized manuscript currently available from national libraries in Europe. The project's other partners include university libraries and other institutions such as foundations or special projects and initiatives, many of which also have important digital holdings.

ENRICH target user groups are content owners/holders, libraries, museums and archives, researchers and students, policy makers, and general interest

users. The project will allow them to search and access documents which would otherwise be hardly accessible. Besides images, it will be also able to offer access to TEI-structured historical full texts, research resources, other types of illustrative data (audio and video files), or large images of historical maps.

The ENRICH project final conference next November will open the possibilities of further use of the project outputs and their implementation in other institutions and countries.

More information at <http://enrich.manuscriptorium.com/>

Sweden

The Present Becomes the Past - harvesting, archiving, presenting today's digitally produced newspapers

[The IFLA Newspapers Section](#) in collaboration with [the National Library of Sweden](#) are organizing a two-day pre-conference and satellite meeting in Stockholm, Sweden, 19-20 August 2009. The venue for the conference is the National Library, which is situated in the park Humlegården in central Stockholm.

Co-sponsors of the conference are the IFLA Preservation & Conservation Section, and IFLA Core Activity on Preservation & Conservation (PAC).

This conference aims at not only sharing the collective knowledge about how libraries can tackle challenges of harvesting, archiving and presenting today's digitally produced newspapers, but also to open up opportunities for libraries, librarians and associated publishing industry players to interact with one another and work out suitable partnerships that will help to improve the provision of newspaper services at libraries.

Programme

There will be 2 tracks of presentations that highlight particular aspects and issues related to the creation and future digital storage of newspapers, involving the following topics:

Track 1 - The current situation of born digital production

- How to preserve the daily/ weekly output
- Technical issues of preservation
- Metadata: consistency; organisation; levels of existing organisation
- The publisher perspective and needs
- The software suppliers perspectives and needs from libraries
- Harmonisation of metadata for older digitised newspapers and born digital newspapers

Track 2 - Newspapers on the Web

- Harvesting non-print newspapers
- What "edition" to harvest
- Storage of digital files
- Cataloguing of harvested newspapers as digital object

Registration

The registration fee for the conference is 50 Euros. Please visit presentpast.axaco.se for registration. Payment is by invoice only.

Switzerland

A new repository for the Swiss National Library
(Genevieve Clavel-Merrin)

Despite the huge increase in online and digital material, published (and grey) output on paper continues to rise and needs to be conserved for consultation and use in optimal conditions. On May 12th the Swiss National Library staff had a preview of the new underground repository that will be officially inaugurated on August 20th 2009. It is the second underground area to be developed to house the library's collections. The first, constructed between 1994-1998 to house the collections from the library's above-ground 'book-tower' and reaching to 7 stories underground with 58 Km of shelf space, was almost filled to capacity. Work on the new repository lasted from 2005-2008; from March to May 2009 the serials and newspaper collections have been transferred there. It provides an additional 4 stories of storage with a total floor area of 6'200 m². Together, the 2 repositories allow for 140Km of shelving (some of which will be used by other institutions until 2024) providing storage space for the library until 2037. Two very different methods of construction have been used: for the first repository a classic approach of digging down (28m) and building up was used, providing onlookers with a vertiginous view down.

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the second case, work started from just under the surface, building down to the lowest layer: resulting in a less spectacular view for the spectators:



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In both cases though, the proximity of the water table required significant water extraction and the necessity to reinforce and protect the buildings (and the contents) with 7 layers of insulation. The new repository has been constructed in conformance with best energy standards. Now that work has finished and the surroundings once more landscaped, the only exterior physical signs of nearly 15 years of building work (including the renovation of the main library) are two elegant glass towers, but inside, increased efficiency in conservation and user services will we hope be the reward for all who have worked and studied next to a building site for so long!

Wales

Mass digitisation of in-copyright material: the Welsh Journals Online experience

The National Library of Wales has been undertaking a project supported by JISC and the Welsh Assembly Government to digitise its holdings of English and Welsh language 20th century journals; these are now being presented on the website <http://welshjournals.llgc.org.uk> ; by September 2009 there will be 50 titles and 400,000 pages online. Carrying out the project has raised numerous issues arising from in-copyright works. Journal publishing in Wales is a relatively small world: most authors and editorial staff are unpaid; most publishers are either academic bodies or small societies; contracts and publishing agreements are rare.

It was assumed that the main difficulty would be persuading copyright holders to grant licences for material so that it could re-published by the Library (since it was being made available free to all without registration, with permission to save and re-use it). No money was offered to licence holders. In the event, the number of refusals was small (restricted largely to high-profile literary estates), although the publishers of contemporary literary titles were unable to reach agreement because of concerns of their authors.

Licensing absorbed a lot of time, both in terms of staff time (researching addresses, sending licences, chasing responses, and logging the returns), but also in calendar time: it took more than 12 months for most publishers to sign the licence agreement. There will be work involved in the future, as the Library receives takedown requests from rights holders who had not received any mailings.

The Library has concluded that it is possible to digitise in-copyright content, but it requires the investment of significant additional resources to handle the administrative processes of rights management. Its next, very ambitious, project will focus on out-of-copyright newspapers and magazines.

Martin Locock
Project Manager, Welsh Journals Online