

IFLA

Library Services
to Multicultural
Populations



facebook/ifla.mcultp



@ifla_mcultp

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Mid-year Zurich Meeting	2
Hidden Gems Symposium	3
So Long and Thanks	3
Contributors	4

SUMMER 2013 NEWSLETTER

5th Library and Information Congress in Leipzig Germany March 11 to 14

By *Esin Sultan Oğuz*
Asst. Professor, *Yildirim Beyazit University*

Between 11-14 March, 2013 one of the largest library congresses in Europe was held for the fifth time in Leipzig.

According to the Press Release of the Congress 3,500 librarians and information professionals from 25 countries came together to discuss this year's theme, "[Reshaping the World of Knowledge](#)." Copyright reform and e-book lending were the hot topics this year in addition to various important issues about libraries and their services.

Calls for the congress had been made under six major topics:

- Libraries between politics and ethics
- Current services and expectations of target audiences
- Organizing information
- Impact of digital information
- Library design and architecture
- Qualifications for new service expertise

IFLA President Dr. Ingrid Parent was the guest of honour and she delivered her keynote speech at the opening session. Papers for the congress were generally about policy, management, public libraries, school libraries, intercultural libraries, children and youth libraries,



Dr. Ingrid Parent delivering the keynote at the opening session. Credit: E.S. Oğuz

Web 2.0, digital libraries as well as LIS study and career development. More than 50 individual



Message from the Chair

As many of you know, spring is my favorite season. It is a time of renewal and growth. As we prepare for our meeting in Singapore, we can reflect on the work of this past year and plan for the many opportunities that lay ahead. The articles in this newsletter illustrate the work of the section. We strive to promote library services to multicultural populations and extend equitable access to information to all members of the community.

We had a wonderful [mid-year meeting in Zurich, Switzerland](#) thanks to our section member Ruth Fassbind-Eigenheer. Our working meetings were hosted by Dr. Josephine Siegrist, director of the [Pestalozzi Bibliothek](#) (the Public Library of Zurich); and Bibliothek Information Schweiz (BIS), the national library and information association. Our day trips by train to St. Gallen, Renens and Lausanne not only allowed us to experience different libraries in Switzerland, but gave all of us a chance to talk and catch up with one another. The BIS has expressed interest in hosting a section Satellite Meeting in Switzerland around WLIC 2014, which is being held in Lyon, France. Plans are underway and should be announced soon.

For the [WLIC 2013 Program](#) in Singapore, the Library Services to Multicultural Populations Section and the Education and Training Section have collaborated on a program entitled [Indigenous Knowledge and Multiculturalism in LIS Education and Library Training: Infinite Possibilities](#). Speakers for this joint session will focus on the issues of diverse communities and the ways that LIS education and library training need to incorporate cultural competencies, knowledge and practices. Thanks go to Planning Committee members Steve Stratton, Lea Starr, Esin Sultan Oğuz and Svetlana Gorokhova.

This year was a nominating year in IFLA which means we welcome new members, and have to say good-bye to those members whose terms are up. We welcome Alireza Afshari (Sweden), Adjoa K. Boateng (United Kingdom), Roberto Morelato (Italy) and Siri Tidemann-Anderson (Norway). Those members whose terms are up are Mijin Kim (Canada), Anne Kristin Undlien (Norway), Olga Cuadrado Fernandez (Spain), Anne Hall (Australia) and Galina Raykova (Russia).

We were delighted to hear that IFLA's Professional Committee approved the continuation of the [Indigenous Matters Special Interest Group](#) for the period 2013-2017. The new convener will be Te Paea Paringatai from [Te Rōpū Whakahaui](#), the organization which unites Maori librarians and information specialists in Aotearoa New Zealand.

The section looks forward to this continued partnership. We extend heartfelt thanks to Lorienne Roy, departing convener of the SIG, for her dedication and vision for making the voices of indigenous peoples heard in IFLA.

Enjoy reading the newsletter and hearing about the Section's work and our plans for the future.

Thanks to everyone who has contributed, sharing the many achievements and accomplishments of the Section. I hope to see many of you in Singapore.

Take care,

Tess Tobin
Chair

(Continued on page 2)

Study Visits for MULTP section

Midyear meeting in Zurich

By Ann Katrin Ursberg
Head of the Library, Municipality of Alvesta, Sweden

After two interesting and fully packed days, on Monday the 11th of March in the morning we visited the intercultural branch library of our host, the [Pestalozzi Bibliothek Zürich](#) (Public Library of the city). The Hardau branch is housed in a modern building and as it's situated in a multilingual area, they cooperate closely with nearby schools. We had the opportunity to ask questions during a coffee break and afterwards we visited the library premises.



The Stiftsbibliothek. Credit: MySwitzerland.com

At lunch time we headed east by train to St. Gallen and paid a visit to Switzerland's oldest library, the [Stiftsbibliothek](#) (Abbey Library), where we took a guided tour around the present building dating from the 18th century – very impressive! It's considered to be one of the best preserved library interiors in the world, and we got a splendid idea about the Baroque architecture of the time.

The library with all the ancient books, including an exceptional stock of manuscripts going back to the days of the founding of the monastery in the 8th century, is now a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and it's good to know that the site will be preserved into the distant future, when people will still be in need of historical remembrance in order to understand their own future.

On Tuesday we started off for Renens, a small city in Western Switzerland,

close to Lausanne, with its natural beauty and many spectacular views. In Renens we visited [Globlivres](#), founded in 1988 by a group of immigrants and educators as the first intercultural library in Switzerland.

The library has a strong international focus with 27,000 books for children and adults in over 200 languages. It has been a private initiative from the start and a group of dedicated people had a very rough time in the beginning, trying to get enough donations to get the library going. But now it seems that the value of such a multilingual library has been acknowledged, and it has been a model for the creation of other libraries of the same kind in Switzerland. Today there are about 20 independent intercultural libraries in Switzerland, grouped together in the umbrella organization, [Interbiblio](#). (There are about 1000 public libraries).

After a communal lunch with some of the library staff in a lively and lovely local restaurant, we moved to nearby Lausanne and visited [Rolex Learning Center](#), which houses a large modern library at the [École polytechnique fédérale de Lausanne](#) (EPFL).



Rolex Learning Center. Credit: studio-kg.com

The library contains over half a million items, and 860 seats for students. It opened in 2010, and the architecture is very spectacular, designed by an internationally acclaimed Japanese firm.

Rolex was the biggest donor for the construction of the building. A presenter spoke about the construction of this huge library and its status today. Thereafter we had some time to explore the library, as well as the rest of the highly interesting building - a very inspirational visit before returning to Zürich in the late afternoon.

(5th Library and Information Congress ...continued
from page 1)

presentations were made each day in the parallel sessions of the Congress. The full programme is [available online](#).

The Congress language was mainly German and speakers were from Germany and German speaking countries. However there were plenty of attendees from non-German speaking countries. On the very first day of the Congress an International Librarians' Orientation was organized to help attendees benefit from the professional discussions and presentations as much as possible.

The social programme was also very rich. "Librarians in motion" events were quite remarkable. Three out of the four days of the Congress, librarians began the busy Congress schedule with half an hour of gymnastic exercises.

BID The traditional Blue Hour event of the BIB (Berufsverband Information Bibliothek) was something I really liked. It was such a big and busy event, especially considering that it's organized every 3 years. It's a nice opportunity for chance meetings for old friends who like surprises!

On the second day of the Congress, Dr. Heinz-

Jürgen Lorenzen, President of BID held a special session to inform attendees about the mission and current activities of BID.

Off-site library visits were organized to university libraries in Leipzig, the [German National Library](#), the German Book and Manuscript Archive, the German Music Archive and the [German Central Library for the Blind](#).

In addition to on-site events and library visit excursions, city tours were organized for those who were in Leipzig for the first time or wished to discover the city of Bach one more time with a guide. On the second day, the fantastic festive evening at [Moritzbastei](#) (Moritz Bastion) was definitely something to behold.

The exhibition of mobile libraries was also another nice spot at the Congress. Every day mobile libraries from different cities in Germany were parked in front of the Congress Center for visits by librarians. Exhibitors in the Congress Center were spread out on different floors and there were approximately 140 companies ready to inform attendees about their latest products and projects.

This year Turkey was the guest country at the 5th Library and Information Congress in Leipzig, Germany which launched in November 2011 in Ankara with a joint declaration of Bibliothek & Information Deutschland (BID), the General Directorate of Public Libraries of the Turkish Ministry of Culture, the [Turkish Librarians Association](#) (TKD), and the [Goethe Institutes in Turkey](#).

Thanks to a signed joint declaration, this three-year partnership will promote professional exchange and mutual consultation on current issues of library and information science and drive forward the development of library and information institutions in both countries.

During the Congress there were seven invited papers presented in various sessions by the Turkish delegation to introduce the historical background and inform participants about the latest developments of libraries and librarianship in Turkey.

In addition to the invited papers, SC member of the IFLA MCULTP section, Dr. Esin Sultan Oğuz also made a presentation emphasizing why internationalization matters for Turkish libraries. Congress guests were welcomed on the second day with a cocktail at the Turkish stand and guests were also welcomed each day at the stand with Turkish coffee and Turkish delight where books were exhibited introducing Turkish culture (art, literature, tourism, history, science etc.).

There were also professional librarians from the Public Libraries of the Turkish Ministry of Culture and the Turkish Librarians Association (TKD) at the Turkish stand for those who wanted to know more about Turkey and librarianship in Turkey in one-on-one communication and professional exchange. The mini-seminar with the famous German author and visual artist of Turkish origin, [Feridun Zaimoglu](#), was another important highlight of the Congress.

So Long and Thanks

It is always hard to say good-bye. Working so closely with fellow section members creates a bond that is not apparent until you get back home and think about the experience you have had working together.

Mijin Kim

Mijin has served the section as both a member and Chair from 2007-2011. Under her tenure, the section's publications were updated and she was instrumental in keeping the [Library Services to Multicultural Population's IFLA/UNESCO Manifesto](#) on the radar and seeing that it was endorsed by UNESCO in 2009. Mijin is a great leader and we all enjoyed working with her.

Anne Kristin Undlien

Anne Kristin's cheerful presence at all our meetings and her fine organizational skills have truly helped and served the Section. She was the Section's Secretary for the last two years and she kept us on task, especially when we were wandering in circles and trying to find our way back to our hotel in Zurich!

Olga Cuadrado Fernandez

We are all so thankful to Olga for hosting our [2011 mid-year meeting in Sevilla](#). Who can ever forget our trip to Granada and walking all together through the Alhambra? Thanks to her and her library at the [Fundación Tres Culturas](#) for their hospitality and the warm welcome we received from the Spanish librarians in Sevilla, Cartaya and Huelva.

Anne Hall

Anne from down under... So glad we met you in Milan. We know if IFLA had been held in Australia, Anne would have planned some great meetings.

Galina Raykova

Thanks to Galina from the [Russian State Library](#) who was one of the hosts for the Section's 2010 Midyear Meeting in Moscow.

Loriene Roy

Loriene served as convener of the [Indigenous Matters Special Interest Group](#) (SIG) since its inception. She worked closely with Mijin Kim to establish the SIG in 2009. She has been genuine in all her efforts and advocates tirelessly for indigenous traditional knowledge. She always kept us abreast of the many events which demonstrated the current interest in providing and expanding library services to indigenous peoples.

The section wishes all these fine ladies well. You will be missed, but we know that your heart remains with serving underrepresented groups in your libraries and sharing your knowledge and awareness of different cultures with others.

Hidden Gems Symposium

State Library of New South Wales

26 - 27 August 2013



By Monica Galassi
Event Coordinator, Indigenous Librarians Symposium 2013

The [State Library of New South Wales](#) in Sydney, Australia will host an event aiming to share information between Aboriginal people and professionals on the role of libraries and archives in the revival of Indigenous languages.

The symposium [Hidden Gems: The Role of Libraries & Archives in Cultural Revitalisation](#) will take place Monday 26 and Tuesday 27 August 2013 and will host speakers coming from Australia and overseas.

The Symposium is being planned as an event filled with conversations, workshops, tours and a display of original material related to Aboriginal Australian languages.

Hidden Gems is an international symposium that will explore the role of libraries and archives in the revitalisation of Indigenous language and culture.

The symposium will bring together a number of speakers who are passionate about the field of language revitalisation. Indigenous people, librarians, archivists, linguists and museum professionals will share their experiences of working in the field of language documentation and revitalisation.

During the symposium the State Library will showcase some of its hidden treasures relating to Indigenous Australian languages. Participants will also have an opportunity to be involved in a tour of the Library and Galleries to learn more about the significant collection of Indigenous materials held at the State Library.

The event is sponsored by International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) [Indigenous Matters Special Interest Group](#) and the [Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Library Information and Resource Network](#) (ATSILIRN).



For more information, please contact the State Library by e-mail: mgalassi@sl.nsw.gov.au or by phone +61 (02) 9273 1453.

Acknowledgements

IFLA Library Services to Multicultural Populations Section



Chair

Tess M. Tobin
Personnel & Administrative Services Librarian
Ursula C. Schwerin Library
New York City College of Technology
Email: ttobin@citytech.cuny.edu

Secretary

Anne Kristin Undlien
Head of the Library
Kristiansand Public Library
Email:
Anne.K.Undlien@Kristiansand.kommune.no

Information Coordinator

Jack Leong
Director, Richard Charles Lee Canada-Hong
Kong Library
University of Toronto Libraries
Email: jack.leong@utoronto.ca

Newsletter Editor

Lea K. Starr
Associate University Librarian – Research
Services
University of British Columbia
Email: lea.starr@ubc.ca



Monica Galassi

Esin Sultan Oğuz

Tess Tobin

Ann Katrin Ursberg

Many thanks to all the photographers!

The IFLA Library Services to Multicultural Populations is produced by:
UBC Library Communications and Marketing
@ubclibrary | www.library.ubc.ca

Previous newsletter issues are available online at www.ifla.org/publications/library-services-to-multicultural-populations-section-newsletter

Bookmark our publications page on the IFLA site at www.ifla.org/publications/39

Connect with us on Facebook and Twitter



Library Services to Multicultural Populations section is now on Facebook. To connect with us and learn the most recent updates on our Facebook account, please visit <http://www.facebook.com/ifla.mcultp>

SIG on Indigenous Matters is also on Facebook. Please visit <http://www.facebook.com/groups/66990630010/?fref=ts>



We also have a Twitter account. To follow our tweets, please visit www.twitter.com/ifla_mcultp

Some recent photos uploaded to our Facebook account:



Additional Resources:

IFLA/UNESCO Multicultural Library Manifesto

<http://www.ifla.org/publications/iflaunesco-multicultural-library-manifesto>

Multicultural Communities: Guidelines for Library Services, 3rd Edition

<http://www.ifla.org/publications/multicultural-communities-guidelines-for-library-services-3rd-edition>

An Overview: Multicultural Communities: Guidelines for Library Services

Four page summary
<http://www.ifla.org/publications/an-overview-multicultural-communities-guidelines-for-library-services>