

# Information Literacy Section Newsletter

February 2010 - Volume 8 Issue 1



## From the Chair

Dear colleagues,

Welcome to the first 2010 issue of the IFLA Information Literacy Section newsletter! This is a new newsletter issue with a new newsletter editor. Our section also has a new chair and a new strategic plan since August 2009.

As part of our work to advocate information literacy and support information professionals, we are working on two joint programmes for the IFLA conference this year. The first programme, *Making It Count: Social Science Data Literacy as an Information Fluency*, explores the availability of social science data and the skills needed to access, understand and use it for sustainable economic and social development. The topic of this programme links up with the concept of *transliteracy* and *multiple literacies*, which we explored at the programme session offered in Milan. Our section aims to increase partnership and for this reason, this is a joint programme with the Social Science Libraries Section. The second conference programme is also a joint venture, this time with the Reference and Information Services Section. The programme, entitled *Don't Wait to be Asked: towards next generation reference services and information literacy*, aims at identifying what kinds of reference services meet the needs of the 21<sup>st</sup> century users, while enhancing their information literacy for lifelong learning.

Another goal in our strategic plan is to develop the concept of information literacy as a multi-cultural, multifaceted concept, of relevance to the global society. To reflect on the different meanings of information literacy, our section is arranging a preconference satellite in Gothenburg entitled *Information literacy: context, community, culture*.

Our section has got five new corresponding members, already actively engaged in the section work: Sean Cordes (Instruction Services Coordinator, Western Illinois University, US), Antonin Benoît Diouf (Chief of Acquisitions and Cataloguing Department, University Gaston Berger Library, Senegal), Lisa Janicke Hinchliffe (Coordinator for Information Literacy Services and Instruction/Associate Professor for Library Administration, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, US), Stefania Puccini (University Librarian, Università degli Studi di Firenze, Italy), Zuzanna Wiorogórska (Senior Librarian; Chief of Acquisitions Section at the Serials Department, University of Warsaw Library, Poland). We welcome them once more and are very happy to count on their expertise and experience from geographical areas which have not been covered in our section previously.

As part of our continuous work on *Information Literacy - State of the Art Report* and the InfolitGlobal register, the section members are working on an update on several regions of the world. We will be looking into ways of using new media like wikis to disseminate this work as well other section tasks. We hope that the use of new media in our work will facilitate communication between the section and everybody interested in information literacy.

We have a busy spring ahead of us. I would like to thank you all section members for their efforts and enthusiasm. I am looking forward to seeing the results of our ongoing projects and gradually getting started on new ones with you!

Best wishes,

*Maria Carme Torras*

Maria Carme Torras  
Chair, IFLA Information Literacy Section



## Report and Observations from the Milan IFLA Congress!

The last Congress in Milan was very important for our Section because of many different reasons.

Firstly, we had two very relevant sessions.

Our jointly session with Literacy and Reading was very crowded, highly interactive, and had many people working together on interesting and Important content and discussions.

Our session about Information Literacy logo was the affirmation of its implementation (the logo is well established in the Spanish world).

Secondly, there has been it could be called a changeover. The majority of Section's veterans have cycled out it; among them, its two chairs (or the two chairs of its brief history).

This has been electoral year and we have had 5 new members and 7 candidates for corresponding member too. Now (having account the corresponding members), 42% are new in our section (from six months ago) and 50% are working in it since 2007.

Thirdly, it has coincided with a change in the IFLA structure. The Information Literacy Section is now part of a new different Division (specifically Services) and has a new website. We hope it will allow more effective work in the Section and improved communication to the users. At the same time many projects are finished or continuing (we can say the foundations have been established) and it is the best moment for working in new ways, with more interpersonal relations and more specific subjects. This, to a certain extent, is reflected in the new strategic plan.

Fourthly, we can emphasise the Information Literacy importance in the world of libraries in general at in IFLA in particular, because we have had many proposals for working together with other IFLA sections. This year we have been discussing about three possible satellite conferences with different groups. At the same time we have agreed to two jointly sponsored sessions with two sections for the next Congress. Other groups are interested in collaborating with us in the future.

In all, we are alive and we continue to develop more vitality for our Section.

*Antonio Calderón Rehecho*

Antonio Calderón Rehecho  
Secretary, IFLA Information Literacy Section

## Upcoming Information Literacy Events in Norway and Finland



### **Nordic Information Literacy Summer School**

NordINFOLIT's ninth Nordic Information Literacy Summer School will be held in Korpo, Southwestern archipelago of Finland in 7-11 June, 2010. The theme will be "Transformation from Digital Library to Digital Learning".

The participants will explore learning processes in a digital world and tools for digital collaborative teaching and learning. The course will consist of practical hands-on work which will be related to relevant learning theories. The instructors are experienced teachers from the LATINA/lab, a laboratory for the R&D and production of e-learning for the Oslo University College, Norway.

The course is organized by NordINFOLIT, the Nordic Forum for Information Literacy Library, in cooperation with the Finnish National Network of Information Literacy.

Further information:

<http://www.helsinki.fi/infolukutaito/ILajankohtaista/2010summerschool.html>

Welcome to **6th Creating Knowledge Conference!**

***Information Literacy and Diversity in Higher Education:  
Mapping the Learning Environment***

September 8, 2010 - September 10, 2010 - Bergen, Norway

Higher education institutions are characterised by increased diversity, with a growing emphasis on internationalisation and interdisciplinarity in research and teaching. Students not only represent different social, ethnic and cultural backgrounds: there is also a great diversity in their ages, their motivation for learning and their educational needs. Renewed models of teaching and learning are needed in response to this diversity. This situation involves both possibilities and challenges for academic institutions as they embark on planning and re-developing their learning environments.

The main topics of the conference are:

- The challenges posed by diversity
- The creation of effective learning environments

The conference emphasises the learning experience, and the organisers would encourage all participants to engage themselves in learning activities before, during and after the conference.

Creating Knowledge is an international conference and is one of the initiatives of the NordinfoLIT. It is arranged every other year in one of the Nordic countries and has information literacy in higher education as its general topic. In 2010 the country is Norway and the city is Bergen.

For more information, please visit the conference website:

<https://konferanse.uib.no/index.php/creatingknowledge/2010>

Hoping to see you in Bergen!

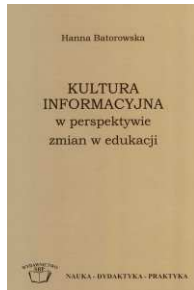
Best wishes,

The organising committee

## Report of Activities: Poland

Text Submitted by Zuza Wiorogórska  
Images provided by Ewa Rozkosz

Educational activities are set in works at many Polish libraries. However they are often limited to the basic instructions connected with the using of library, catalogues and holdings.



The concept of information literacy (IL) is recognized, thanks to publications edited in Poland during past ten years (among others: Batorowska H., *Kultura informacyjna w perspektywie zmian w edukacji*. Warszawa, 2009 or Derfert-Wolf L., *Information literacy - koncepcje i nauczanie umiejętności informacyjnych*. „Biuletyn EBIB”, 2005). But it is still not popular enough in the professional environment. IL does not have one, accepted term in Polish language. The following synonymous are used: ‘alfabetyzacja informacyjna’, ‘kultura informacyjna’, ‘umiejętności informacyjne’. And the term ‘edukacja informacyjna’ (eng. *Informational education*) is connected first of all with the computer education what has its explication in the educational policy provided by the Polish Government.

In autumn 2009 Ewa Rozkosz, a librarian from University of Lower Silesia Library decided to take upon herself the initiative of promoting activities for IL.

She created a blog “Alfabetyzacja Informacyjna” [<http://www.alfabetyzacjainformacyjna.blogspot.com>] where she is posting information about events, publications, applications standards and IL projects. She got in touch with people from Poland and abroad involved in IL projects. She was invited to promote and coordinate the InfoLit Global database in Poland.

**ALFABETYZACJA INFORMACYJNA**  
INFORMATION LITERACY

SOBOTA, 20 LUTEGO 2010

**Prezentacja**

Zapraszam do zapoznania się z prezentacją InfoLit Global: w kierunku rozwoju idei Information Literacy, przygotowaną na seminarium "Otwarte Zasoby Edukacyjne". Seminarium odbyło się 19 lutego 2010 r. w siedzibie Dolnośląskiej Biblioteki Pedagogicznej we Wrocławiu.

Prezentacja dostępna pod adresem <http://www.slideshare.net/sarna/infolit-global-3228583>

Grafika: /rozm.prezentacji

AUTOR: EWA ROZKOSZ © 15:42 0 KOMENTARZE 6 ETYKIETY: INFOLIT GLOBAL, INFORMATION LITERACY, PREZENTACJA

ALFABETYZACJA INFORMACYJNA

"Zespół umiejętności, umożliwiających rozpoznanie zapotrzebowania na informację oraz jej lokalizowanie, ocenę i efektywne wykorzystanie" (1989, ALA; H. B. Torlitzka)

O MNIE

EWA ROZKOSZ  
WROCLAW,  
DOLNOŚLĄSKIE, POLAND  
Absolwentka Instytutu  
Informacji Naukowej i  
Bibliotekoznawstwa we Wrocławiu  
(licencjat). Pracownik Biblioteki  
Dolnośląskiej Szkoły Wyższej.

In February 2010 during the seminar “Open Educational Resources” held in Wrocław, Ewa presented the InfoLit and was encouraging the librarians to contribute into development of this database. [presentation available at: <http://www.slideshare.net/sarna/infolit-global-3228583>]

The next promoting project elaborated by Ewa is connected with the Internet platform. It will be a place for describing theoretical concepts of IL as well as the practical instructions with the propositions of informational education programmes which could be used in Polish libraries. The platform will not be a compendium only – it also aims to integrate people, institutions and organizations interested in information literacy.

Activities described above are small steps, but they are necessary for Polish librarians to understand and accept their new professional role – information trainers. That will be a good introduction to the next initiatives in developing of Polish IL.

The fact that Poland is also represented in IFLA IL Standing Committee is also a formal step to bring our country closer to worldwide IL initiatives.

## Information Literacy in Colombia and Ibero-America: Web 2.0 Resources to Build Networks and Communities

In 2007 UNESCO and IFLA prepared the document "Information Literacy: an international state-of-the art report". In that report, Latin America were presented, through the efforts of Jesus Lau, with some practical work and publications, but unfortunately for the little promotion and the lack of communities and networks, many experiences and even countries left out of that report.

However, in our region, the INFOLIT has taken greater importance the last years, reason why it became necessary to present the works that have come making and thus have more presence in the international field, and also to generate networks, work communities, that allowed to the professionals and institutions that came working the topic: to be able to share information and generate contacts and learning.

This situation gave rise to the idea of various Web 2.0 resources that would lead to these goals gradually, initially to Colombia and later to a range Ibero-America (Latin America, Spain and Portugal).

Therefore, on 8 September 2009, international day of literacy, it was the launch of web resources INFOLIT / Colombia:

**Blog:** <http://alfincolombia.blogspot.com/>

**Google Group:** <http://groups.google.com.co/group/alfincolombia>

**Facebook Group:** <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=129149432049>

**Facebook Page:** <http://www.facebook.com/pages/alfabetizacion-informacional-colombia/123902362767>

**Twitter:** <http://twitter.com/alfincolombia>

And a month later, the launch of the web resources INFOLIT / Ibero-America, considering the strong union that exists between the Latin American countries with Spain and Portugal:

**Blog:** <http://alfiniberoamerica.blogspot.com>

**Ning Community:** <http://alfiniberoamerica.ning.com/>

**Linkedin Group:** [http://www.linkedin.com/groups?gid=2417424&trk=myg\\_ugrp\\_ovr](http://www.linkedin.com/groups?gid=2417424&trk=myg_ugrp_ovr)

**Facebook Group:** <http://www.facebook.com/home.php?ref=home#/group.php?gid=159876198875>

**Facebook Page:** <http://www.facebook.com/pages/alfabetizacion-informacional-iberoameri...>

**Google Group:** <http://groups.google.com/group/alfin-iberoamerica>

**Twitter:** <http://twitter.com/alfinibero>

**Second Life:** <http://slurl.com/secondlife/infolit%20school/191/194/26>

(Supported by Sheila Webber. University of Sheffield, Department of Information Studies)

The purpose of these resources Web 2.0, denominated INFOLIT / Colombia and INFOLIT / Ibero-America, is "sharing experiences, news, programs, conceptualizations, theories, research and publications on Information Literacy useful for Colombia, Ibero-America and the world".

During these months of operation it has been possible, for the case of ALFIN/Colombia, beginning to recognize various publications, dissertations, definitions, research and practical experience that have been conducted in this country on the topic:

In the case of INFOLIT / Ibero-America, presenting what in different countries and from different types of libraries and educational institutions is conducted (*connecting different blog*), in addition to publications on INFOLIT from those countries has been published in recent years, taking as reference the InfoLit Global Directory and the E-lis Repository:

This is a path in Information Literacy from Colombia and Ibero-America that continue growing with very good results...

### More information:

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The screenshot displays the INFOLIT Global Directory interface. On the left, under the heading "En Brasil...", there is a list of search results with dates and titles in Spanish, Portuguese, and English. On the right, there are sections for "Conceptos relacionados" (related concepts) in Spanish, Portuguese, and English, and a small logo for "Alfabetización Informacional" at the bottom.

**Information Literacy Conference in Georgia, United States**

<http://ceps.georgiasouthern.edu/conted/infolit.html>



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**IFLA Information Literacy  
Section Newsletter**

**Newsletter**

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Please submitted articles for the  
Fall 2010 issue in plain text and  
include a photograph if you  
would like.

Deadline is June 1, 2010.

## **IFLA Information Literacy Section**

This IFLA section existed previously as the User Education Roundtable but due to increasing interest in information literacy activities worldwide the Roundtable became the Information Literacy Section in 2002. The primary purpose of the Information Literacy Section is to foster international cooperation in the development of information skills education in all types of libraries. The Section focuses on all aspects of information literacy including user education, learning styles, the use of computers and media in teaching and learning, networked resources, partnerships with teaching faculty in the development of instructional programmes, distance education, and the training of librarians in teaching information and technical skills. It is the mission of the Section to disseminate information on information literacy programmes and trends. The Section is very willing to work closely with other IFLA bodies and other organizations in the development of programmes, workshops and projects related to information skills instruction. (from our section web site.)

Our website is:

<http://www.ifla.org/en/information-literacy>