



# IFLA National Libraries Section

## Newsletter, June 2011

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*Newsletter compiled by Genevieve Clavel, Information Officer with thanks to all contributors*

N.B for reasons of file size, images have had to be compressed.

## Editorial

Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to the latest Newsletter of the IFLA National Libraries Section. I would like to welcome our new committee members who have been elected for a first term 2011-2015 and to thank those members who will be completing their terms in 2011:

### *First term members*

- Winsome Hudson, Executive Director, National Library of Jamaica
- Hans Jansen, Deputy Director General, Koninklijke Bibliotheek
- Patrice Landry, Head of Subject Indexing, Swiss National Library
- Tomasz Makowski, General Director, National Library of Poland
- Lek Choh Ngian, Deputy Chief Executive, National Library Board of Singapore and Director, National Library, National Library Board Singapore
- Ismet Ovcina, Director, National and University Library of Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Monica Rizzo Soares Pinto, Director, Reference and Diffusion Centre, National Library Foundation-Brazil
- Andy Stephens, Board Secretary and Head of International Engagement, The British Library
- Liudmila Tikhonova, Deputy Director General, Russian State Library
- Heping Zhou, Director, National Library of China

Congratulations also to those who were elected for a second term 2011-2015:

- Martyn Wade, Chair, National Libraries Section Standing Committee
- Magdalena Gram, Assistant Director National Librarian, National Library of Sweden
- Janne Andresoo, Director General, National Library of Estonia

Those officers continuing until 2013 (2009-2013) are:

- Melita Ambrožič, Deputy Director, National and University Library, Slovenia
- Gérald Grunberg, Director of International Relations, Bibliothèque Nationale de France
- Irina Lynden, Deputy Director General for International Relations, National Library of Russia
- Deanna Marcum, Associate Librarian for Library Services, Library of Congress
- Pepa Michel Rodriguez, Subdirectora General Adjunto, Biblioteca Nacional de Espana
- Elizabeth Niggemann, Generaldirektorin, Deutsche Nationalbibliothek
- Vigdis Moe Skarstein, National Librarian, National Library of Norway
- Jasmine Cameron, Assistant Director General, Executive and Public Programs, National Library of Australia

Standing Committee members completing their terms are:

- Genevieve Clavel-Merrin, National and International Cooperation, Swiss National Library
- Atakilty Assefa, Director General, National Archives and Library Agency, Ethiopia
- Zhan Furui, Director, National Library of China
- Kristiina Hormia-Poutanen, Deputy National Librarian and Director, National Library Network Services, National Library of Finland
- Colette O'Flaherty, Keeper, Printed and Visual Collections, National Library of Ireland
- John Kgwale Tsebe, National Librarian and Chief Executive Officer, National Library of South Africa

Warm thanks to those completing their term of office on the Standing Committee for their support for the work of the National Libraries Section.

Newly elected first term members are welcome, and are strongly encouraged, to attend the Standing Committee meetings in Puerto Rico.

You will find information about the sessions we will be holding during the WLIC in Puerto Rico in August 2011 below. A round-up of information from colleagues around the world completes this newsletter: we thank all who contributed to making it a full and interesting issue.

Your comments and suggestions about any aspect of the work of the section are always welcome.

Best wishes to you all,

Martyn Wade, Chair, National Libraries Section

## IFLA WLIC : Standing Committee Meeting

There are two meetings scheduled for Puerto Rico. Observers are very welcome to attend either session.

SC1 Saturday 13 August 2011 2.45pm-5.15pm , room 104a and;  
SC2 Tuesday 16 August 2011 4.45pm-6.15pm, room 102a.

Both these rooms are within the main conference centre. The draft agendas are as follows:

### Standing Committee 1, Saturday 13 August 2011, 2.45pm-5.15pm, Puerto Rico Draft Agenda

1. Welcome by the Chair
2. Apologies
3. Introduction of members
4. Adoption of the agenda
5. Approval of the SC1 Minutes, Gothenburg, 2010
6. Report from the Chair on the Leadership Brief to Chairs and Secretaries held on Saturday 13 August 2011
7. Update on the National Libraries Section's joint conference sessions
8. Update on the National Organisations and International Relations Special Interest Group
9. Report on the proposed National Information and Library Policies Special Interest Group
10. Presentation on Project ARROW by Francoise Burdon, Bibliotheque nationale de France
11. Election of the Chair, Secretary and Information Officer 2011-2013
12. Other business

### Standing Committee 2, Tuesday 16 August 2011, 4.45pm-6.15pm, Puerto Rico Draft Agenda

1. Welcome by the Chair
2. Apologies
3. Adoption of agenda
4. Report from the Chair on the Division 1 Leadership Forum Sunday 14 August 2011
5. Discussion of future format for SC meetings
6. Discussion of potential projects
7. Report from the Chair of the Conference of Directors of National Libraries
8. Report from the International Seminar on National Bibliographies, Mali November 2010
9. Discussion of conference session theme for Helsinki 2012
10. News from members and observers
11. Other business

## IFLA WLIC : Sessions

The main conference session is a joint session with the Bibliography, Information Technology and Knowledge Management sections and ICADS (IFLA-CDNL Alliance for Digital Strategies program). The session is called E-legal deposit: from legislation to implementation; from ingest to access. It is in two parts separated by a fifteen minute break on Thursday 18 August 2011 from 8.30am-10.30am and 10.45am-12.45pm in Grand Salon A. Kai Ekholm, Director and Chief Librarian, National Library of Finland, will be the keynote speaker. The session will have simultaneous translation. Sixteen abstracts were received in response to the call for papers for the session. The following papers have been selected:

- The state of e-legal deposit in France: looking back at five years of putting new legislation into practice and envisioning the future (Pascal Sanz, Sophie Sepetjan and Gildas Illien)
- Electronic legal deposit at the National Library of Chile (Roberto Aguirre Bello)
- Managing e-legal deposit in Germany (Renate Gompel and Lars G Svensson)

- National Library of South Africa e-legal deposit strategy (Lesiba Steve Ledwaba, Narios Mpholefole and John Tsebe)
- Electronic legal deposit: the New Zealand experience (Alison Elliott)
- Learning from the development of e-legal deposit legislation in the UK (Caroline Brazier and Richard Gibby)

The National Libraries Section is also collaborating with the Literacy and Reading Section to present a session called Beyond the United Nations Decade of Literacy: What Libraries Can Do. This session is on Monday 15 August 2011 from 4.00pm-6.00pm in Room 208. The session will be in a room with a banquet style set up as there will be ten simultaneous table top presentations. The session will open with keynote address by Janis Karklins, Assistant UNESCO Director General for Communication and Information. Following the keynote audience members will rotate to three different 15 minute table top presentations.

### *Special Interest Group Sessions*

The National Libraries Section sponsors the National Organisations and International Relations Special Interest Group (NOIR SIG). In Puerto Rico the NOIR SIG session will be held on Wednesday 17 August 2011 from 11.45am to 1.45pm in Room 104. The topic is "The great exchange: highlighting the role of international activities offices of national-level organisations in facilitating the exchange of services and/or staff between organizations".

The National Libraries Section is also supporting the National Information and Library Policies Special Interest Group whose first meeting will be held in Puerto Rico on Thursday 18 August from 1.45pm to 3.45pm in Exhibition Hall A. The National Library of Korea is organising the session which will be used to determine the level of interest in the new SIG and to establish terms of reference and a future program of work.

Please plan to attend these sessions – they all promise to be informative and thought provoking.

## **News from some Section members**

### **Estonia**

#### **Digital Preservation Conference at the National Library of Estonia**

Ensuring long-term access to digital resources is a task few institutions or even countries can take on by themselves. Cooperation between individual institutions, sectors and countries is key to successful digital preservation. On 23-25 May 2011 the National Library of Estonia hosted the **Aligning National Approaches to Digital Preservation** conference, organised in cooperation with the Educopia Institute and in partnership with the U.S. Library of Congress, the University of North Texas, Auburn University and the MetaArchive Cooperative. Over 125 delegates represented numerous institutions from over 20 countries including ones from across Europe and North America, and from Australia, Israel, Kuwait, Malta, and South Africa. The six panel presentations and corresponding discussion sections attempted to set a strategic direction across a wide range of topics: organisational, technical, legal, standards, economic, and education alignment. The conference focused on building international collaborations to support the preservation of our collective digital memory.

Conference presentation materials will soon be available at the Aligning National Approaches to Digital Preservation conference website (<http://educopia.org/events/ANADP>). In November 2011, this website will provide access to a freely available pdf download of the official conference edited volume. The goal of the volume is to document an action plan for collaboration-building activities between interested digital preservation initiatives in each of the conference's topical areas.

Immediately following the conference, on 26 May, the ESDI Roundtable Workshop was held, providing an international forum to discuss the implications of the Blue Ribbon Task Force conclusions and recommendations, focus on new work in this area, and hear from a range of participants about the various national actions that are being taken to ensure an economically sustainable digital future.

## European Capital of Culture Tallinn welcomes you!



The National Library of Estonia proudly presents its **map and postcard collections at an exhibition about the history of Tallinn**, displayed in the streets of the [Capital of Culture](#) with the support of the Foundation Tallinn 2011. The exhibition shows how the role, external appearance, governors and citizens of Tallinn have changed over time and also the way how the town has been introduced to its visitors.

Some of the materials may be found also at the virtual exhibition [Travelling Through History](#) created by The European Library, and all the materials digitised during the [EuropeanaTravel](#) project are accessible in the [digital archive of the National Library](#).

It is also a year of celebrating the **110th anniversary of Estonian gramophone records**. Gramophone records that were produced before World War II and donated to the library over the last 15 years may be considered very rare. Two disc records from our collection produced before World War I (in 1908 and 1911) have also become rarities. Retrospectively we have managed to procure a representative selection of recordings by the Estonian community living abroad. You are welcome to visit [the exhibition](#) which strives to give an overview of the history of Estonian records and to show the changes on our record market from the beginning of the last century to the present day. The exhibition will be open until 22 June.

The next exciting exhibitions introduce our collection of long-playing records (opens on 7 September) and Tallinn on Book Illustrations in the 16th-19th Centuries (opens on 17 October).

*Text provided by : Mari Kannusaar International Relations Coordinator National Library of Estonia  
Photos [map and postcard exhibition; exhibition Estonian Gramophone Records 110]: Teet Malsroos, National Library of Estonia*

## Finland

### **Testing scalable processes — carrying out a large mass digitisation project successfully: the impact of the Stimulus Project on digitisation workflow at the National Library of Finland**

In spring 2010 the Ministry of Education and Culture granted funds to many Finnish organisations for carrying out digitisation projects to alleviate youth unemployment. The National Library of Finland was granted funds for a one-year Stimulus Project that commenced in July 2010 and required the National Library and its personnel to adjust to a multitude of changes in digitisation workflow, logistics and even working methods.

## The Scale of the Shipments



*Three compact cassettes can be digitised at once*

The launch of the Stimulus Project called for quick planning to achieve the ambitious goal of two million digitised pages and two thousand digitised compact cassettes. The National Library decided to focus on Finnish journals that had been published before the year 1944 and on unique legal deposit compact cassettes from the 1980s. These cassettes were already coming close to the end of their lifespan as the tapes had already started to degrade despite good care and correct storing.



A crucial factor in successfully carrying out the Stimulus Project was the item-tracking system that has been tailored to National Library's needs. In addition to being able to track the flow of individual items being digitised, the system allowed National Library personnel to plan ahead and ship optimal amounts of material to the Centre for Preservation and Digitisation in order to avoid an excess or lack of material.

Manual scanning was carried out for bindings that were either too fragile or of the wrong size for the automatic scanner.

## Two-Shifts and the Phased Working Method

The beginning of the Stimulus Project was characterised by an orientation phase where new employees were made familiar with the project and the work.

To make full use of the resources, the scanning was done in two-shifts. This was necessary in order to provide the post-processing operators with enough scanned material. At the same time work in post-processing was streamlined by adopting a working method in which each operator focused on a specific phase of the process.



*Post-processing staff at work*

As the project continued, the staff's collective know-how rose dramatically. The production goal was met in early April 2011 — an achievement one would not have been able to predict merely a few months earlier. As a result millions of pages of this material can now be accessed by anyone. Journals published before the year 1910 can be found online (<http://digi.nationallibrary.fi>), the rest are available at work stations in the National Library's premises and in other legal deposit libraries.

*Text: Anna Eskola, Planning Officer, The National Library of Finland, Centre for Preservation and Digitisation  
Photographs: Tuomas Havukainen*

## Germany

### **1.5 million pages of digital newspapers in the reading rooms of the German National Library**

More than 1.5 million pages of digital newspapers can be accessed in the reading rooms of the German National Library. Approximately 36,500 issues of German e-Papers can be read at the designated work stations in Leipzig and Frankfurt am Main, the locations of the German National Library. And the numbers are growing: the Library collects the daily editions of roughly 300 e-Papers. From Monday to Saturday approximately 1,800 new editions are received by the Library; these are supplemented by the weekly editions of 16 Sunday newspapers.

Newspaper publishers are increasingly producing not only printed editions but also digital versions of the same content featuring the same layout - so-called e-Papers - for their subscribers to access via the Internet. The collection of e-Papers has significantly improved the range which can be accessed by users in Leipzig and Frankfurt am Main: they can now make searches of individual editions of e-papers or access them directly at the click of a mouse from the catalogue. The digital editions are available for use in the reading rooms just one week after publication. This is a significant improvement on the previous provision of newspapers on microfilm which required three to four months processing time. It is not possible to offer the service to external users for copyright reasons. Nor is it possible for users to save an e-Paper, or parts of it, in digital form and take it home - also for copyright reasons.

The German National Library has developed an automatic process in conjunction with a service provider, iSquare GmbH, in Berlin in order to cope with the large amounts of data. This is used to harvest the e-Papers from the publishers' servers and to convert them into a standardised format. The format PDF/A-1b has been selected for this purpose in order to create optimum conditions for long-term preservation. The German National Library then ingests the data into its systems, stores the data on its archive server and records it automatically in its catalogue so that it is then available in the reading room.

*Submitted by Britta Woldering, DNB*

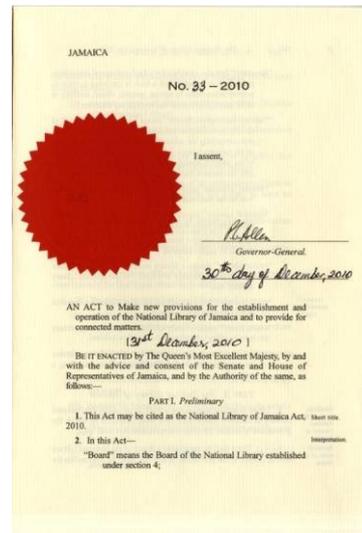
## Jamaica

### National Library of Jamaica (NLJ) Act, 2010

On the 30<sup>th</sup> December 2010, the Governor General of Jamaica signed into law the National Library of Jamaica Act, 2010. Prior to this the NLJs legal authority had been by way of the Institute of Jamaica Act, 1978. This new legislation formalizes, authorizes and expands the functions and services the NLJ has been delivering since its establishment in 1979. The 2010 Act brings to an end the administrative relationship with the Institute of Jamaica which dates back to 1894 when the forerunner of the NLJ, the West India Reference Library, was established as a division of the Institute of Jamaica.

Among the provisions of the Act:

- Collect and preserve for the National Library's collection, any document published in Jamaica, any document about Jamaica and any document published by a Jamaican;
- Promote the use of the National Library and facilitate access to any document in its collection
- Publish the Jamaica National Bibliography
- Coordinate and facilitate the development of sectoral library networks

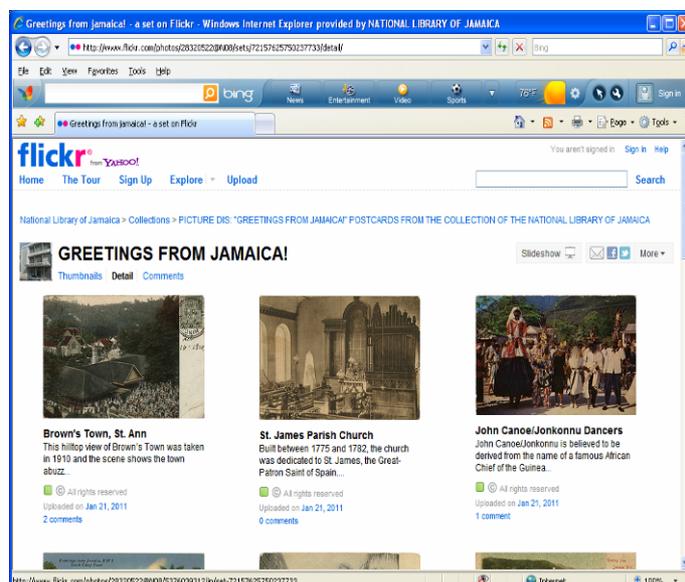


### Copyright Act Amendments

The NLJ is extremely pleased to report that the Government of Jamaica has given approval for drafting of legislation to amend the Copyright Act to reflect:

- (1) Establishing exemptions for access to copyright works by the print and hearing disabled
- (2) Establishing the duration of copyright for works created by the Crown and corporate bodies
- (3) Making provision for access to 'orphan works'
- (4) Clarifying rights in adapted works
- (5) Extending the rights of Libraries and Archives to archive material that is in digital format
- (6) Protecting first importers of sound recordings in Jamaica by ensuring them the first right of distribution of same
- (7) Establishing a voluntary deposit system for copyright works to be hosted by Jamaica Intellectual Property Organization (JIPO) Subject to the agreed opinion of the Attorney General's Chambers having regard to the provisions of the Legal Deposits Act.

The NLJ advocated and championed for amendments 1-3 and 5.



Submitted by Winsome Hudson, National Librarian and CEO

### NLJ & FLICKR

The NLJ has shared four online photograph collections on Flickr, the latest being *Greetings From Jamaica* a collection of postcards.

## Latvia

### The CASTLE OF LIGHT – the new National Library of Latvia

The new building of the National Library of Latvia is one of the most complex objects to be constructed in the independent Latvia and a great challenge both to the builders and the library professionals to meet the ideas of what a modern 21<sup>st</sup> century library should be.

The project dates back to 1989 when the first sketches were drawn by internationally renowned Latvian architect Gunnar Birkerts, but the need for the new National Library building was first recognized already in late 1920s. The first crucial turning point for the project lasting almost a century was in 1999 when UNESCO passed a resolution in support of the National Library of Latvia project. In 2008 the construction work finally begun and the new building CASTLE OF LIGHT will open its doors in November 2012. Yet another year will be required for the Latvian National Library to move to the new premises.



The intention for the building is expressive. Its appearance includes metaphors and references to the most important images of Latvian folk legends and folk songs – the hill of glass, the symbolic Castle of Light. It symbolizes the heights of achievement - something not easily attainable but full of rewards for those who make the commitment to reach its peak.

Castle of light is also a metaphor for wisdom that has been lost, but will someday rise again from the depths of the Daugava River after the Latvian people have overcome the intellectual darkness of war, invasion and occupation.



Birkerts has incorporated both of these evocative Latvian symbols in the design of the new Latvian National Library building. Located on the left bank of the legendary Daugava River, its glassy slopes will mirror the spires that shape the distinctive silhouette of Riga's Old Town.

Under one glass roof, the multi-functional facility will house over 1,000 reading spaces, shelf space for the Latvian library's entire active collection (over 6 million units), extensive facilities for research, a modern conference centre, exhibition space and the Latvian Museum of Book History. All services will be computerized and linked to an electronic catalogue.

Working closely with the Latvian National Library experts, Birkerts has designed an infrastructure that is both a striking architectural symbol for Latvia and a state-of-the-art, multi-functional structure that meets the needs of modern information based society. The Project is also a national on-line library information network (Lightnet) which electronically links all of Latvia's libraries.



Text Ilze Egle, Photos Ligita Ievina, Visualisations „Arhitektu birojs Gelzis-Smits-Arhetips”



A library is not simply a building, but a repository of knowledge where information can be stored, protected and shared. The CASTLE OF LIGHT is both a structure and a symbol of human knowledge it contains and reveres.

## Mauritius

### Activities held in the context of the World Book Day 2011

On the 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2011, the National Library organized a Round Table on the theme “*Le livre va-t-il disparaître?*” in the Search Room of the National Library. Mr R. Penny of Graphic Press, Mrs A. Chasle of Centre de Lecture Publique et d’Animation Culturelle (CELPAC), Mr I. Ramjaun of the National Library were the interveners for the Round Table and Mr B. Seebaluck of the Mauritian Writers’ Association was the Moderator. Students of nearby colleges, authors, writers, publishers, booksellers were invited to participate in the discussions.

On the 28<sup>th</sup> April 2011, a “*Dictée*” was organized for the Certificate of Primary Education (CPE) Students of Mauritius at the Municipal Council of Curepipe. At the Opening Ceremony of the Book Festival on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2011 at the Port Louis Waterfront, a Prize Giving Ceremony was organized. Trophy, books and other gifts were given to each of the ten winners. The students who participated in the “*Dictée*” obtained a Certificate for their participation.

On 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> May 2011, a Book Festival was organized at the Port Louis Waterfront. Various activities around the Book were organized during those three days. On this occasion, two books were launched namely “*Little Dodo’s ABC Book*” by Priya Hein and “*L’Ile Maurice en couleurs*” by Damie Ramtohul and H. Ly Tio Fane. Booksellers offered books at discounted prices. Friday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2011 was devoted entirely for Pre-Primary Children. Some 30,000 children, parents and teachers turned up on that day. On 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> May, the Book Festival welcomed the public at large. An estimated crowd of 40,000 people attended the two days’ programme. The Entomology Section of the Ministry of Agro Industry with their live show of insects and the exhibition of the collection of butterfly belonging to Dr Alfred Orian attracted lots of visitors. It is to be noted that CELPAC organized a series of literary and cultural programmes throughout the two days. The Pop Group of the Police Band was also present on Saturday morning, while the Conservatoire National de Musique Francois-Mitterrand performed on Sunday morning. Aditya Lama & groups was the hit of the Sunday evening, where they entertained the public for more than two hours. The World Book Day Celebrations were closed at 22.00 hours on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2011.

The National Library was also present for the Book Festival held from 31<sup>st</sup> March to 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2011 in Port Mathurin, in the context of the Celebration of the World Book Day in Rodrigues. There was a good media coverage of the event. The Honourable Mookhesswur Choonee, Minister of Arts & Culture, was the Chief Guest at the Opening Ceremony of Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2011. The Chief Commissioner of Rodrigues and his Deputy Commissioner were also present at the Ceremony. Some five book suppliers from Mauritius participated in the Book Festivals.

### **World Book Day Activities throughout Mauritius**

A book fair was held on 16<sup>th</sup> April at the Municipal Council of Curepipe

A series of activities was launched by the Municipal Council of Beau-Bassin/Rose-Hill.

Mahatma Gandhi Institute organised debates and Quiz in all its six secondary schools.

An Open Day for pre-primary schools and free Internet access for the public were held for one week at the Municipal Council of Vacoas/Phoenix.

Ministry of Youth & Sports held literary activities in all its Youth Centres.

Sugar Industry Labour Welfare Fund (SILWF) organised activities in all its centres.

Centre de Lecture Publique et d'Animation Culturelle (CELPAC) organised a series of activities to mark the event in all its Centres.

The Municipality of Quatre Bornes would be holding a Book Fair on 28<sup>th</sup> May, 2011.

The National Children Council of the Ministry of Gender Equality, Child Development and Family Welfare organised a series of literary activities around the theme "*Mieux lire, mieux Comprendre et écrire*" in its twenty-two Kites Club.

*Submitted by Y. Chan Kam Lon, OSK, Director*

## **Poland**

### **"Chopin's Visiting Card" Multimedia Exhibit at the National Library of Poland**

The most noteworthy of the events organized by the National Library last year was the exhibition *Chopin's Visiting Card*, which displayed the world's largest collection of Chopin's musical manuscripts housed in the archive of the Polish National Library. The exhibition, unveiled on September 24, 2010 by the Minister of Culture and National Heritage, Bogdan Zdrojewski, became an important event marking the Frédéric-Chopin Year established by the Polish Parliament.



Next to the rarely shown manuscripts (including 73 music pieces), Chopin's letters from the National Library collection were also presented. The display cases were accompanied by interactive applications accessed through touch screens and headsets, allowing visitors to explore the sights and sounds of the exhibition. The exhibit coincided with the XVI International Chopin Piano Competition and was graced with a visit from the members of the competition's jury.



Forming the leitmotiv of the exhibition were the sources of inspiration, the creative process and the variety of forms used by Frederic Chopin. The aim of the exhibition design was to transfer visitors into another reality – the abstract world of the Composer, in which his music and the sound of piano are the guides. Mesmerizing ribbons of laboriously processed plywood chaotically weaved their way through the space of the exhibit courtesy of a unique collaboration between WWAA Architects and artist/set-designer Boris Kudrlička. These abstract spatial forms wandering through the successive rooms of the palace led the visitors not only through the exhibition but first of all through the creative process of Frederic Chopin. Initially chaotic, tangled singular ribbons symbolizing improvisation and the creation of initial ideas of melodies united to become smoother and, finally, created a perfect form filling the space of the upper exhibition room.

The background for the spatial forms made of the plywood strips was the dark floor folded to become partitions with printed texts and covers for the display cases in which the exhibition pieces were placed. Vast seating in the same color and form as the display cases served as a place to lose oneself in Chopin's music. An electronic version of the exhibit can be seen at [www.wizytowkachopina.pl](http://www.wizytowkachopina.pl)



*Submitted by Monika Cornell International Cooperation Specialist Sekretariat Naukowy - Secretariat for Research Biblioteka Narodowa - National Library of Poland*

## Scotland

### National Library of Scotland gains global recognition again

The National Library of Scotland has again been selected to have a collection included in a worldwide online database of cultural merit.

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) has selected the John Murray Archive (JMA) as one of the 2011 additions into the UK Memory of the World Register.

In the register's inaugural year (2010) the Library had four inclusions including maps from cartographer Timothy Pont and books from Scotland's first printers Walter Chepman and Andrew Myllar.

The register is a global celebration of heritage, focusing on archive, library items and collections of outstanding universal value, with a remit to promote their merits.





The JMA, which is now permanently housed at the National Library of Scotland following its recent acquisition, is a treasure trove of over 200 years of the Murray firm's publishing history. Featuring over 250,000 items, the JMA contains letters, manuscripts and business records from over 16,000 people, including some of the greatest writers, politicians, explorers and scientists of the late 18th to the mid 20th centuries. Charles Darwin, Lord Byron, Jane Austen, Sir Walter Scott and David Livingstone are just some of those great names published by the Murray family since 1768.

Martyn Wade, CEO of the National Library of Scotland, said: "To have been included in the register last year was thrilling. To have been included again so soon is recognition of depth and quality of our archives here in Edinburgh. It is especially pleasing that the John Murray Archive has been selected for the register following our recent acquisition of the collection and our commitment to make it accessible to the nation."

The UK Memory of the World Register was established last year with the aim of highlighting some of the UK's lesser-known items of historical interest by awarding them with the globally-recognised Memory of the World status.

David Dawson, Chair of the UK Memory of the World Committee, said: "We were incredibly impressed by the diversity and richness of these nominations to the register."

*Submitted by Emma Brooks, External Relations*

## South Africa

### African classics

The Deputy Minister of Arts and Culture, Dr Phaahla and the National Librarian of South Africa, Mr John Tsebe officially launched the second phase of South African Classics, a project funded from the R1 Billion Conditional Grant aiming to promote access to libraries and to encourage the culture of reading and writing.

In 2008 Department of Arts and Culture entrusted National Library of South Africa with a task to identify and reprint books, which are regarded to be classics in the nine indigenous languages in South Africa. The public nominated thousands of titles which they consider to be classics leaving the panel of experts with an enormous task to screening and select the classic books. The panel constituted of literary and publishing experts finalized the list.

In the first phase of the project 27 literary classics titles were reprinted, while in the second phase 19 literary titles have been reprinted. These add up to the total of 46 titles reprinted in the nine indigenous languages to this far. The National Library of South Africa will continue reproducing the texts and ensure that knowledge is not lost from future generations. The reprinted books are distributed to all public and school libraries, and all centres of information for easy access to the public.

### 20 000 books treated against aging at the National Library of South Africa

The National Library of South Africa celebrated the treatment of 20 000 books since the launch of the De-Acidification Project in August 2009.

The Bookkeeper Mass De-acidification system was installed in 2009 for the treatment of books and archival material. It is the seventh system in operation in the world and the third one installed at a national library. The significant part that acidity plays in the rapid deterioration of paper has long been recognized. Condition surveys of library collections worldwide revealed large quantities of books in an extremely deteriorated state. Due to embrittlement of paper more than 60% of the National Library's collections are in danger of loss. The Bookkeeper mass de-acidification system is the best system in terms of requirements and best practice. The Bookkeeper system allows for the dipping and spraying of acidic books with a de-acidification solution followed by high-pressure drying. The facility will be of interest to librarians, archivists, museum professionals and experts in paper technology, the print, publishing and book industry. The system has a capacity of processing more than 30,000 books per year.



As it is the only system in Southern Africa, the National Library of South Africa is planning to service other libraries, cultural institutions, archival institutions, museums, universities, government departments and the private sector.

#### **National Library of South Africa Signs with World Digital Library Project**



The National Librarian of South Africa, John Tsebe signed a partnership agreement with the World Digital Library Project (WDLP), witnessed by Country Public Affairs Officer Karl Stoltz and Regional Information Resource Officer Steven Kerchoff. The World Digital Library (WDL), a joint project of the Library of Congress and UNESCO, makes available on the Internet, free of charge and in multilingual format, significant primary materials from countries and cultures around the world.

"Participation in the World Digital Library Project will galvanize our efforts to digitize valuable historical documents, some of which date back to the pre-colonial era," explains Tsebe. "This project will further enhance the library's ability to fulfill its statutory mission of contributing to socio-economic, cultural, education, scientific, and innovation development as custodian of the national information heritage. The library's unique cultural artifacts will be available in digital format to the people of South Africa and to the entire world."

The U.S. Embassy has enjoyed a fruitful partnership with the National Library. In 2007, the Embassy sponsored Tsebe's visit to the Library of Congress in Washington DC, where he established contacts with WDLP staff. More recently, the Embassy presented the library with a special collection of 100 books by and about African Americans. "We are delighted that the National Library of South Africa will

be sharing its treasures through participation in the World Digital Library Project," says Kerchoff "and we look forward to exploring further areas for cooperation with this prestigious institution."

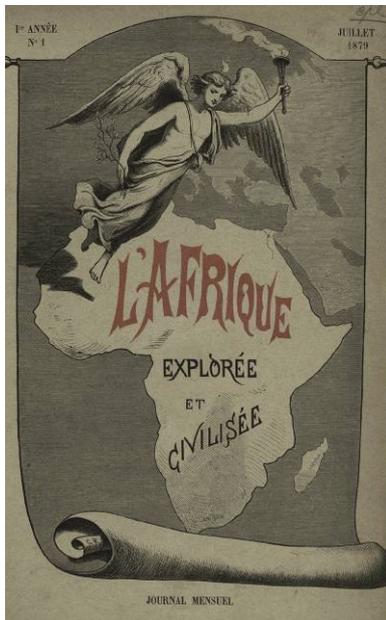
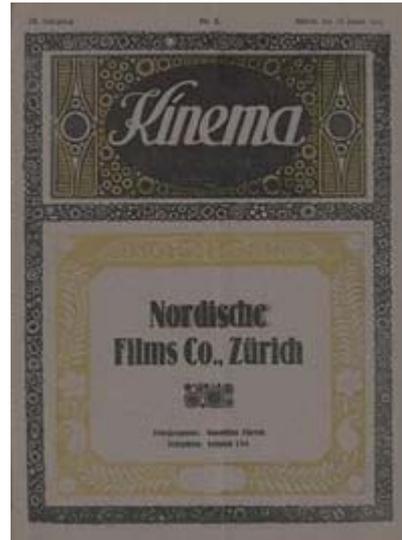
*Issued by Andrew Malotle*

## Switzerland

### Cinema and colonial history: digitised magazines from Switzerland

The Swiss National Library's digitisation programme for serials has recently put online two valuable historical sources. Kinema was the first Swiss cinema magazine, L'Afrique explorée et civilisée looks at Africa through the coloniser's eye. Both magazines are available at <http://retro.seals.ch> the platform for digitized Swiss journals.

Kinema was published once a week between 1911 and 1919 in German. It represented the interests of cinema managers and film distributors. It contains discussions on cinematography, the defense of cinema against its critics, positions on the measures taken by the authorities such as the closure of cinemas following the influenza epidemic of 1918. The journal also served the commercial interests of the entertainment industry, which was rapidly expanding at the time: it presents international news, news from associations, films or publicity. It was published during a decisive period for the development of cinematography and is a valuable research resource in this area.



*L'Afrique explorée et civilisée*, a monthly newspaper founded in 1879 by Gustave Moynier, one of the founders of the Red Cross, is a valuable source for the history of African colonisation. The journal was managed by its founder and written by Charles Faure, secretary-librarian of the Geneva Geographical Society. The publication's goal is described in the introduction to the first issue. "so we thought it useful to create a publication, in French, informing all those interested in this part of the world whether their point of view is that of the geographer, merchant, naturalist, industrialist, economist, ethnographer, philanthropist or Christian". The last issue of the journal was published in 1894.

*Submitted by Hans-Dieter Amstutz, Marketing & Communication*

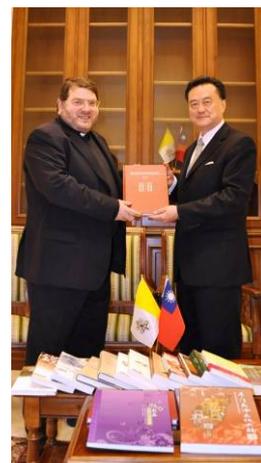
## Taiwan

### National Central Library Donates Books to the Vatican

To encourage Chinese studies worldwide, Taiwan National Central Library Director-general Tseng has actively sought to establish friendly terms with the Vatican after her appointment by donating Chinese books published in Taiwan to Pontificia Università Urbaniana and the Society of the Divine Word (SVD). The two lots of books were donated via Taiwan's ambassador to the Vatican, Larry Wang.

Books can be used as a bridge for cultural exchange between the Orient and Occident. Through them knowledge, experience, and world views can be shared. As a way to further Vatican scholars' knowledge of sinology and Chinese history and culture, the books donated included many on religion, philosophy, history, and art.

On March 30, a donation was made to Pontificia Università Urbaniana, with university president Cataldo Zuccaro conducting the ceremony. The university's librarian and sinology center director were also in attendance. President Zuccaro thanked National Central Library, as well as Ambassador Wang, in his speech. He stated that this donation of Chinese books would be added their library collection for use by faculty and students. He is certain it will have a direct impact on their understanding of Chinese culture.



Ambassador Larry Wang (right) donates books to Pontificia Università Urbaniana on behalf of the National Central Library. The donation was received by university president Cataldo Zuccaro.



Ambassador Larry Wang (middle) donates Chinese books to the Society of the Divine Word on behalf of the National Central Library. The donation ceremony was hosted by SVD Superior General Antonio Pernia (left), who also received the donation. Assistant Superior General Konrad Keler (right) observes.

National Central Library donated 1,000 Chinese books to SVD in 2007. As a way to expand their collection and augment their studies of things Chinese, NCL made another donation. The ceremony was held on March 31 at SVD's headquarters and was presided over by Superior General Antonio Pernia. Assistant Superior General Konrad Keler and 20 other important general councilors attended.

Pernia thanked NCL for donating more books and Ambassador Wang for arranging the donation. He mentioned that while not a large donation, its influence will be widely felt, "just as Taiwan, although small, exercises much soft power on the global stage." He believes these books will directly benefit SVD missionaries in understanding Chinese studies and culture.

### IFLA President Ellen Tise's Visit to Taiwan

Taiwan National Central Library was honored to have IFLA President Ellen Tise visit our facilities from April 21 to 26.

On April 22, NCL arranged for her to give a speech on "Libraries are critical institutions for growth and development" at National Taiwan University's College of Liberal Arts Auditorium. Following her remarks, there was a 30 minute discussion time where she interacted with library and information science professors, students, professionals, and others interested in library development. On April 25, a forum was held at NCL's conference room on "How Public Libraries Encourage and Increase Public

Reading Abilities.” Those in attendance included professionals from the public library sector in Taiwan. Discussion centered on “What roles libraries should play in encouraging and improving the reading ability of the public,” “Experiences and difficulties in public library reading programs,” and “How public libraries can popularize reading,” with many sharing their experiences and ideas. Many library professionals were also in attendance and were greatly enriched by the discussion. During the forum, Ms. Tise complimented the efforts of Taiwan libraries, stating that various efforts to promote reading in other parts of the world have already been implemented or are currently being tried in Taiwan. Also, the overall high level of education in Taiwan is a direct reflection of diligence on the part of libraries here.

Ms. Tise’s visit provided an opportunity for Taiwan library professionals to hear more information and inspiration from abroad on how to provide innovating reader services. It also provided her a lasting impression of Taiwan’s achievements in strengthening culture as she toured library and cultural facilities here.



The host and panelists at the public library forum (from left): Professor Wu Mei-mei from National Taiwan Normal University, Director Lu Chun-chiao of National Taichung Library, Director Huang Wen-ling of National Taiwan Library, Director-general Tseng, Ellen Tise, Professor Yang Mei-hua from National Cheng-chi University, Professor Lin Chi-feng from Shih Hsin University, and Director Hung Shi-chang from the Taipei Public Library.

IFLA President Ellen Tise expressed a keen interest in NCL’s rare book collection while touring it during her visit and posed many questions to researchers.



Ellen Tise toured the Beitou branch of the Taipei Public Library and was very complimentary of the eco-friendliness of the facilities. From left: Director-general Tseng, Ellen Tise, Taipei Public Library director Hung Shi-chang.

### Modern Chinese Novel Month in NCL

In 1967, world-renowned writer Nieh Hualing and her husband Paul Engle (1908-1992), a famous poet, established the International Writing Program (IWP) at the University of Iowa. Now it is a gigantic cultural organization with a reputation throughout the world. Every year, ten or more authors are invited from Asia, Africa, South America, and Europe to come to learn and create together for a period of time. It is also an opportunity for culture exchange. Because of this the University of Iowa has become fertile soil in which young budding authors from overseas grow and develop. The city has become an important literature hub, as well as a gathering place of the literati.

After 1979, Nieh Hualing out of concern for the development of Chinese literature in China and Taiwan began holding “China Weekend.” Literary elites from both sides of the strait would be gathered to Iowa’s capital for discussion and other activities, after a separation of some 40 years. Through these

face-to-face interactions began an exchange between the two locales. Nieh and her husband have not only created a glamorous international stage for Chinese literature, they have also cultivated new stars to shine on that stage. As a result, Nieh was awarded the World Chinese Literature Award in 2009, as well as a Presidential Medal from President Ma Ying-jeou. She has been called the “mother of a world literature organization.”

This year, Iowa’s International Writing Program enters its 45 year. As a way to thank Nieh’s efforts in promoting Taiwan literature to the world, NCL is putting on “Literature Never Ages, Iowa: Modern Chinese Novel Month.” Activities include a display of manuscripts, pictures, biographies, and works by Nieh Hualing, as well as Taiwan writers who have participated in IWP. These writers will be highlighted through a writers’ exhibition, movie adaptation viewings, special expositions on selected novels, and lectures by famous authors. Reading groups, public libraries, university and secondary schools are invited to come and take part.



Chinese writers’ manuscripts and works were displayed in the activity’s exhibition.



A warm talking corner in the exhibition.

*Submitted by Liu,-Lan-Yu, Taiwan National Central Library*

## Vietnam

The National Library of Vietnam has developed its library website in English and French languages. Please have visit our website at <http://nlv.gov.vn/en-fr/index.php?lang=en> or <http://nlv.gov.vn/en-fr/index.php?lang=fr>

La Bibliothèque nationale du Vietnam (BNV) a l’honneur de vous informer que le site web de la BNV a été développé en français et anglais, et présenté le 15 février 2011. Pour plus de détails sur la BNV: <http://nlv.gov.vn/en-fr/index.php?lang=en> ou <http://nlv.gov.vn/en-fr/index.php?lang=fr>

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