

Academic and Research Libraries Section

NEWSLETTER NUMBER

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We are planning lots for 2011

The Academic and Research Libraries Section is planning a number of activities for 2011 and for the congress in San Juan, Puerto Rico, in particular.

We are organising a joint session with Management and Marketing in Puerto Rico on 'Vision 2020: innovative policies, services and tools". In other words, what might libraries look like in 2020. Our session will focus on this vision and in particular on the innovative policies and tools involved. We will explore the transformational changes needed to deliver the new vision. And we will touch on ways of demonstrating the value and impact of library services necessary to ensure their development and survival. We hope to attract some 350 delegates. Carol Hughes and Janet Fletcher would be happy to give you further information.

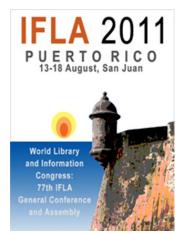
Our Hot Topics in Academic and Research Libraries session remains very popular with delegates. It is rather different from most IFLA sessions: we have four short presentations from international experts followed by interactive group discussions amongst the participants. Our theme for Puerto Rico will be ' Conquering the economic downturn: managing transformational change in academic libraries'. We are thinking of a few sub-themes including: staff (new skills, staff education, baby boomers, retirement); developing sustainable libraries (premises, printing, equipment, legislation); digital document culture (books, serials); and measuring impact and efficiency. We hope once again to attract over 250 participants. Please contact Jarmo Saarti for further details.

Just before Puerto Rico, on 11-12th August 2011, we are planning an exciting pre conference satellite meeting in Guatemala City on 'Innovation, Inspiration and Information for all'. This Spanish-speaking event will discuss library consortia, virtual universities, digital developments and libraries cooperating with archives and museums in Latin America. We hope to attract some 130 participants from Central America, Mexico and other South American countries. Our partners include IFLA's Latin America and Caribbean Sections and the American Library Association Section on Reference and User Services. Please contact Stephen Marvin for further details.

We are offering an essay competition again to support at least three first timers attend IFLA 2011 from Oceania, Latin America and Africa regions. The essay topic is 'how will attending the IFLA WLIC in Puerto Rico help you with your professional development and what do you hope to acquire from the opportunity?' The two winners for 2010 thoroughly enjoyed the IFLA ex-

perience. Ane Landoy would be happy to give you further details.

As you see our ARL Newsletter has been relaunched and revitalised under the editorship of Vicki McDonald, Associate Director, Library Services, Queensland University of Technology, Australia. We plan also to use our website to highlight member activities that support particular IFLA priorities in relation to advocacy and collaborative work.



Join us in San Juan and Guatemala!

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This Newsletter is published bi-annually. Submissions should be forwarded to Vicki McDonald

IFLA 2010 Conference Experience

An awesome opportunity embraced me when I took part in the Essay Contest organized by IFLA Academic and Research Libraries (ARL) Section and emerged the African region winner!

This 76th IFLA General Conference and Assembly experience at Gothenburg, Sweden, was indeed, one of the most inspiring and professional developmental opportunities I have had, especially with the cultural milieu and international which experience brought together over 3,335 library and information professionals from over 128 countries of the world.

Another exciting aspect of the whole thing is that I did not only attend the conference as a delegate but I also had a presentation in the poster session (Stand 162) with the title ' Librarians and Health Workers: Partnering and Collaborating to Support Free Access to Health Information in Nigeria". So, the award received is taken more as a Godgiven assistance to facilitate my attendance at the conference and also take part in the international poster presentation.

The theme of this conference " Open Access to Knowledge - Promoting Sustainable Development" was well represented in both the paper and poster presentations. Planning my daily schedule was quite a chal-

lenge because the content of all the presentations were very interesting. The "New Comers" session in which first timers were informed how best to have a rewarding IFLA experience was as interesting as the library visit we made to Chalmers University of Technology Library.

I also visited the Exhibition Booths which gave me the opportunity of seeing new products and services by vendors and publishers from



Open access to knowledge – promoting sustainable progress

different parts of the world. The IFLA Chairperson, Ellen R. Tise's opening speech during the opening ceremony was great. I believe my IFLA experience in Gothenburg was very inspiring as it gave me insights into the global library and information practice vis-a-vis reother librarians across the globe are involved in. I was also had the opportunity to see for the first time the "Mobile Libraries" which I have before now only read in books.

The IFLA "Night Spots" as well as the "Dance Night" were all fun-filled and will remain indelible in my memory as they gave participants ample opportunities to network with colleagues across the globe. At the closing session, after speeches and presentations of various awards and prizes were made, delegates were entertained with a flashy video presentation of the overall event. The climax came when the venues for future IFLA conferences were announced.

Furthermore, I appreciate so much the general arrangement for the conference. However, a conference of this magnitude deserves a befitting conference bag.

profound Sincerely, my gratitude goes to the ARL Committee for this award which greatly assisted me in attending my first IFLA conference at Gothenburg. I also wish to thank Prof. McDonald. Andrew Chairman, ARL section for his tremendous assistance towards ensuring that I had a hitch-free preparation to the conference, especially in the area of ensuring that the award given to me was well communicated to me.

Ngozi B. Ukachi

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Now up and running, a new and improved website for the World Library and Information Congress!

IFLA has launched a new website for its World Library and Information Congress.

Keeping the website separate from the main IFLA website allows us to work more flexibly with the layout, as the information that is offered has different requirements and output formats.

We have created a new starting point for both future and past congresses.

We have created a new URL (http://conference.ifla.org) as a starting point for both future and past congresses.

Please visit the IFLA WLIC 2011 Puerto Rico website at http://conference.ifla.org/

ifla77 and see all the improvements.

Ms Josche Ouwerkerk

IFLA Conference Officer josche.ouwerkerk@ifla.org

Research Impact Measurement Service (RIMS)

Over the last few years, UNSW Library has offered a Research Impact Measurement Service (RIMS) to its academic staff and researchers. The motivation for introducing RIMS arose from the increasingly competitive nature of the research environment, particularly as a result of the Australian Government's Excellence in Research for Australia (ERA) initiative. Measuring of research impact using bibliometrics and other measures is a strategy that academic libraries can use to support researchers in increasing their research profile. RIMS produces over 40 reports a month and the reports are used to support promotion, grants and institutional comparisons. The service has proven to be very popular with the academic community and has significantly raised the profile of the Library.

Supporting institutional research outputs is also an important role for academic libraries. The Council of Australian University Libraries (CAUL) has established a working group, The CAUL Open Scholarship (COSI) to promote open scholarship and investigate methods for improved advocacy in universities to educate academic staff and higher degree students to

make informed choices about the dissemination of their research outputs, including the underlying research data.

The work of the Group also aims to provide strategic context and leadership to assist CAUL Institutional Repository Support Service (CAIRSS) which provides support to all institutional repositories in Australian universities

For more information see http://www.caul.edu.au/caul-programs

Australian universities are also leading the Australian National Data Service (ANDS) which is an Australian Government initiative designed to inform best practice in the management of research data around the country. As the volume of research data increases, institutions are finding it increasingly difficult to find ways to store, manage and provide access to data so that it can be discovered, shared and reused.

More information about ANDS projects can be found at http://ands.org.au.

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2011 Satellite Meeting in Guatemala City



The Academic and Research Libraries Section is working in cooperation with the LAC section to sponsor a pre-satellite meeting of the IFLA WLIC in Guatemala City, Guatemala on August 10-11, 2011. Peter Johan Lor is the keynote speaker for the event. He will be discussing a passion he has with protecting Indigenous languages and literature.

We will have several tracts related to library consortia, virtual information services, and examples of cooperation among others such as museums, archives, and cultural institutions.

Guatemala is an easy flight directly to Puerto Rico following the preconference. We are selecting programs of interest to Latin America following the theme of the conference of *Libraries beyond libraries: Integration, Innovation and Information for all.* There will be the opportunity to visit the World Heritage Site of Antigua, a short distance from Guatemala City.

For further information: http://conference.ifla.org/ifla77/satellite-meetings

Stephen Marvin
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The Future of Academic Library Space The Experience at Columbia University

cademic libraries across the world are rethinking, redesigning and repurposing library space. In many ways we are creating the post-digital facility as we retain a trompe l'oeil approach to the maintenance of book collections and study spaces. With technology and rapidly shifting user behaviors as a catalyst, academic libraries are being transformed as learning, intellectual, social, and collaborative spaces characterized by flexibility and adaptability.

We are asking some fundamental questions about the conception and application of space:

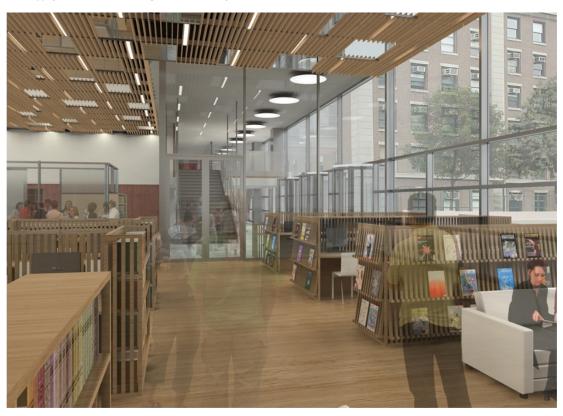
- 1. Why do individuals enter a space? (MOTIVATION/OBJECTIVE)
- How do individuals navigate a space? (TRANSPORTATION/ CIRCULATION)
- 3. How do individuals use a space? (EXPERIENCE/PRODUCTIVITY)
- 4. What is balance among FUNCTION, USABILITY and AESTHETICS?
- How do individuals relate to each other? (PRIVATE/COLLABORATIVE/ PUBLIC)
- 6. What is the symbolic role of space? (EMOTIONAL/SPIRITUAL)
- How does a space reflect/advance larger organization? (MISSION/ SUCCESS/FEEL)
- 8. How does a space enable FLEXIBILITY and ADAPTABILITY?

We are embracing new guidelines for the planning and design of library space:

- 1. Focus less on statistical and operational formulas.
- Focus more on diversity of need and personal adaptability/ customization.
- 3. Design for the agile rather than the static.
- 4. Start with the user and not the collection.
- 5. Start with the technology and not with the staff.
- 6. Bring the classroom into the library.
- 7. Bring the academy into the library.
- 8. Conceive the library five years ahead.
- 9. Think more about playground and less about sanctuary.
- Prepare for anxiety, disruption and chaos.







At Columbia, space at the 22 library buildings on campus has been rethought and redeployed in the context of these questions and guidelines:

- Butler Library, the undergraduate library and humanities library, has experienced a 10-year \$100 million renovation with complete refreshment, expanded user space, and new technology centers and spaces.
- Lehman Library, the social sciences library, has gone through a series of projects with similar objectives focused on group study spaces and research technologies, including a GIS center and an electronic data center.
- Four science libraries have been closed and a new integrated science library will be opened in January 2011 with very small current reading collections, and with an emphasis on diverse user spaces and high-end technologies and research applications for the sciences.
- New Digital Humanities
 Center, Digital Social Science
 Center, and Digital Science
 Center have been implemented
 bringing people, technology and

- information resources together in collaborative and applications -rich spaces. Similar facilities are being planned, including a Digital Engineering Center for the Engineering Library, a Digital Arts Center in the Avery Architectural and Fine Arts Library, and a Digital Music Center in the Music and Arts Library.
- New spaces have been created in the Libraries for the Center for New Media Teaching and Learning, the Center for Digital Research and Scholarship, and the Copyright Advisory Office. Academic centers, like the Center for American History and the Center for Human Rights Documentation and Research are now integrated into the Libraries.
- Several new libraries have been constructed, including the Social Work Library, and massive renovations have proceeded at: the Burke Theology and Religion Library, the Business and Economics Library, the Starr East Asian Library, the Geology Library, the Health Sciences

- Library, and Teachers College Library.
- The ability to repurpose and redesign library space has been enabled by the implementation of the Research Collections and Preservation Consortium (ReCAP) offsite shelving facility. Located in New Jersey, and co-owned and administered by Columbia, Princeton and New York Public Library, it now holds nearly 10 million volumes from the three partner institutions.
- Plans are underway to convert several libraries into information centers as the Business School, School of International and Public Affairs, the Earth Institute, and the Mind, Brain, Behavior Institute all look at new construction on a new Columbia campus.

James G. Neal

Vice President for Information Services and University Librarian Columbia University New York, NY jneal@columbia.edu

"Our two conference sessions were great successes."

Some reflections on the World Library and Information Congress 76th IFLA General Conference and Assembly

"Open access to knowledge - promoting sustainable progress", 10-15 August 2010, Gothenburg, Sweden

Gothenburg was a great success and a wonderful professional experience. The conference remains a very popular and truly international event, attracting over 3,300 delegates from 128 different countries. Indeed there were a staggering 350 papers, 200 posters and 80 exhibitors, and IFLA Express was produced daily in seven different languages during the Congress.

This all rather confirms the continued value of an annual 'face -to face' conference even in the age of Web 2.0 and social networking. Exploiting the power of twitters, blogs and so forth is very important for IFLA and social networking seems to have successfully complemented and extended the reach of the conference rather than replaced it altogether.

The organising committee achieved a 'lighter' cultural touch to both opening and closing ceremonies this year, exploiting the uplifting 'global reach' of ABBA rather than the more intense and serious cultural ceremonies of some previous conferences. That having been said, I was less sure about the 'library lovers' publicity campaign and IFLA finger nail extensions! The words of Jan Eliasson, Former President of the sixtieth session of the United Nation General Assembly, during the opening ceremony were interesting. He reminded us about the power of words, diplomacy and negotiation, reflecting on how this had saved lives in the civil war in Sudan. He quoted Bertram Russell's: 'nobody can do everything but everyone can do something.'

As chair of the Academic and Research Libraries Section, I concentrated in three priorities during the conference: I chaired our ARL conference sessions; I chaired our section committee meetings; and I took part in IFLA's training, euphemistically called 'leadership' training.

Our two conference sessions were great successes.

Once again we joined with the Management and Marketing Section to organise a session on 'Reconstructing library services in challenging times'. This had a truly international flavour with papers from Canada, Norway, Uganda and the United Kingdom. They organisational convergence, shared services, service innovation and reconstructing academic and public library services. Combining the expertise of two sections to create sessions with broader appeal is one of IFLA's real strengths.

Our 'Hot topics in academic and research libraries' continues to be a winning formula: four short presentations from international experts followed by interactive table discussions. Our theme was 'Radical new collaborations in challenging times', continuing some of the ideas emerging from our joint session with Management and Marketing. We usefully covered radical collaborations, journal big deals, integrated support services and research impact measurement services. Again we ranged widely from Australia, the United States to the United Kingdom. Feedback confirms how much delegates enjoy a session where they can contribute and explore issues together.

IFLA tried a few new approaches this year

All sessions were colour coded according to five congress 'tracks' and this was intended to help delegates identify and pursue particular themes of interest to them. The tracks were open access and digital resources; policy, strategy and advocacy; users driving access and services; tools and techniques; and ideas, innovations and anticipating the new. IFLA are keen to continue this approach and it would be interesting to see how helpful it actually is for delegates.

IFLA was keen to get reaction to its new draft strate-



Gothenburg Harbour which inspired the logo for IFLA 2010.

gic plan 2010-2015, particularly from section committees. It announced a seven-year cycle for the location of the annual congress based on its regions. IFLA will be in Asia Oceania in 2013 and in Europe in 2014. The closer definition of officers' roles is also a welcome development.

As chair of the Academic and Research Libraries Section I was pleased with my first two meetings in the new role. Interestingly we had more observers than committee members at our first meeting, reflecting the considerable interest in our work and the inclusive and permeable nature of IFLA.

While welcoming the new strategy, the committee would have liked to see a shorter and sharper document, setting out just what IFLA stands for and how it plans to secure the future of libraries and librarians in the coming period. Governments, universities and other institutions need to be reminded of the value and impact of libraries. As one American Library Director reminded us, 75% of his staff are no longer librarians. We have also identified measurable activities to support the new strategy.

As well as reflecting on our sessions at Gothenburg we planned activities for Puerto Rico in 2011

and Helsinki in 2012. Through our Essay competition we encouraged three first timers to attend IFLA in Gothenburg. We were reassured that over 600 delegates attended our events in Gothenburg and most were more than satisfied with their professional experience.

The national Caucus meetings remain a useful feature of IFLA. The UK Caucus certainly provides a good opportunity for keeping in touch with the many UK participants. Many Caucus meetings struggle to afford a reception which was always a good way of stimulating social and professional interaction. The exhibition continues to be a significant part of IFLA and one can only assume this continues to make good economic sense for the companies involved.

I struggle to find words to adequately describe this unique conference: hectic, exhausting, stimulating, cultural, rewarding, occasionally hilarious and sometimes frustrating. Learning to be in two or more places at once is indeed a huge advan-Chairing both section meetings and conference sessions is tough and leaves little time to enjoy other conference sessions. However, I did manage to visit one university library and to dip into sessions organised by the Buildings and

Equipment and Knowledge Management sections. The new university library in Cottbus in Germany certainly dares to be different, and I was interested to learn about the three KM leadership poisons - power, prestige and prejudice - to which it is suggested a fourth, politics, should be added.

The organising committee are to be congratulated on a great IFLA, enjoyed as it was by so many delegates from around the world. I am very much looking forward to San Juan, Puerto Rico where our intriguing theme will be 'Libraries beyond libraries: integration, innovation and information for all'. However, I will never forget the closing ceremony with its lingering shots of Bob McKee, Chief Executive of the UK's Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals, whose untimely death in Gothenburg overshadowed the memory of IFLA 2010. The accolades have poured in from all over the world, reflecting Bob's huge international presence and his massive contribution to the world of librarianship. He will be so badly missed by everyone concerned with IFLA.

Andrew McDonald

Chair Academic & Research Libraries Section

Academic And Research Librarian's Opportunity Apply For Free Registration/Bursary To IFLA 2011

The Academic and Research Libraries Section is offering three free Registrations/ Bursaries equivalent in the amount of € 425 each to an information professional from Africa, Latin America and the Asia/Pacific region to cover the registration/ bursary expenses at the 2011 IFLA Conference, to be held 13-18 Aug 2011 in San Juan, Puerto Rico, (http:// conference.ifla.org/ifla77) The conference theme is "Libraries beyond libraries: Integration, Innovation and Information for all".

One free registration for a librarian from Africa, One free registration for a librarian from Latin America, and One free registration for a librarian from the Asia/Pacific region.

Applicants must be able to attend the conference and will be responsible for all other costs associated with conference attendance.

The Essay Contest only covers the expense of registration to the conference!

ELIGIBILITY

- Applicants must be eligible to obtain a visa for travel.
- Applicants must realize and declare they are able to fund any other costs not covered by the registration grant allocated to them.
- All other expenses for hotel and travel are NOT

covered by the Registration/Bursary.

• The winners of the essay contest will cover their expenses to register to attend the 2011 IFLA Conference in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

APPLICATION PROCEDURES

- Prepare a written statement, in English or Spanish, of approximately 500 words.
- Please place your complete contact information on a separate page.
- Describe your general current and future interests and activities and specifics on why attending IFLA would benefit you. This should also include a reflection of the meaning of the theme of the conference for you.

Your essay must be received by March 15th, 2011.

POST AWARD REOUIREMENTS

Recipients will write a brief article (approximately 500 words) for publication in the December 2011 issue of the Academic and Research Libraries Newsletter on their conference experience.

NOTIFICATION

- All applicants will receive notification of award status no later than May 1, 2011.
- All essays will be acknowledged upon receipt.

Please be sure to include your return address or other

contact information

This Essay Contest is sponsored by IFLA Academic and Research Libraries Section.

Andrew McDonald, Chair; with support from the Governing Board, IFLA

We humbly request your support to encourage applicants to respond by forwarding the information to other list managers, colleagues, or other associations.

Any translation of this request is also appreciated, particularly for the Asia/Pacific region, Africa and Latin America.

Ane Landoy

University of Bergen Library Bergen, Norway ane.landoy@ub.uib.no

Please send your essay with your address, telephone number, and email address no later than Tuesday, March 15th, 2011 to Ane Landoy:

Via attachment in email - ane.landoy@ub.uib.no

Via facsimile -Attn: Ane Landoy + 47 5558 9703

Via Post -Attn: Ane Landoy University of Bergen Library PB 7808 N-5020 BERGEN, Norway

Supporting new professionals in memory of Bob McKee

Aspire Award Launched At Celebration Event

IFLA and CILIP, with the support of his family, have launched the Aspire Award in memory of CILIP's Chief Executive Bob McKee, who died in August 2010. The Award will support Bob's strong interests in developing new professionals and strengthening international relationships. It will provide bursaries for new professionals to attend CILIP and IFLA conferences.

The creation of the Award was announced at a special event to celebrate Bob's professional life, held in London on Thursday 28 October, which was the date when Bob was due to hold his retirement party. IFLA's Secretary General, Jennefer Nicholson and CILIP's President, Biddy Fisher launched the Award.

It is hoped the Award will be funded by donations, which can be made through CILIP or IFLA.

Donate through IFLA at www.ifla.org/funds-grants-awards/aspire

Donate through CILIP at www.cilip.org.uk/aspireaward



novative information services

smart phones and iPads

The Bavarian State Library in the mobile Internet:

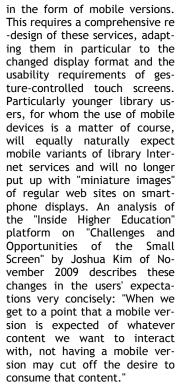
The technologies of Internet use are currently undergoing a sea change: The classic web access route via desktop computers and laptops is no longer only supplemented, but is increasingly replaced by the use of mobile devices. Such mobile devices are in particular the so-called smart phones, such as for example the iPhone, which have relatively big, high-resolution displays and an intuitive, touch screen-based control, thus allowing for comfortable web browsing, as well as the new tablet devices, among which currently the Apple iPad is doubtlessly the most popular.

All current studies and trend reports on the development of the Internet agree that these mobile devices are the future. The Gartner report "Top End User Predictions for 2010" says: "By 2013, mobile phones will overtake PCs as the most common Web access device worldwide." The annual HORIZON report, analysing web trends in

particular in the fields of action of academic research and education, in its 2010 edition draws the conclusion: "For many people all over the world, but especially in developing countries, mobiles are increasingly the access point not only for common tools and communications, but also for information of all kinds, training materials, and more." And the oft-quoted Morgan Stanley's Mobile Internet

Report also forecasts: "Regarding pace of change, we believe more users will likely connect to the internet via mobile devices than desktop PCs within 5 years."

Libraries as important service providers in the Internet have to adapt in time to this global trend towards a predominantly mobile Internet use, and make available their core services the online catalogue, electronic resources such as data bases, ejournals and e-books, their digitised book collections and virtual subject libraries, etc. - also



The Bavarian State Library and the Bavarian Library Network started in the spring of 2010 to offer central, net-based information services to their users successively also in the form of mobile applications. With 10 million books, 55.000 current periodicals in printed or electronic form and more than 90.000 manuscripts the Bavarian State Library is one of the most important knowledge centres of the world. First the online catalogue of the library ("OPACplus") with around 10 million entries was optimized for use via smart phone, followed in June by the mobile re-design of the overall Bavarian union catalogue with over 19 million searchable entries and 41 million article entries from more than 150 Bavarian libraries. Both applications were developed as generic applications, executable on all currently relevant mobile platforms: on Apple's iPhones like on Google's android-based smart phones and Nokia's Symbianbased mobile phones.

The adaptation of the two online catalogues to the use environment of mobile devices required among other things the



Continues Page 10

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The Bavarian State Library in the mobile Internet: Innovative information services for smart phones and iPads

enlargement of fonts and buttons, the filtering out of redundant information, the subdivision of information into smaller units, where required "hiding" such units behind a finger-stroke command of the gesture-based touch-screen control, and finally the GPS position finding, so that location functions such as displaying the nearest library holding the desired items can be used. A switch evaluating the user

agent of the http protocol then controls automatically whether the mobile or the classic variant of the online catalogue is called up. In case the online catalogue of the Bavarian State Library is accessed via the web address https:// opacplus.bsbmuenchen.de and the Bavarian union catalogue via the address www.gateway -bayern.de using a smart phone, the user thus

accesses the

mobile version of the services without any effort on his part, and can of course also store the links on the home screen of his smart phone for comfortable rapid access. The adaptation to the specific characteristics of the smart phone takes place predominantly through loading specific Cascading Style Sheets

The mobile versions of the online catalogue of the Bavarian State Library and of the Bavarian union catalogue do not only support the pure search functionalities, but in addition also all personalised services, such as the administration of the individual user account and the loan, reservation and interlibrary loan functions. Furthermore direct access to licensed electronic journals and digitised collections is supported, which can then be read directly on the smart phone. Finally, also links to all relevant social networking sites have been implemented.

now the frequently uniquely illuminated digital colour copies of the genealogies of the Fugger dynasty, the Ottheinrich bible, the Song of the Nibelungs, the gospel book from the Bamberg cathedral, the Babylonian Talmud, the Theuerdank, the Genji Kokogami many others can be browsed from the first to the last page. All functionalities of the application, such as cover flow, thumbnail pre-

> view, zooming, etc. can be operated through mere finger movement on the iPad touch screen; a video provides additional information about the 450-year history and the service profile of the Bavarian State Library. A somewhat slimmed version of the "Treasures of the Bavarian State Library" is also available as iPhone application.

This service offer is just one example showing how topclass libraries such as the state libraries of Munich and Berlin can put their unique digital content, developed in accor-

cated quality standards and frequently involving a great effort, to work in the new, mobile-use scenarios of the digital world and at the same time maximise their own visibility in the Internet. When you come across an iPad user in Munich's Englischer Garten, in Berlin's Potsdamer Platz or in the Shanghai Metro who knows, maybe he or she is admiring the "Treasures of the Bavarian State Library".



in view of its design and

usability, is highly suitable

for presenting digital books,





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Merging Two Universities And Their Libraries



Fig. 1.
Three campuses of the UEF

ecently the higher education legislation and structures were reorganized in Finland. A new University Act was passed in the summer of 2009. The new act means that the formerly state-owned Universities have become more autonomous. In addition, the number of Universities in Finland is being reduced by merging some of the existing units into newer, larger versions. One of these new institutions is the University of Eastern Finland (UEF) which was created out of the Universities of Joensuu and Kuopio. The new University has three different campuses, about 130 kilometres apart in the eastern part of Finland (see Fig. 1).

The development of the university education in the eastern part of Finland only started in the 1960s with legislation that founded three universities - Universities in Joensuu, Kuopio and Lappeenranta. That decision also meant that the eastern part of Finland was endowed with three universities that each had their own specific profile. Joensuu's profile was mainly the

humanities and social sciences, Kuopio's was health sciences, whereas Lappeenranta specialized in technology.

After the EU's decision in the 1990s to create a European Higher Education Area via the so -called Bologna-process (see more e.g. from: http:// www.ond.vlaanderen.be/ hogeronderwijs/bologna/), the Finnish government devised new goals for restructuring its higher education system. In reality, this meant two things: to increase the quality of Finnish higher education in order to meet the requirements of the international competition, and at the same time to increase the effectiveness, especially in financial terms, of the universities.

The merging process of the UEF started in the year 2007. The years 2008 and 2009 meant the reorganisation of the two previous libraries' management and provision of services so that it became one new Library. This discussion then led to the initial innovation in the management

culture shown in the illustration (Fig. 2.). Here the physical "library wall" thinking that was attached to the libraries of the former Universities came to an end and the library started to discuss its core services and how they should be jointly provided in the different campuses.

This year - 2010 - has been the first year that the new University and its library have worked as a one unit. We have met several challenges: how to manage distances, how to cope with a reduced budget, but we also have been able to give better services to our users, especially our collections have become larger as both printed and eresources are available at all the three campuses. For the management perhaps the greatest challenge has been the creation of a new organizational culture, a process that certainly takes time and is still going on.

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University of Eastern Finland Library

Director, Deputy Director Library's Advisory Board Staff Meeting Management Group Kuopio Joensuu Campus Library Campus Library Customer services Collection services Teaching and information services Internal services Online resource services Savonlinna **KUH Medical Library** Campus Library

Fig. 2. The organization of the UEF Library

De Gruyter Saur / IFLA Gruyter Saur / IFLA Research Paper Award 2011



DE GRUYTER

ven Fund, Managing Director of De Gruyter Saur and Jennefer Nicholson, IFLA Secretary General invite submissions of papers for the De Gruyter Saur / IFLA Research Paper Award 2011.

This is an annual award for the best research paper on a topic of importance to publishing and access to information.

This year's topic is "Use and Users of Digital Libraries" with subthemes:

- access to digital information
- user behaviour in digital libraries
- improving interactivity in digital libraries using web 2.0 technologies
- reaching out to the wider community through digital libraries

The award is aimed at encouraging research and publication by those relatively new to the profession. Those with no more than eight years of professional experience in library and information services are eligible.

The award is an amount of EUR 1,000

The selected paper must have been written no earlier than January 2010 and not yet to have been published. The paper's maximum length should be approx. 5,000 words and should be submitted in **English**.

The selection panel for the award comprises two IFLA members and the IFLA Professional Programmes Director. All applicants will be required

to give De Gruyter Saur the right to publish their submitted paper.

Both IFLA and De Gruyter Saur will announce and further publicise the award via their websites, relevant mailing lists, journals and newsletters, press conferences, news releases etc.

The recipient of the award will be announced at the IFLA President's Lunch during the IFLA World Library and Information Congress in Puerto Rico, August 2011. If the recipient is attending this Congress s/he will also be invited to the President's Lunch.

Papers, accompanied by the completed application form, must be submitted by **31 March 2011**. Incomplete application forms will not be considered and the decisions of the jury are final.

Download the application form:

http://www.ifla.org/files/hq/news/documents/degruyter-ifla-award-2011.doc

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