



Bibliography Section

<http://www.ifla.org/VII/s12/index.htm>

Annual Report, 2006

Prepared by

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Mission

The Bibliography Section is primarily concerned with the content, arrangement, production, dissemination and preservation of bibliographic information, especially (but not exclusively) where these pertain to national bibliographic services. It is also concerned with the promotion of the importance of the discipline of bibliography to library professionals in all types of libraries (not just national libraries), to publishers, distributors and retailers, and to end-users. While taking full account of technological possibilities, the Section is aware that such developments are not yet fully available in some areas of the world, and it will ensure that its solutions are not necessarily dependent on particular technologies. The Section is closely associated, where appropriate, not only with other Sections within the Division of Bibliographic Control and with the UBCIM Programme, but also with the Sections on Information Technology and National Libraries.

Membership and officers

106 associations, institutions, and personal affiliates are currently members of the Section.

In 2006, there were twenty full members, four corresponding members, and four honorary advisors. The following nations were represented: China, Cuba, Czech Republic, Denmark, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Korea, Lithuania, Macedonia, Norway, Russia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, and the United States of America.

2006 was the first full year that the Section was led by Unni Knutsen, Oslo University College, Norway, chair; Beacher Wiggins, Library of Congress, USA,

secretary/treasurer; and Claudia Werner, Deutsche Nationalbibliothek, Germany, information coordinator/Section Newsletter editor.

Activities in 2006

The Bibliography Section's work supports the following pillars and professional priorities:

Pillars: profession; members

Professional priorities: a) supporting the role of libraries in society; d) providing unrestricted access to information; f) promoting resource sharing; g) preserving our intellectual heritage; h) developing library professionals; i) promoting standards, guidelines, and best practices

The Section's meetings in Seoul, Korea, were productive, focusing on 1) updating its Strategic Plan; 2) reviewing the ongoing work of its Working Group on Guidelines for Electronic National Bibliographies; 3) assessing the Section's Seoul Programme; and 4) using that assessment to plan for its Programmes in Durban, South Africa, and Quebec, Canada.

1) The Section's Strategic Plan and Goals for 2006-2007 were updated and posted to the IFLA website, under the Section. The update included accomplishments to date under each goal of the Plan. Reflecting a busy and successful year, the Section had accomplishments to cite under each goal. These goals were reaffirmed:

- Extend the provision of universal bibliographic control by advocating and promoting the production of national bibliographies.
- Improve the quality and consistency of bibliographic control by advocating implementation of the recommendations of the International Conference on National Bibliographic Standards (ICNBS) and by developing specific guidelines to facilitate such implementation.
- Publicize the work of the Section.
- Promote membership in the Section and extend the geographic scope of representation on the Standing Committee.

2) The Working Group on Electronic National Bibliographies, chaired by Maja Zumer, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia, work continued apace, making substantive progress on its work in developing Guidelines for the creation of Electronic National Bibliographies. The Guidelines will incorporate information on the history and background of national bibliographies, uses and users, organizational structure, creating a general national bibliography, selection

criteria for the inclusion of electronic resources, and cataloging levels. Hosted by Regina Variene and the National Library of Lithuania, the WG had a constructive meeting in Vilnius, Lithuania, in February 2006, to continue its work between World Congresses. The Section is grateful to the IFLA Board for financial support for this meeting. (Minutes of the Vilnius meeting are posted under the Section on the IFLA website.) To remain on track with its ambitious goal of having a first draft of the Guidelines ready by the World Congress in Durban, the WG made plans to meet in Paris, in February 2007. By the end of 2006, draft versions of all chapters had been prepared. The Paris meeting will be devoted to review of the draft chapters. The Section made concrete plans to collaborate with both the Classification & Indexing Section and the National Libraries Section in regards to the WG's Guidelines. This collaboration includes seeking additional time from the IFLA Board for a combined programme in Durban. (See below.)

3) With attendance totaling some 270, the Seoul programme was judged a success. The Programme continued the Section's pattern of focusing on the area of the world in which the World Congress was held and was entitled "National Bibliographies—the Asian Experience." The keynote presentation, on Korea, was delivered by Yeon Kyoung Chung. Two other papers were presented by Ben Gu, on China, and by Alexander A. Dzhigo and Alexandra V. Teplitskaya, on the countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States of Central Asia. Yukio Yokoyama prepared a fourth paper, on Japan, that was not included in the programme but was the lead off article in the November 2006 Section *Newsletter*. Based on the recommendations of the Section, Dr. Chung's paper was accepted for publication in the *IFLA Journal* (slated for vol. 33, no. 1, March 2007). The Section recommended the Dzhigo and Teplitskaya paper for publication in *ICBC*. Not presented as part of the Seoul programme was "Survey of the State of National Bibliographies in Asia," prepared by Section chair, Unni Knutsen. The paper shared the results of a survey on national bibliographies in Asia, extending the Section's initiative to gather and update information on the status of national bibliographies in the areas where the World Congresses are convened.

4) For its Durban programme, the Section agreed to survey African national bibliographic agencies, in the vein of what was done for Latin America, Europe, and Asia, for the Buenos Aires, Oslo, and Seoul Programmes, respectively. The Durban Programme will present the current situation in Africa, with a tentative title, "National Bibliographies—the African Landscape: Partnering to Enhance National Bibliographies in Africa." A paper prepared by Amadou Bekaye Sidebe, "African National Bibliographies," will serve as the keynote address.

In a show of collaboration with other sections, the Section requested a special two-hour slot on behalf of Classification & Indexing, National Libraries, and Bibliography Sections. This time will be used to offer a session titled "Guidelines for Electronic National Bibliographies in the Digital Era: Partnering to Enhance Bibliographic Control for Ease of Sharing of Bibliographic Data Worldwide."

Communication

The Section provided an update to its description in the Bibliographic Control Division's brochure.

Coordinated by the editor, Claudia Werner, two attractive issues (with colour pictures) of the Section's *Newsletter* were published and posted on its IFLA website, in 2006. The Section continued to share its ongoing activities and to disseminate information by mounting its documents and other items on its space on the IFLA website and by mailings initiated by the *Newsletter* editor.