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Associations and Institutions  
  
Preservation and Conservation  
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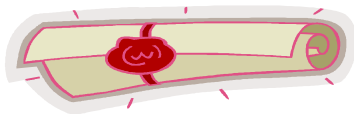
# NEWSLETTER

Issue 15  
November 2003  
ISSN 1028-3714

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**Our Newsletter won IFLA's 2003 Newsletter of the Year Award!**



What suggestions do you have for the section newsletter or website? Would you like to submit a news item? A brief article? We want to hear from you! Contact: [jwellheiser@tpl.toronto.on.ca](mailto:jwellheiser@tpl.toronto.on.ca)

## **IFLA Berlin 2003 Preconference Preparing for the Worst, Planning for the Best: Protecting our Cultural Heritage from Disaster**

**July 30 – August 1, 2003**

**Akademie der Wissenschaften,  
Gendarmenmarkt, Berlin**

Sponsored by the IFLA Preservation and Conservation Section, the IFLA Core Activity for Preservation and Conservation, the Akademie der Wissenschaften and the Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin with support from the Council on Library and Information Resources Inc., the preconference was designed to inform and enable administrators to prepare for, react and respond to, and recover from disasters in effective ways.

The intensive 2-1/2 day programme included 16 speakers from 12 countries with expertise from the library, archive and museum communities, as well as the public and private sectors. The 90 participants from 25 countries also reflected this rich diversity. The programme's six sessions proceeded from high-level disaster planning to the specifics of collection recovery. Several companies that provide disaster recovery and/or preservation services participated in a trade fair to supplement the sessions.

The first session featured three speakers from countries that have established national planning efforts and/or national policies and strategies for



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**IFLA Berlin 2003 Preconference  
Preparing for the Worst, Planning for the Best: Protecting our Cultural Heritage from Disaster**



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**Learning about the best in disaster preparedness, response, and recovery.**

Photos: Courtesy of Carola Selfert, (Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin), and N. Gwynn (P&C Section) \*

handling disasters related to cultural organizations. **Lawrence Reger**, President, Heritage Preservation, USA, spoke on the American Heritage Emergency Task Force that uses a cooperative approach to emergency preparedness and response. He emphasized the need to provide disaster prevention and salvage information to citizens. This approach not only allows people to salvage the treasures they cherish, but also builds public support for the importance of preserving cultural heritage. **Celia Zaher**, Technical Director, National Library, Brazil, discussed the status of national policy development in Latin America including a recent preservation survey, the results of which have prompted recommendations for the development of regional disaster planning. **Marja Peek**, Consultant, Netherlands Institute for Cultural Heritage, discussed a regional approach, "Glamour for Safety and Security", for developing emergency plans for Dutch Cultural Heritage. She emphasized the need to integrate disaster planning for people, buildings and collections, and to make disaster planning "sexy".



In the context of recent events worldwide, **Ross Shimmon**, President, International Committee of the Blue Shield (ICBS) and Secretary General, IFLA, presented a keynote address on the importance of disaster planning and the ICBS initiative as the cultural

Red Cross. He spoke on the Hague Convention and its protocols, encouraging participants to establish national ICBS committees and to urge their governments to ratify the Second Protocol that would provide for cultural war crime and enhanced protection for cultural heritage.

See <http://www.ifla.org/blueshield.htm> and <http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla69/satellite-e.htm#8>.

The first day ended with a session on disaster planning and response at the institutional level, both the theoretical and what has been shown to work based on practical experience and reported in the literature. **Nevra Erturk**, Research Assistant, Museum Studies Program, Art Management Program, Yildiz Technical University, Turkey, spoke on earthquake

preparedness at the Istanbul Museums before and after the 1999 earthquakes, stressing that most of the country is in an earthquake zone. **Graham Matthews**, Director of Research, Computing, Faculty of Computing, Information and English, University of Central England at Birmingham, discussed the key factors that contribute to effective disaster management. He reviewed current strengths and weaknesses in the field, emphasizing that staff training and communications are two critical issues. **Maj Klasson**, Professor, Library and Information Science, University College of Borås, Sweden, talked about the human psychological factors and recovery after the Linköping library fire. Noting that people had equated the library with a living person, she said the effects on the local population were extensive. She discussed the value of using a systematic strategy called "debriefing" to aid people through catastrophe.

The second day opened with case studies of institutions that have experienced disasters. **Annette Gerlach**, Head of Historical Collections, Zentral- und Landesbibliothek, Berlin, described the development and use of library disaster plans in Berlin. She emphasized the value of cooperation at all levels and the practical aspects of implementing plans. **Jiri Vnoucek**, Head of Conservation Department, National Library of the Czech Republic, discussed the experience and lessons learned during the Prague flooding in the summer of 2002, including the development of several drying methods. He presented the progression of the flood and its results in the form of a diary stressing the hard realities of implementing plans during major disasters. **Chu Tuyet Lan**, Director, Department of Library-Documentation-Information, The Institute of Han-Nom Studies, Vietnam, told of the experiences of moving and storing library collections in caves and under the eaves of houses during times of continuous civil conflict and war. **John Aarons**, Government Archivist, Jamaica Archives and Records Department, Office of the Prime Minister, spoke on lessons learned in Jamaica from Hurricane Gilbert. He emphasized that accepted response measures are often not possible when disaster strikes in the developing world, and the need for staff training. All speakers stressed the difficulty of predicting the dimensions and outcomes of

disasters, and the importance of pre-planning combined with on-the-spot creative problem solving.

Session 5 introduced several models for assessing risk and setting salvage priorities. **Robert Waller**, Chief Conservation, Canadian Museum of Nature, discussed the three risk assessments undertaken at the Museum over 10 years. He emphasized that the assessment process enables staff to make wise choices about where to direct scarce resources. **René Teygeler**, Consultant, Netherlands, discussed the development of the disaster plan for the Koninklijke Bibliotheek, the National Library of the Netherlands. Risk analyses revealed that security was a critical issue, especially monitoring of non-library personnel.

In the concluding session three speakers discussed recovery options for various types of collection materials. **Hilary Kaplan**, Senior Conservator, US National Archives and Records Administration, spoke about the test results that revealed the advantages and disadvantages of different methods for drying large quantities of water-damaged records: air-drying, dehumidification drying and vacuum freeze-drying. **Clara Von Waldthausen**, Conservator in Private Practice, Fotorestauratie Atelier C.C. Von Waldthausen, Netherlands, discussed the recovery of water-soaked photographic collections from a flooded archive. She noted the need for further research on the use of demineralized water and the effects of freeze-drying, as well as the value of trained volunteers. **Léon-Bavi Vilmont**, Research Engineer, Audiovisual Materials and New Media, Centre de Recherches sur la Conservation des Documents Graphiques, France, spoke on the mitigation and recovery of audiovisual and modern information media. He emphasized the need for determining recovery priorities, such as master materials and those with organic components (wax cylinders and paper-backed magnetic tapes).

This preconference provided an important opportunity for participants to learn from the experience and expertise of countries worldwide. Closing discussion indicated that, in spite of the considerable progress made in disaster prevention and planning in recent years, there is

a continued need to identify and disseminate information on suitable and effective strategies and technologies, to develop effective interdisciplinary collaborations and to build awareness of the requirements for successfully protecting and preserving our cultural heritage.

Further information on the preconference and other disaster management resources can be found at <http://www.ifla.org/VII/s19/sconsv.htm>. See also <http://www.ifla.org/VI/4/pac.htm>.

Proceedings are expected to be published in 2004.

*Submitted by Johanna Wellheiser  
Information Coordinator  
IFLA Preservation and Conservation Section*

### **IFLA Berlin, 1-9 August 2003 Activities of the Section in Berlin**

*The following report was prepared by Jean Whiffin, a Corresponding Member of the Standing Committee of the IFLA Preservation and Conservation Section*

#### **Standing Committee Meetings**

The Standing Committee met twice, on August 2 and August 8, 2003.

For the first time since the Section's inception, it consists of the maximum 20 regular members plus 2 corresponding members. The Committee was pleased to welcome many guests to its deliberations.

#### **Election of Officers, 2003-2005**

**Nancy E. Gwinn**, Smithsonian Institution Libraries (USA), was elected Chair, and **Majlis Bremer-Laamanen**, Helsinki University Library (Finland), was elected Secretary. **Johanna Wellheiser**, Toronto Public Library (Canada), agreed to continue as Information Coordinator.

#### **Report of the Chair**

**John McIlwaine**, School of Library, Archive & Information Studies, University College London

(UK), reviewed the pre-conference organized by the Standing Committee. The Berlin 2003 programme **Preparing for the Worst, Planning for the Best: Protecting our Cultural Heritage from Disaster** was extremely successful, with 90 participants from 25 countries, and 16 speakers from 12 countries, providing a good cross-section from library, archives and museum communities, and covering private and public sectors. Ingeborg Verheul, Koninklijke Bibliotheek, Netherlands, did a fine job as conference manager and treasurer. This, plus the hard work of many Committee and IFLA PAC members, the locale (Akademie der Wissenschaften and Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin), first-rate technology, and sponsorship by the Council on Library and Information Resources Inc. (USA) plus several trade fair sponsors, were recognized as key factors in the outcome. The IFLA Publications Committee has approved publication of the proceedings. It is planned that these will appear in 2004 in the *IFLA Publications* series.

Chairman McIlwaine reported that the *Guidelines for Digitization Projects for Collections and Holdings in the Public Domain* (March 2002), commissioned by UNESCO and prepared by a Working Group of which he was Chair, is now available on the Internet at <http://www.ifla.org/VII/s19/pubs/digit-guide.pdf>. Publication by UNESCO is being considered, but there has been no progress in this respect and the material is already going out-of-date.

IFLA is beginning a formal assessment of both the Core Activities and the Sections which will consist of (a) a self-assessment, and (b) an external review. John McIlwaine emphasized the importance of the Committee's Strategic Plan in re-affirming the Section's continuing value.

John McIlwaine also announced that he would be stepping down from the Committee at the close of the Berlin meetings. He was given a vote of thanks for his able Chairmanship, leadership, and numerous valuable contributions to the work of the Section.

### **Report of the Information Coordinator**

**Johanna Wellheiser**, Toronto Public Library (Canada), indicated she proposed to continue publishing two issues a year of the Newsletter and would be adding more content to the website. Input and ideas were requested for the website, its usefulness, whether we need a Webmaster, and continuation of a printed version of the Newsletter. The Information Coordinator was also warmly applauded for her hard work, design eye, and editorial skills, in producing a high-quality and very informative Newsletter.

[*Special Note:* The Chair of the IFLA Professional Committee announced at the Congress Closing Session on August 8 that the Preservation and Conservation Section's publication had been selected as winner of the "Best Newsletter of the Year".]

### **IFLA Core Activity on Preservation and Conservation**

**Marie-Thérèse Varlamoff** (Director) reported that, with the continuing assistance of **Corine Koch** (Programme Officer) as Editor/Translator, it is now possible to publish *International Preservation News* 3 times a year. The *Proceedings of the IFLA Symposium: Managing the Preservation of Periodicals and Newspapers*, held in Paris in 2000, appeared in 2002 in the *IFLA Publications* series. The proceedings of the IFLA Glasgow 2002 Open Session, co-organized by the PAC Core Activity and the National Libraries Section entitled *A Blue Shield for the Protection of our Endangered Cultural Heritage*, have appeared as No.4 in the *International Preservation Issues* series. **Mark Roosa**, Library of Congress (USA), has updated his 1992 publication *Care, Handling and Storage of Photographs*, and a trilingual (English-Spanish-French) version will be published in 2004 as No. 5 of this same series.

With regard to the IFLA PAC Advisory Board, its role is unclear, and John McIlwaine, the retiring Section Chair, is now leaving this Board.

The current issue, No. 30 (Sept. 2003), of *International Preservation News*, includes an article by **Colin Webb** (Director of Preservation Services, National Library of Australia, and of the PAC Oceania and South East Asia Centre) on the "UNESCO Campaign to Preserve the 'Digital Heritage' - and Consultations in Asia and the Pacific." This paper, which includes a summary in French and Spanish, presents a very brief overview of the UNESCO Draft Charter on the Preservation of Digital Heritage, the development of practical and technical Guidelines, and some of the issues that came out of the Regional Consultation Meeting.

As reported in the same number of *International Preservation News*, although Iraq has been the major focus of past months, the re-structure of PAC remains a constant preoccupation. Proposals from several countries to become additional regional centres are being considered and welcomed, in order to share responsibilities and reach greater efficiency. The organization of four workshops in the 2003-2005 period (held in combination with other large conferences) reflects another aspect of the expanding network. Survey activities include gathering details of existing national library disaster plans (which the Standing Committee agreed to support in requesting funds), and a re-organization of the earlier African newspapers, both in conjunction with other relevant IFLA bodies.

IFLA PAC and the Standing Committee are now actively pursuing the compilation of a register of current standards, codes of practice, guidelines, recommendations and other works of a similar nature, relating to preservation and conservation. It will be posted on IFLANET and a printed version is being considered. The project has been awarded an IFLA grant of 1,000 Euros towards compilation costs.

### **Future Congresses**

Fewer programme-slots will be available in future, because IFLA is cutting down the overall length of its congresses. The Committee decided, for Buenos Aires 2004, to pursue the possibilities of a double slot, i.e., four hours, with another Section. After considering several

meritorious proposals, it was agreed to offer a session with the Audiovisual and Multimedia Section provisionally entitled **Sights and Sounds: Preserving the New Media**. It will be organized by **Mark Roosa** (USA), Committee member, and **Bruce Royan** (UK), Chair of the Audiovisual and Multimedia Section, with sessions devoted to why audiovisual resources are important and necessary to preserve, an environmental overview of North America, the Latin American situation, and case studies. A suggested programme on **Buildings and Remote Storage Facilities** will be considered for Oslo, Norway in 2005, and another on **Education and Training in Preservation** could be the Seoul, Korea 2006 topic.

### **Preservation and Conservation Section**

#### **Berlin Open Session**

#### **From Manual to Automatic: The Role of Mass Treatment Techniques in Conservation**

The session, organized by **Sonja Jordan** (USA), was chaired by John McIlwaine in her absence. Approximately 120 people attended.

**Birgit Schneider** (Die Deutsche Bibliothek/Deutsche Bücherei, Leipzig), in her paper "The Mass Deacidification and Paper Splitting Processes of the 'Zentrum für Bucherhaltung' at Die Deutsche Bibliothek/Deutsche Bücherei Leipzig", began with a short review of her institution's history from 1871 to 1990. Then reunification joined the Deutsche Bücherei Leipzig, the Deutsche Bibliothek Frankfurt am Main, and the Deutsche Musikarchiv Berlin, under the name Die Deutsche Bibliothek. An earlier Restoration Centre in Leipzig was transformed into the department "Zentrum für Bucherhaltung" with central responsibility for Die Deutsche Bibliothek. This metamorphosed into a private external service provider which cooperates closely with the "Preservation Group" at Die Deutsche Bibliothek, and this group defines guidelines for all three sites. An alteration of business procedures defined librarian tasks to remain within the Deutsche Bücherei and services to be outsourced. The library concentrates on defining criteria for selection, documenting conservation methods for each book, and guaranteeing quality

control. Four staff members prepare and process an average of 80,000-100,000 books per year for deacidification, and roughly 40,000 sheets for paper splitting. Selection criteria for the latter needs a much stricter definition, as this is a far more elaborate and cost-intensive method for paper that is already severely damaged.

Birgit Schneider described the two different workflows. The preservation database (at present stand-alone, but eventually to be integrated in the bibliographic one) gives the following information for each object: Signature; Paper condition (from "good" to "brittle"); Book condition (from "undamaged" to "severely damaged"); Nature of the preservation method; Status information; and Text field for comments.

This speaker concluded that mass conservation treatment techniques have been successfully incorporated but there is still much work to be done. She noted that future efforts will focus on seeking support from funding bodies and the general public. See <http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla69/papers/056g-Schneider.pdf> (In German. English translation in preparation).

**Roberta Pilette** (Yale University Libraries) delivered a paper entitled "Mass Deacidification: A Preservation Option for Libraries". She noted that there are now dependable, effective, reasonably priced commercial vendors that can neutralize acidic paper without time-consuming and limiting selection criteria. Mass deacidification is now another tool in preserving our cultural heritage. Reformatting options such as microfilming and digitization are good for saving the intellectual content, but they are expensive in respect of processing, machinery, cataloguing and maintenance. Moreover they do not address the needs of researchers whose studies require the original object. But in order to fit into institutional budgets, mass treatment must be incorporated into the workflow, and the key to the latter is selection criteria, both physical condition and subject.

Ms. Pilette outlined the physical selection criteria being used by most U.S. institutions, and discussed different approaches at the Library of Congress, Columbia University, University of

Michigan, Yale University and the New York Public Library in where to start and in workflow issues to be considered. Cooperative state grants contribute to preventing duplication of work. Problems have arisen in respect of getting subject specialists to take on the additional selection tasks, and in the recording of deacidification data in MARC, which cataloguers deemed to be a "trivial task" that interrupted their workflow.

Roberta Pilette concluded: "Are mass treatments a priority? Definitely. It is only through the continuing use and development of appropriate mass treatments that we will be able to ensure the long-term preservation of much of our written heritage, as the amount of material that requires attention could otherwise never be preserved given the human and financial resources currently available. But we must realize that, in order for any such treatment to be embraced by a large number of institutions, mass treatments have to be proven as effective at relatively low cost and require a workflow that is easily incorporated into the institutions choosing to use it."

See <http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla69/papers/030e-Pilette.pdf>.

**Per M. Laursen** (Konserveringsværksted Bog-Papir-Grafik, Humlebæk, Denmark) gave a presentation in German, with illustrations, on "The Role of Mass Treatment Techniques in Conservation". He distinguished between *mass-production* (yielding greater speed and production, but not always quality) and *mass-conservation* which has inherited a negative connotation: more production = bad quality. Different kinds of leaf-casting machines with different work areas and technical devices have been developed in the last 40 years. They have in common that the work is discontinuous, which means the process is carried out in a closed area. The development of the long-band leaf-casting machine started in 1981 with the first trial model. Three models were constructed in 1983, and in 1985 success came with help to develop and construct a prototype. In principle, the long-band leaf-casting machine works with an endless band on which objects are placed, and continuously carried. The fibres are added automatically, and the sheets are transported farther over a suction-table where they are sized.

It was important in developing the machine that quality still be the top concern at the higher speed. For many industrial countries, it is important to consider the technical overall solutions because of the enormous quantities which have to be treated and the costs of the staff. It is often easier to get money for technical solutions than for educated personnel which have to work on the machines. However, there are still some countries with the opposite problem: They have money for the personnel but less for the technique.

See <http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla69/papers/082q-Laursen.pdf>.

**Information Technology Section and  
Preservation and Conservation  
Section**  
**Berlin Workshop**

**Digital Preservation: Current Research,  
Standards and Best Practices**

**Seamus Ross** (HATII & ERPANET, Glasgow) presented "Challenges to Digital Preservation and Building the Digital Library". He spoke on the work of ERPANET (Electronic Resource Preservation and Access Network) and a number of other international initiatives. He emphasized the lack of consensus on best preservation practice, and the need for action related to the provision of clear guidance on technology implications and the development of business cases for digital preservation. He further noted that the increasing prevalence of digital collections and repositories is blurring the traditional lines between libraries and other related organizations, thus emphasizing their interdependence and interconnection.

See <http://www.erpanet.org/>.

**Phyllis Spies** (OCLC Digital and Preservation Resources, Dublin, USA) gave a presentation on "Attributes of a Trusted Digital Repository". She discussed the work of the OCLC/RLG working group to provide a specific definition. In May 2002 its final report gave such a definition of "trusted digital repositories", offered some examples of the circumstances in that institutions are undertaking their creation, and spoke to the nature and achievement of trust. The report also outlined the eight attributes such

repositories must have and discussed requisite responsibilities at both the higher organizational/curatorial and the operational levels. One of its conclusions was that the user community would benefit from a certification mechanism, which has resulted in the RLG-NARA Task Force on Digital Repository Certification. OAI (the Reference Model for an Open Archival Information System) is now an ISO standard, and provides a reference model which states what entities are necessary and how those entities should relate to one another in order to provide for the long-term preservation and accessibility of information.

OCLC's involvement in these working groups informed the development of its own Digital Archive. The preservation policy will be published at the end of the year, which will communicate to users its guidelines for taking preservation actions on the resources in the OCLC Digital Archive. This was discussed in detail, with display of the file formats, search screens, sample web pages, etc.

See <http://www.oclc.org/digitalarchive/default.htm>.

**Maggie Jones** (Digital Preservation Coalition Coordinator, UK) presenting "Digital Preservation Activities in the UK - Building the Infrastructure", reviewed events since 1995 when the Joint Information Systems Coalition (JISC) and the British Library held a Workshop to determine what needed to be done. She focused on the work of the UK deposit libraries, and the JISC which sponsored the Cedars Project. This project addresses strategic, methodological and practical issues, and provides guidance for libraries in best practices. JISC also collaborated with the CAMiLEON project working primarily on testing the viability of emulation as a preservation strategy, and developed tools to anticipate inevitable technological obsolescence. More recently, JISC's strategy has taken a different direction, with greater emphasis on development of production services and tools needed to build on previous research studies and projects. An electronic records management (ERM) training package is being developed and tenders have been issued for a Digital Curation Centre. Maggie Jones outlined what is happening in the British Library and the National Archives. Intense activity has



underlined the need for a mechanism for coordinating digital preservation work and furthering collaboration in the formation of the Digital Preservation Coalition. The Coalition now has a cross-sectoral membership of 25, and is collaborating with the National Library of Australia and U.S. Library of Congress equivalents. Packaging and dissemination of relevant information, and training, are recognized as key activities and priorities.

In her closing summary, Maggie Jones stated that "there has certainly been a great deal of progress since the first Warwick Workshop was held in November 1995. There is a much richer understanding of the range and complexity of the challenges and the need for a range of strategies and procedures to deal with them. There is more reliable information on costs beginning to emerge. More practical experience is beginning to inform debate and development of policies and strategies. There have been opportunities to learn from each other and to share what we have learned. It is, however, axiomatic to say that much more needs to be done. We still need a far greater level of awareness, particularly from funding agencies, combined with greater clarity on roles and responsibilities at the national, regional, and local level. We need to keep track of what material is being produced and its level of vulnerability. And we need to maintain and develop links with others so that we can all continue to learn and to benefit from the collective progress being made."

See <http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla69/papers/129e-Jones.pdf>

**Stephen L. Abrams** (Harvard University) and **David Seaman** (Digital Library Federation, Washington DC), in their paper "Towards a Global Digital Format Registry", presented a summary of an ongoing international effort to establish such a registry, which will maintain persistent unambiguous bindings between public identifiers for digital representation formats and the significant syntactic and semantic properties of those formats."

See <http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla69/papers/128e-Abrams Seaman.pdf>

### ***Other IFLA Berlin Sessions of Interest*** ***Newspapers Section Open Session*** **Newspapers and Copyright Developments: Future Access and Preservation**

- Newspaper copyright developments: a European Union and United Kingdom perspective  
CHARLES OPPENHEIM (Loughborough University, Loughborough, UK)  
[http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla69/papers/022f\\_tran\\_s-Oppenheim.pdf](http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla69/papers/022f_tran_s-Oppenheim.pdf)  
[http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla69/papers/022f\\_tran\\_s-Oppenheim.pdf](http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla69/papers/022f_tran_s-Oppenheim.pdf) (In French)
- What has copyright got to do with newspapers? - a South Africa perspective  
DENISE NICHOLSON (The Library, University of Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa)  
<http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla69/papers/059e-Nicholson.pdf>
- The copyright situation in Germany  
GABRIELE BEGER

### ***Rare Books and Manuscripts Section Open Session***

This Section's Workshop on Music Collections in Berlin included two conservation presentations:

- Restoration and Digitization of Music Manuscripts  
CHRISTOFF WOLFF (Bach-Archiv, Leipzig)
- Paper Splitting  
JULIANE BISPINCK (Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin).

### ***Update Session on Iraq***

**Jean-Marie Arnout**, Inspecteur Général des Bibliothèques for the French Government, is a former Chair of the Preservation and Conservation Section and IFLA PAC Director (1992-94). On August 5, to a capacity audience, he gave the results of his recent mission to Iraq

as the only librarian in the UNESCO contingent sent to assess the situation of Iraq's cultural heritage after the war. He visited mainly libraries under the authority of government ministries, and painted a depressing picture, the impact of which was increased by the numerous photographs he displayed.

Unlike the 1991 conflict, libraries in 2003 suffered directly or indirectly from military operations. Certain direct targets were destroyed on purpose. Much damage and loss was due to the intentional destruction of books, archives and buildings, rather than looting, using all possible means and technical processes to succeed. No credible answers about the source of the crimes and who committed them were received.

M. Arnoult identified action needed to improve the situation: reconstruction of buildings; reconstruction of collections; retraining of personnel; and administrative and legislative reorganization. UNESCO is proposing to create an international committee to be in charge of coordinating help.

The paper M. Arnoult presented that day (Iraqi Libraries: A General Outline, July 2003) can be found on IFLANET - please see <http://www.ifla.org/lvifla69/papers/180e-Arnoult>.

A further illustrated bilingual article entitled "Les bibliothèques irakiennes en 2003: un nouveau chapitre de l'histoire interminable des désastres. Libraries in Iraq in 2003: a New Chapter in the Never-ending Story of Disasters" with a brief summary in Spanish, is published in *International Preservation News*, No. 30 (Sept. 2003), pp. 20-29.

The full text of Arnoult's UNESCO contract report "Assessment of Iraqi Cultural Heritage: Libraries and Archives June 27-July 6, 2003" can be found on IFLANET.

See <http://www.ifla.org/VI/4/admin/iraq2407.htm>.

### **Professional Visit**

Congress registrants who chose the **Neschen Archive Centre** in Bückeberg, Lower Saxony, as

their professional visit included Marie-Thérèse Varlamoff, Johann Maree and Jean Whiffin from the Standing Committee. Neschen AG, which dates back to 1889, has become well-known since 1948 for the first self-adhesive book protection films, and is now a leading specialist in this field. Besides library supplies, in recent years the firm has developed deacidification machinery.

The Bückeberg Conservation Procedure for Modern Archival Documents began as a project of the World Exhibition EXPO 2000 in Hanover. It was developed by experts of the Lower Saxony State Archives to preserve the written heritage of the last 150 years, before production by Neschen AG. It provides an environmentally-friendly method of mass-conserving individual sheets of archival documents in an aqueous agent. Solvents are not used, and methyl cellulose was chosen for re-sizing.

There are now two preservation machines with different document transportation systems. A frame installation is located in Bückeberg. The newest system is an endless sieve one in the Federal Archives building in Dahlwitz-Hoppegarten to conserve documents "on the spot". The small C900 Conservation Machine is built for mobile installation at customers' premises, and only one person is needed to run it. The capacity is 400 A4 documents per hour, which are deacidified, alkaline-buffered, reinforced and made flexible again in a re-sizing process, with a fixative to prevent colours and inks from fading or bleeding. Drying time is four minutes and the paper can be used immediately afterwards. The only materials which cannot be treated are zinc-oxide copies and photographs. Extremely brittle or fragmented documents can be treated by hand. Apart from state use, other agencies and archives have access to the equipment.

The plant tour, hospitality, and souvenir CD with photos of the day, were very much appreciated by all participants. Further information about Neschen AG can be found on their website.

See <http://www.neschen.com>.



## *In Case You Missed It...*

### **IFLA Berlin 2003**

#### **Council Resolution No. 9**

#### **Libraries in Iraq**

#### **Proposed consolidation of Resolutions Numbers 4, 5 and 6.**

Whereas recent UNESCO missions have confirmed destruction and extensive damage in libraries and archives throughout Iraq; and

Whereas IFLA as an advocate for free access to information and freedom of expression, affirms the central importance of libraries to civil society; and

Whereas IFLA as an advocate for the preservation of recorded history and cultural heritage has played a key role in making librarians all over the world aware of the significance of these losses to the Iraqi population and to humanity; and

Whereas discussions at IFLA's 2003 conference have advanced the understanding of the complexities surrounding any efforts to rebuild the library profession in Iraq and the library collections, systems, and buildings throughout the country;

It is resolved that:

- IFLA members should encourage all national governments, that have not already done so, to ratify UNESCO "1954 Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict" and its Protocols particularly the Second Protocol (1999) which will provide for enhanced protection of cultural property and introduce the concept of a cultural war crime.
- IFLA should encourage all countries to take appropriate and strong measures to combat illicit trade in cultural heritage, if they have not already done so.
- IFLA should encourage its members to work in a collaborative international effort, looking to the International Committee of the Blue Shield as a coordinating body.

- IFLA members should encourage the creation of a national Blue Shield committee in their respective countries.
- IFLA should strengthen its communications program to foster understanding of the conditions facing librarians and libraries in Iraq and to develop a global awareness of the impact of those losses, not only for those who would study the past but also for those who depend on libraries to contribute to the rebuilding of civil society, recognizing libraries as an essential part of the social infrastructure.
- IFLA should encourage all countries to commit themselves to contribute to the restoration of the physical, professional and technological infrastructure of Iraq's libraries.
- IFLA should redouble its actions and also make publicly evident its work in assisting the rebuilding of Iraq's libraries; and further, that this resolution be conveyed to each national member association of IFLA.

***This proposal was carried without dissent.***

<http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla69/resolutions.htm>



## *Did You Know?*

- The Governing Board of IFLA at its meeting on August 9, 2003, decided to host on IFLANET a list of offers made by the international library community to help rebuild the library infrastructure in Iraq. Offers should be sent to [ifla@ifla.org](mailto:ifla@ifla.org)

The British Library has offered assistance in the form of conservation training and the production of collection item surrogates.

See <http://www.ifla.org/VI/4/admin/iraq-aid.htm>

- The Blue Shield is the cultural equivalent of the Red Cross. It is the symbol specified in the 1954 Hague Convention for marking cultural sites to give them protection from attack in the event of armed conflict. It is also the name of an international committee set up in 1996 to work to protect the world's

cultural heritage threatened by wars and natural disasters.



The International Committee of the Blue Shield (ICBS) covers museums and archives, historic sites and libraries. It brings together the knowledge, experience and international networks of the four expert organisations dealing with cultural heritage: an unrivalled body of expertise which is now available to advise and assist in responding to events such as war in former Yugoslavia and hurricane damage in Central America. ICBS is international, independent and professional. See <http://www.ifla.org/blueshield.htm>



### **Feature** **Library of Catalonia: Storage, Preservation and Conservation Service**

The Library of Catalonia, within the framework of its functions as a *national library*, maintains cooperative agreements with faculties of Library Science and Documentation across Spain.



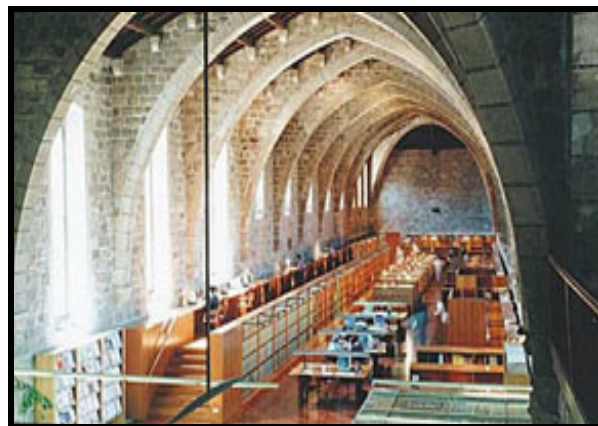
*Biblioteca de Catalunya,  
Barcelona (Spain)  
New Building*



These agreements facilitate the implementation of student training internships that are a compulsory component of the curriculum.

Continuing the practice of recent years, two students from the University of Barcelona's Faculty of Library Science and Documentation will do their training at the Library of Catalonia's Storage, Preservation and Conservation Service (SEPIC - Servei d'Emmagatzemament Preservació i Conservació), from October 1st to December 19th, 2003.

The internship consists of a comprehensive introduction to the preservation and conservation work carried out at the Library of Catalonia (BC - Biblioteca de Catalunya) by the SEPIC. The introduction covers the operation of the Service itself including warehouse management (monographs, sound and audiovisual collections and special collections, known as Reserve Collections), as well as learning about the Preservation and Conservation Workshops (Restoration, Book Binding and Reprography) to the preservation procedures carried out in the BC such as the comprehensive cleaning plan, control and analysis of the Warehouse's environmental conditions or promoting the use of proper storage materials for preserving and conserving diverse documentary and bibliographic typologies. The students also participate in the program *Analysis of the state of conservation of large format press*, which allows them to learn about storage conditions and conservation plans for the country's historical press.



The students cover each of the different functional areas that make up the SEPIC. Upon completion of their training, they have an overall idea of how the Service works, its priorities and

operations. Based on the feedback from the students and staff, one can see an increasing interest and awareness of preservation in new generations of librarians in Spain.

Submitted by *Elvira Permanyer*  
*Biblioteca de Catalunya*  
*Barcelona (Spain)*



### News Notes from around the World

- See the recent issue of *International Preservation News* No. 30, September 2003 for articles on the UNESCO campaign to save digital heritage, preservation and cold storage in Norway, insect control in Hong Kong, libraries in Iraq, restoration of ancient bindings in France and much more!  
<http://www.ifla.org/Vl/4/news/ipnn30.pdf>
- *Archives in the Digital Age* study is available online. Produced for Resource (The Council for Museums, Archives and Libraries) by Missenden Consulting, it describes the state of play in the UK in the effective long-term management of digital records, both 'born digital' and those created through digitization.  
<http://www.resource.gov.uk/information/tenders/id435sum.asp>
- Coming out of the 2003 SPNHC (Society of Preservation of Natural History Collections) Conference there is a new listserv on integrated pest management.  
  
To subscribe: send an email to [listserv@zaks.com](mailto:listserv@zaks.com) and insert this message: "subscribe pmd your\_full\_name"
- The Library of Congress has a new specification: Specifications for Stainless Steel Cans for Long-term Storage of Motion Picture Film, Specification Number 800-851-6/16/03, provided as a public service by the Preservation Directorate.  
<http://www.loc.gov/preserv/supply/specs/800-851.html>
- The Image Permanence Institute (IPI) recently received a \$40,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities to support its three-year study on Preservation of Magnetic Tape Collections.  
<http://www.rit.edu/ipi>
- Papers are now available for a number of ERPANET training sessions in 2003: Metadata in Digital Preservation, Preserving the Web, and Archives online.  
<http://www.erpanet.org/>
- NISO (National Information Standards Organization) has released a draft of Z39.87, the *Data Dictionary for Technical Metadata for Digital Still Images* for trial use period ending December 31, 2003.  
<http://www.niso.org>
- *Bookbinding and the Conservation of Books: A Dictionary of Descriptive Terminology* by Matt T. Roberts and Don Etherington is available online  
<http://palimpsest.stanford.edu/don/don.html>
- See *The Abbey Newsletter* 26(5), July 2003:  
"Preservation Reformatting Conference: Digital Technology vs. Analog Technology" by Maria E. Gonzalez  
<http://palimpsest.stanford.edu/byorg/abbey/an/an26/an26-5/an26-502.html>  
and  
"Preliminary Report on the Conservation of Slides with Special Reference to the Removal of Mold" by Niccolo Caldararo and Candis Griggs  
<http://palimpsest.stanford.edu/byorg/abbey/an/an26/an26-5/an26-512.html>
- Now available: Knuth, Rebecca. 2003. *Libricide: The Regime-Sponsored Destruction of Books and Libraries in the Twentieth Century*. Westport, CT: Praeger.
- Culture.ca, is a "gathering place and knowledge platform where you can share and exchange high quality information on...cultural life in Canada". Includes links to digital collections, articles and online reference tools. <http://www.culture.ca>

- In 2003 Touch and Turn Sweden AB initiated the project "Mediation of rare books over the Internet", in order to make the interchange of rare books possible over the Internet. Co-funding by the European eTEN programme with partners from Austria, Germany, Greece, Italy and Sweden.  
<http://www.touchandturn.com/>
- Super Slurper, a starch-based polymer, used in products like diapers and filters is being redesigned to aid librarians and archivists in the drying of waterlogged books.  
<http://www.wired.com/news/technology/0,1282,60614,00.html>
- Have you seen the *Conservation Fiction* (or Fiction that Acknowledges the Existence of Conservation and Conservators) bibliography?  
Compiled by Rebecca Anne Rushfield and Patricia S. Griffin  
Covers printed works, novels, short stories, subject: forgery, films, plays, television programs and television commercials!  
<http://palimpsest.stanford.edu/byauth/rushfield/conservation-fiction>
- The UK Representation and Rendering Project is now available online. The aim of this project was to extend previous digital preservation technology research within the CEDARS and CAMiLEON projects.  
<http://www.leeds.ac.uk/reprend/>
- The National Digital Information Infrastructure and Preservation Program (NDIIPP) at the U.S. Library of Congress has published the 'It's About Time: Research Challenges in Digital Archiving and Long-Term Preservation' report.  
<http://www.digitalpreservation.gov/index.php?nav=3&subnav=11>
- The Toronto Public Library in partnership with the Ontario Ministry of Culture, the Archives of Ontario and the City of Toronto Archives has launched *Ontario History Quest*, an online curriculum-based resource with over 3,300 images of historical primary source materials. <http://ohq.tpl.toronto.on.ca>



### **Upcoming Events and Training** **Off the Wall and Online: Providing Web Access to Cultural Collections**

Two-day conference presented by the Northeast Document Conservation Center, a pre-conference to the Museum Computer Network's 2003 Conference.

Las Vegas (USA), 4-5 November 2003  
<http://www.nedcc.org>

### **Fungal Facts: Solving Fungal Problems In Heritage Collections**

One-day workshop sponsored by International Academic Projects.

London (UK), 6 November 2003  
<http://www.academicprojects.co.uk/>

### **LIBCOM 2003**

Seventh International Conference and Exhibition "Information Technologies, Computer Systems and Publications for Libraries".

Moscow (Russia), 17-21 November 2003  
<http://www.gpntb.ru/libcom3/eng/>

### **Second International Conference on Preservation of Archives in Tropical Climates**

Curaçao (Netherlands Antilles), 17-21 November 2003

<http://patc2003.nationalarchives.an>

### **ICADL 2003**

6th International Conference of Asian Digital Libraries: Digital Libraries: Technology and Management of Indigenous Knowledge for Global Access

Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia), 8-11 Dec 2003  
<http://www.ftsm.ukm.my/ICADL2003/>

### **Focus on Access: Workshop on Building Digital Collections and Services**

Three-day workshop sponsored by the University of Capetown Center for Information Literacy.

Capetown (South Africa), 10-12 December 2003  
[pgunderwood@ched.uct.ac.za](mailto:pgunderwood@ched.uct.ac.za)

### Healthy Buildings 2003

Official conference of International Society of Indoor Air Quality and Climate  
Singapore (Malaysia), 7-12 December 2003  
<http://www.hb2003.org/welcome.htm>

### ERPANET/CODATA

International Archiving Workshop on the Selection, Appraisal and Retention of Digital Scientific Data  
Lisbon (Portugal), 15-17 December 2003  
<http://www.ermanet.org/php/Lisbon/workshop.htm>

### ICDL 2004

International Conference on Digital Libraries: Knowledge Creation, Preservation, Access and Management  
New Delhi (India), 24-27 Feb 2004  
<http://www.teriin.org/events/icdl>

### Fibre Identification Workshop

Barcelona (Spain), 12-13 March 2004  
<http://www.balaam-art.com/cur001.html>

### Photographic Conservation Workshop

Damaged and Deteriorated Photographic Print Materials: Compensation for Loss  
Los Angeles (USA), 22-26 March, 2004  
Information: [Mharnly@getty.edu](mailto:Mharnly@getty.edu)

### Preservation Education Symposium

Boston (USA), 12 April 2004  
Information: [erin.dini@simmons.edu](mailto:erin.dini@simmons.edu)

### Monitoring Indoor Air Pollution

Second International Conference of the International Society of the Built Environment.  
Manchester (UK), 20-21 April 2004  
<http://www.doc.mmu.ac.uk/aric/conference/miap2004.html>

### Society for Imaging Science and Technology Archiving Conference

Covers preserving, cataloguing, indexing and retrieval of documents and images.  
San Antonio (TX, USA), 20-24 April 2004  
<http://www.imaging.org/conferences/archiving2004/>

### Iron Gall-Ink Corrosion Workshop

Three-day workshop organized by the Fondazione per la conservazione e il restauro dei beni librari e documentali.  
(Italy), 21-24 April 2004  
Contact: M. Severi, [restaurolibro@libero.it](mailto:restaurolibro@libero.it)

### Beyond Paper: Combination of Materials in Art Technology and Conservation

Symposium organized by the Paper, Archives and Book Specialty Group (Fachgruppe Grafik, Archiv- und Bibliotheksgut) of the Verband der Restauratoren e.V. (VdR) in Germany.  
Dresden (Germany), 4-7 June 2004  
<http://www.restauroren.de>

### JCDL 2004

Joint Conference on Digital Libraries: Global Reach and Diverse Impact  
Tucson (AZ, USA), 7-11 Jun 2004  
<http://www.jcdl2004.org/>

### Joint Technical Symposium: Preserving Audiovisual Heritage - Transition and Access

Under the auspices of UNESCO, three-day international event with panel discussions, technical presentations and sessions.  
Toronto (Canada), 24-26 June 2004  
<http://www.jts2004.org>

### Fifteenth Annual Congress of the International Council on Archives

Vienna (Austria), 23-29 August 2004  
<http://www.ica.org/static.php?ptextid=congres&plaque=eng>

### Twentieth Congress of the International Institute for Conservation

Bilbao (Spain), 13-18 September 2004  
<http://www.iiconservation.org/>

### Twentieth General Conference of International Council of Museums

Seoul (Korea), 2-8 October 2004  
<http://icom.museum/general-conference2004.html>

### And into the Future...

- 71<sup>st</sup> IFLA General Conference and Council  
*Oslo, Norway, August 14-18, 2005*
- 72<sup>nd</sup> IFLA General Conference and Council  
*Seoul, Republic of Korea, 2006*
- 73<sup>rd</sup> IFLA General Conference and Council  
*Durban, South Africa, 2007*
- 74<sup>th</sup> IFLA General Conference and Council  
*Quebec, Canada, 2008*

See <http://www.ifla.org/IV/index.htm>

**IFLA Buenos Aires 2004**  
**World Library and Information**  
**Congress: 70th IFLA General**  
**Conference and Council**

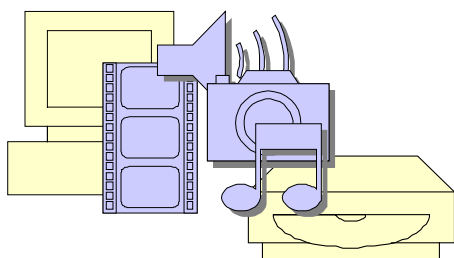
**Libraries: Tools for Education and**  
**Development**



**August 22-27, 2004**  
**Buenos Aires, Argentina**  
<http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla70/index.htm>

**Preservation and Conservation**  
**Section**

**Sights and Sounds:**  
**Preserving the New Media**



A half-day programme sponsored by the P&C  
and Audiovisual and Multimedia Sections.

Contact:  
Mark Roosa, P&C Section, [mroo@loc.gov](mailto:mroo@loc.gov)

**Preservation and Conservation**  
**Standing Committee 2003-2004**

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Christelle Quillet (France)  
Mark Roosa (U.S.A.)  
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Helen Shenton (U.K.)  
Sarah Toulouse (France)

Welcome to our new members – Per Culhed, Félix  
González and Danielle Mincio!

**Corresponding Members**

Andreas Mälck (Germany)  
Johann Maree (South Africa)  
John H. McIlwaine (U.K.)  
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See the Section website for contact information:  
<http://www.ifla.org/VII/s19/sconsv.htm>



In future, the newsletter will be sent to section  
members via email **only** unless otherwise  
notified. To continue receiving a print copy,  
please notify the information coordinator by  
March 1, 2004. [jwellheiser@tpl.toronto.on.ca](mailto:jwellheiser@tpl.toronto.on.ca)  
Contact the membership manager at [IFLA@ifla.org](mailto:IFLA@ifla.org)  
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